
Statement

Federal, provincial and territorial ministers responsible for labour

Statement on mental health in the workplace

As ministers responsible for labour, we recognize that mental health in the workplace is a shared priority. Much work has been done in recent years to improve mental health in the workplace. There is general consensus that this issue must be addressed from both a prevention standpoint and in terms of providing support for the recovery of those affected. Continued efforts are needed to increase awareness and understanding of mental health issues in the workplace, including post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD).

We recognize that significant steps have been taken recently to ensure that supports are available for workers facing mental health injuries as a result of psychological stressors. However, more work still needs to be done.

While we continue our efforts to address mental health issues in the workplace, as part of our respective governmental responsibilities, we agreed to work together to:

1. reduce the stigma associated with mental health issues in the workplace including PTSD, and encourage workers to seek and receive the help they need when they need it;
2. explore ways to enhance supports through employers and workers' compensation boards, among others; and
3. share information on best practices and research across provinces and territories and contribute to a national action plan on PTSD.