

CHANGES TO STATUTORY ACCIDENT BENEFITS



To help stabilize rates, the Ontario government has implemented changes to auto insurance. Several measures are aimed at reducing fraud and abuse of the system, which increase premiums. As your lifestyle changes, so do your coverage needs. Regular reviews of your policy will ensure you have the coverage best-suited to your lifestyle. Lifestyle questions to consider:

- 1. Do you make more than \$30,000/year?** Consider increasing your Income Replacement Benefit to \$600, \$800 or \$1,000.
- 2. Are there people in your life who depend on you financially or for care?** Consider extending your Caregiver Benefit and/or adding a Dependant Care Benefit.
- 3. Does your employer provide a Group Insurance Plan?** Talk to your administrator to find out what you're covered for and consider increasing your Medical Rehabilitation Benefit. Most benefit packages are limited to \$500 a year per practitioner, and OHIP doesn't cover things like occupational therapy, private nursing and psychology.

If you own a vehicle in Ontario, you're required by law to purchase coverage in case an accident occurs. At a minimum you must carry third-party liability, accident benefits, direct compensation property damage and uninsured automobile. You have the option to increase limits and purchase additional accident benefit coverage to protect your lifestyle.

THIRD PARTY LIABILITY	ACCIDENT BENEFITS	DIRECT COMPENSATION PROPERTY DAMAGE	UNINSURED AUTOMOBILE
Protects you when someone is injured or killed, or property is damaged. Pays defense costs to settle claims from any lawsuits against you, up to the set limit. Legally in Ontario you must carry at least \$200,000 in liability.	If you've been injured in an accident, regardless of who caused it, accident benefits cover expenses not covered by OHIP like rehabilitation, caregiving and loss of income. See chart for changes/options.	If someone else is at fault for an accident, direct compensation covers damage to your vehicle, its contents and equipment (stereo, speakers) including loss of use and contents.	Protects you and your family if you're injured or killed by a hit-and-run driver or an uninsured motorist, covers damage to your vehicle caused by identified, uninsured drivers.

ACCIDENT BENEFITS COVERAGE		PRIOR TO JUNE 2018	PRIOR TO JUNE 2018	OPTIONS
Medical, Rehabilitation and Attendant Care Benefit	<p>Medical + Rehabilitation: Reimbursement for reasonable, necessary medical and rehabilitation expenses like physiotherapy not covered by OHIP or Group Insurance Plans.</p> <p>Attendant Care: Reimbursement for an attendant to look after you either at home or within a healthcare facility.</p> <p>Non-Catastrophic Injuries: Minor Injuries (sprains, whiplash) + Serious Injuries (broken bones, severe strains).</p> <p>Catastrophic Injuries: Loss of a limb, para/quadruplegia.</p>	<p>\$50,000 for Medical + Rehabilitation (for Non-Catastrophic injuries)</p> <p>\$36,000 for Attendant Care (for Non-Catastrophic Injuries)</p> <p>\$1,000,000 for Medical + Rehabilitation (for Catastrophic Injuries)</p> <p>\$1,000,000 for Attendant Care (for Catastrophic Injuries)</p>	<p>\$65,000 total for Medical, Rehabilitation and Attendant Care (for Non-Catastrophic Injuries)</p> <p>\$1,000,000 total for Medical, Rehabilitation and Attendant Care (for Catastrophic Injuries)</p>	<p>Increase to \$130,000 (for Non-Catastrophic Injuries)</p> <p>Increase to \$2,000,000 (for Catastrophic Injuries)</p> <p>Increase to \$1,000,000 (for Non-Catastrophic Injuries) and \$2,000,000 (for Catastrophic Injuries) to total \$3,000,000</p>
Caregiver Benefit	Reimbursement to hire someone to care for your dependants.	Up to \$250/week for first dependant, \$50/week for additional dependants (Catastrophic Injuries only)	No Change	Extend benefit to cover Serious + Minor Injuries (not just Catastrophic)
Housekeeping + Home Maintenance Expenses	Reimbursement for someone to carry out your household responsibilities.	Up to \$100/week (Catastrophic Injuries only)	No Change	Extend benefit to cover Serious + Minor Injuries (not just Catastrophic)
Income Replacement Benefit	A weekly income up to \$400; begins one week after the accident occurs.	70% of gross income up to \$400/week	No Change	Increase to \$600, \$800 or \$1,000/week
Dependant Care Benefit	Reimbursement for additional expenses to care for your dependants if you're employed and injured from a car accident.	Not Provided	No Change	Purchase up to \$75/ week for first dependant and \$25/week for additional dependants (max \$150/week)
Death + Funeral Benefit	A lump sum payout to your spouse and dependant(s); a second lump sum payout to cover the cost of funeral expenses.	\$25,000 to spouse; \$10,000 to each dependant. Up to \$6,000 for Funeral	No Change	Increase to \$50,000 for spouse; \$20,000 for each dependant. Increase to \$8,000 for funeral
Indexation Benefit	Adjustment of benefits to account for changes in inflation.	Not Provided	No Change	Adjust annually according to the Consumer Price Index of Canada
Tort Deductible	The amount deducted from a settlement or court award for pain and suffering.	\$36,500 deductible	No Change	Reduce deductible to \$20,000 regardless of annual indexation

*Medical, Rehabilitation and Attendant Care Benefits for minor injuries are fixed at a max limit of \$3,500.

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