**Updates on WorkSafeNB issues: What’s New and Trending in Workers’ Compensation and Occupational Health and Safety Law**

**Date: Thursday, June 27, 2019**

**Time: 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.**

**Location: Ganong Nature Park, St. Stephen**

***(Detailed Directions:*** [*http://ganongnaturepark.com/detailed-directions/*](http://ganongnaturepark.com/detailed-directions/)*)*

**Cost: $15 per person (Includes morning snack/beverages)**

Workers’ compensation and occupational health and safety issues have always been important to employers and remain so now. Recently there have been legislative amendments and developments in case law that can have important implications for employers and workers. Some of these recent developments are:

* Impairment in the Workplace – with medical authorizations to use cannabis becoming more common and with recreational use of cannabis now being legal in Canada the issue of employee impairment is becoming increasingly important for many workplaces. Courts continue to shape employment law in this area. The group will discuss how workplaces can address these issues and will also consider some of the recent case law.
* The New Brunswick government recently brought in amendments to occupational health and safety regulations that impose new obligations on workplaces regarding violence and harassment. The group will discuss what workplaces need to do to be in compliance with the legislation and will also discuss some common misconceptions about what the legislation can and can’t do.
* The New Brunswick Court of Appeal has recently heard to workers’ compensation cases where those workers were diagnosed with PTSD. The Court of Appeal issued rulings that restrict how an employer can challenge these claims. With the rise in PTSD claims over the past few years this is an issue for many employers.
* The group will also have an opportunity to raise and discuss other issues relating to workers’ compensation and occupational health and safety. Many employers share the same concerns so this will be an opportunity to discuss these with other Chamber members as well as with WorkSafeNB’s Legal Counsel.

Speaker: Michael McGovern, Legal Counsel, WorkSafeNB.

Mike is currently Legal Counsel for WorkSafeNB and was most recently General Counsel there for five years. Mike holds a law degree from the University of New Brunswick and has been with WorksafeNB and its predecessors since 1996. Mike practices primarily in corporate law, occupational health and safety law, workers’ compensation law and administrative law. He also guest lectures at the law school at UNB in labour law and construction law and teaches a course in occupational health and safety law at the University of Fredericton. He is a member of the New Brunswick Law Society, the Canadian Bar Association and the Canadian Corporate Counsel Association. Mike also holds the designation of Certified In-House Counsel, an international certification by the Canadian Corporate Counsel Association and the Rotman School of Business. In the past Mike served with the Canadian Forces in both Regular and Reserve capacities and concluded his eleven years as a Legal Officer with the Office of the Judge Advocate General.

***Please RSVP by Monday, June 24th by calling Tara at 466-7703***

***or email*** ***chamber.ststephen@nb.aibn.com***