Antony Singleton

From: Minister of Labour (MOL) <MinisterofLabour@ontario.ca>
Sent: Thursday, May 19, 2016 4:00 PM
To: Antony Singleton
Subject: Ontario Minister of Labour's response

Mr. Antony Singleton
Barrister and Solicitor
antony@asingletonlaw.ca

Dear Mr. Singleton:

Thank you for your thoughtful correspondence regarding chronic mental stress and for your support of the *Supporting Ontario's First Responders Act, 2016*, which received Royal Assent on April 6, 2016. I appreciate hearing your concerns about these matters.

The health and safety of Ontario workers is a priority for this government. As you know, with regards to chronic mental stress, under subsections 13(4) and (5) of the *Workplace Safety and Insurance Act, 1997*, a worker is not entitled to benefits for mental stress unless they have "an acute reaction to a sudden and unexpected traumatic event arising out of and in the course of his or her employment."

I am aware of the Workplace Safety and Insurance Tribunal (WSIAT) decisions regarding entitlement for mental stress. As you note, the government did not apply for a judicial review of the WSIAT decisions. At this time the government continues to consider options on next steps.

Thank you again for raising this important matter with me.

Sincerely,

[Original signed by]

Kevin Flynn
Minister of Labour

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