

ADVISORY LETTER

BY E_MAIL
AL 09-09
December 4,2009

TO: ALL FIR MEMBER COMPANIES and FIR BENEFITS ONLY MEMBERS

Gentlemen and Mesdames:

Re: Qualification for EI Premium Rebate

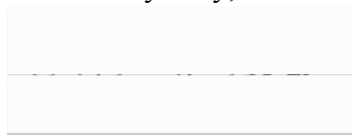
All FIR Member Companies and other employers participating in Health and Welfare Plan #1 should be in receipt of the EI full premium reduction for their wage loss replacement plan as referred to in Art XVII, Sec.2(c) of the Coast Master Agreement.

Because the Federal Government is raising the EI maximum weekly benefit level on January 1,2010 to \$457 ,the Trustees have agreed to increase Plan #1's benefit level accordingly so that companies can continue to qualify for the Full Premium Reduction.

The attached letter from Doug Hatlelid ,Plan Administrator, may be helpful to companies in Plan #1 in the reapplication process at HRSDC.

Please call or email us if you have any questions.

Yours very truly,



T.J. Getzie,
V. P. ,Education and Benefits Admin.



Trustees of the USW-Forest Industry Health & Welfare Plan No. 1

c/o Pacific Blue Cross*

PO Box 24715, Stn. F, Vancouver, BC V5N 5T8

☎: 604 419-2476 FAX: 604 419-2884 Email: adm@pac.bluecross.ca Web: <http://uswf1.planoffice.ca/>

December 2, 2009

HRSDC: 1-506-548-7377

Attention: Clarence Landry

Re: Weekly Indemnity (WI) benefit change effective January 1, 2010, MEP #320

I confirm, as Plan Administrator on behalf of the Board of Trustees of the USW-Forest Industry Health & Welfare Plan No. 1, that the Trustees have agreed to increase the weekly benefit for Weekly Indemnity, also known as Short Term Disability, to \$457 effective January 1, 2010, for new claims incurred on or after that date.

They are doing this to preserve the EI premium reduction for participating employers.

Other provisions of the Plan remain unchanged, including payment from first day of injury, hospitalization or surgery; payment from sixth day of illness; and maximum benefit period of 26 weeks.

Sincerely yours,

Doug Hatlelid

Plan Administrator

☎ (604) 419-2466

hat@pac.bluecross.ca

DH:am:iw1m

CUPE 1816

c: Trustees and advisors