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(FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE)

16 November 2011

**Ontario's Injured Worker Community Stands in Solidarity with the
Movement Against "Austerity" Measures Proposed by KPMG**

The Ontario Network of Injured Workers Groups (ONIWG) has been meeting in Toronto this week with its membership from around the Province of Ontario, Canada.

While elected officials in the Liberal Government under Premier Dalton McGuinty have promised our membership that austerity measures taken at the Workplace Safety & Insurance Board (WSIB) would not affect the delivery of lawful benefits to those injured in their workplace, this recent promise has been broken by this newly elected minority government. The "financial crisis" at the WSIB has been caused by years of underfunding by Ontario businesses.

Our organization has called on the Chairman of the Workers' Compensation Board, former Liberal MPP Steven Mahoney, to end the relationship between the WSIB and the consulting firm **KPMG** due to their fraudulent business practices in the United States.

In the recently commissioned Value for Money Audit of the WSIB Adjudication and Claims Administration Program, commissioned by the WSIB, it has been suggested that giving workers injured in their workplace their entitlements to assistance in their recovery is not good for their business!

The public institution known as Workers' Compensation arose out of a Historic Compromise whereby Injured Workers gave up their right to sue their employers, in exchange for a just Compensation system.

Injured workers did not create the Global Financial Crisis, used by the WSIB to implement their cost-cutting austerity measures, and these cuts should not be falling on the backs of injured workers. Assessments paid by employers are now about 22% less than they were 15 years ago. At the same time, the failure to adjust compensation to keep pace with inflation has reduced injured workers benefits by about 22%.

**Injured Workers Stand in Solidarity With All in the Struggle
For Economic Justice.**

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