

# TRANSFORMING THE WAY INJURED WORKERS RECOVER IN NOVA SCOTIA

**WORK SAFE.  
FOR LIFE.**  
WORKERS' COMPENSATION BOARD OF NOVA SCOTIA

## WCB Nova Scotia's Request for Proposals (RFP) for Work-Connected Recovery & Return to Work for Workplace Injuries

### On March 17, WCB Nova Scotia is issuing a Request for Proposal (RFP)

to identify one or more health service providers capable of offering swift, comprehensive, and integrated injury programs for both physical and psychological injuries – bringing us in line with other provinces in Canada. The outcome will be new agreements with health service providers that prioritize optimal recovery – replacing the current framework that has – over the years – resulted in an inconsistent experience in workers' treatment and recovery.

### WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT?

Successful health service providers will provide swift care for workers with musculoskeletal injuries, which account for almost 50% of all work-related injuries, psychological injuries including both traumatic psychological injury – where 60% of claims are from first responders – and gradual onset psychological injury, which is grounded in new legislation that recognizes this injury as a workplace injury.

### Protecting more with a worker-centric approach to recovery.



NOVA SCOTIA HAS  
THE HIGHEST RATES  
IN CANADA

Supporting a healthy, safe, and timely return to work (RTW) places the worker at the centre of all we do. Nova Scotia has the highest rates in Canada for lost time from work, health care costs and the likelihood of permanent injury following a workplace injury. In fact, over one million days each year are lost to workplace injuries. These are workers that could be building your roads and homes, caring for the elderly, responding to emergencies, and opening small businesses.

#### SUPPORTING INJURED NOVA SCOTIANS TO GET BACK TO WORK IN A HEALTHY, TIMELY MANNER LEADS TO:



Better physical, psychological and financial outcomes for injured workers



A stronger and more sustainable workforce in our province



More efficient and effective use of valuable health services in the community

We need everyone's help to make this a reality.

### Achieving the right outcomes. The integrated care approach to workplace injuries will help provide:



#### QUICKER ACCESS TO CARE

for Nova Scotians injured on the job.



#### CONSISTENT ASSESSMENT, SERVICE AND RECOVERY

for injured workers and employers.



#### LESS STRAIN ON THE HEALTH SYSTEM

by aligning with leading healthcare practices to support optimal recovery.



**BETTER  
EXPERIENCE FOR  
INJURED WORKERS**  
through modern health solutions (e.g., app, digital at-home exercises).



#### COST SAVINGS THAT CAN BE REINVESTED –

long term – into areas like increasing workers benefits and decreasing employer premiums.



#### MORE ACCOUNTABILITY ON HEALTH PROVIDERS

that ground treatments in therapeutic standard recovery, which tell us things like 80% of cases can be resolved within an initial treatment phase.



**AND ULTIMATELY,  
QUICKER RETURN  
TO WORK FOR  
NOVA SCOTIANS.**



**LEARN MORE**

The request for proposal is open until April 14, 2025 on the **Nova Scotia Government Public Tender Site**. Successful health service providers will be announced publicly later in 2025 with changes taking place in 2026. Please email [WCRFP@wcb.ns.ca](mailto:WCRFP@wcb.ns.ca) with any questions.