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My name is Myra Strzalka

I want to speak about the unfunded liability and how it is causing stress for injured workers.

This is causing stigma. People think the WSIB is bankrupt. Our neighbours become suspicious. Why should injured workers get any money from the WSIB? They are bankrupt, they say. They say they cannot afford it. They think they are paying for us. They treat us with suspicion and resentment.

Some of my neighbours have no idea the kind of problems I have. Only my doctors know. However they talk. Some say I have no disability. Sometimes my property is vandalized.

The government and the WSIB must be very careful. What they say about injured workers has consequences. People already think injured workers are cheaters and do not deserve any money. The government should say injured workers have rights and cannot sue the employer. We are good citizens who gave so much to this country.

The government should say the board is not bankrupt. It has billions of dollars in the bank. I am still borrowing money to pay for my line of credit card. But I have a problem renewing my credit line because I am on disability and I am not financially secure.

The WSIB has half of the money it needs for all the injured workers in the future. I wish I had half the money I need until I die, god forbid. Having half of the money is good enough. Why is the WSIB not happy with the money they have?

I am the one in trouble. I am afraid one day I will have to live under a bridge.

I have lost faith in our institutions. I have become depressed. I have many physical and health problems too. Everything has been a struggle.

I hope you can make a difference. Please tell the compensation board that this debate is making people resent injured workers. Please tell the board to be happy with the money it has in the bank. Many injured workers like me have more difficulty. We are the ones who are in trouble and need your help.