



## INSURANCE NEWS AND UPDATES – December 2010

### January 1, 2011 - Changes

#### Employment Insurance Rate

**Effective January 1, 2011** there will be changes to the **Employment Insurance Rate Increase**. The federal government has announced it will increase the annual maximum insurable earnings to \$44,200 from \$43,200, **effective January 1, 2011**. This will result in an increase of \$11 per week to the Employment Insurance (EI) weekly maximum benefit. Beginning January 1, 2011, the EI weekly maximum benefit will increase to **\$468 per week**.

This increase to the EI maximum insurable earnings/benefits for 2011 means Weekly Indemnity (WI) plans that are linked to EI benefits/earnings will see benefit and premium adjustments. For example, a WI plan that specifies a maximum benefit of \$457 in order to match the maximum weekly EI benefit will increase to \$468.

Claimants who are currently receiving WI benefits will not be affected. Their weekly benefit will remain at \$457 as this was the maximum benefit at their time of claim. Claimants from groups that use the EI maximum as their maximum WI benefit amount will see an increase to the new \$468 maximum for claims having a date of disability on or after January 1, 2011.

#### Quebec Sales Tax Increase

Effective January 1, 2011, the Quebec Sales Tax (QST) will increase from the current 7.5% to 8.5%. This change will be on your January 2011 billing statement.

As always, please do not hesitate to contact us at Baicorp Financial Inc, we are here to be of assistance to you and would be happy to assist you with any questions.

Baicorp Financial Inc and BaiTrak Benefit Administrators Inc  
1290 Cornwall Road, Unit C, Oakville, ON L6J 7W5

**Baicorp** (905) 844-8820

**BaiTrak** (905) 844-7955  
**General Fax:** (905) 844 - 8663

**Toll Free:** 1-888-293-7075