



*L to R: Judy Geary and John Slinger*

## WSIB Adopts International Disability Management Self Assessment (DMSA) Tool

On August 14, John Slinger, Chief Operating Officer of the Ontario Workplace Safety and Insurance Board (WSIB), signed a Memorandum of Agreement with Judy Geary, Member of the Board of Directors for the National Institute of Disability Management and Research (NIDMAR), which provides employers across Ontario with access to the DMSA via a link on the WSIB's website.

The DMSA is one of a suite of RTW / DM program assessment protocols developed with the support of leading experts from the employer, labour, provider, insurance and academic communities that has been psychometrically calibrated and adopted across Canada and internationally.

The assessment protocol suite also includes the Consensus Based Disability Management Audit (CBDMA) as well as the Workplace Disability Management Assessment (WDMA), which are being used extensively by a broad cross section of organizations across Canada and around the world.

The RTW / DM program assessment protocols and the professional certifications, i.e. the Certified Disability Management Professional (CDMP) and the Certified Return to Work Coordinator (CRTWC) are administered under the auspices of the International Disability Management Standards Council (IDMSC), which currently includes membership from 18 different countries.

The global best practice guidelines in Return to Work, released by the International Social Security Agency (ISSA), a UN affiliated organization headquartered in Geneva, during the World Social Security Congress in November 2013, reference the IDMSC RTW / DM professional and program standards.

More recently in Canada, following the significant economic and social impact which the application of the RTW / DM program assessment protocol had in British Columbia through the Disability Management Excellence Initiative, the Federal Minister of Labour, the Honourable Kellie Leitch recently provided a major financial grant which allows Canadian employers under federal labour jurisdiction to receive support for undergoing a RTW / DM program assessment by using the IDMSC protocol.

In addition to DMSA access through IDMSC license holders, Memorandums of Agreement, similar to the WSIB signing, are also in place with the Conference Board of Canada, the Canadian Centre for Occupational Health and Safety, the United Steelworkers, and more recently, the Human Resources Professionals Association (HRPA) in Ontario.



For more information:

HRPA – NIDMAR – PCU-WHS Partnership:

<http://www.newswire.ca/news-releases/hrpa-national-institute-of-disability-management-and-research-and-pacific-coast-university-for-workplace-health-sciences-partner-to-help-employers-build-accessible-workplaces-517720891.html>

Funding Announcement by Federal Government:

[http://www.nidmar.ca/news/full\\_story.asp?fid=183](http://www.nidmar.ca/news/full_story.asp?fid=183)

Sun Life Announcement:

[http://www.nidmar.ca/news/full\\_story.asp?fid=187](http://www.nidmar.ca/news/full_story.asp?fid=187)

DM Excellence Initiative:

[http://www.nidmar.ca/news/full\\_story.asp?fid=87](http://www.nidmar.ca/news/full_story.asp?fid=87)

[www.wsib.on.ca](http://www.wsib.on.ca)

[www.nidmar.ca](http://www.nidmar.ca)

[www.idmsc.org](http://www.idmsc.org)