Wellness and Benefits: The New Reality

BENEFITS AND PENSION SUMMIT Charmaine Alexander Senior Advisor June 1, 2022



We are living through a moment of change unlike anything we've seen before in the history of work

Linker

- Ryan Roslansky, CEO of LinkedIn

Mental health

- 35% of Canadians are exhausted
- **1 in 3** workers report mental health problems

Physical health

- 700,000 surgeries/procedures delayed
- Unhealthy lifestyles
- Lack of exercise

Financial health

- 1 in 2 Canadians are worried
- The no. 1 source of stress for **38%** of Canadians





1. Disability

- Cases up 9%
- + 17% for mental health reasons

2. The Great Resignation

- 20% of Canadian workers seeking new work
- 2 out of 3 considering quitting

3. Labour shortages

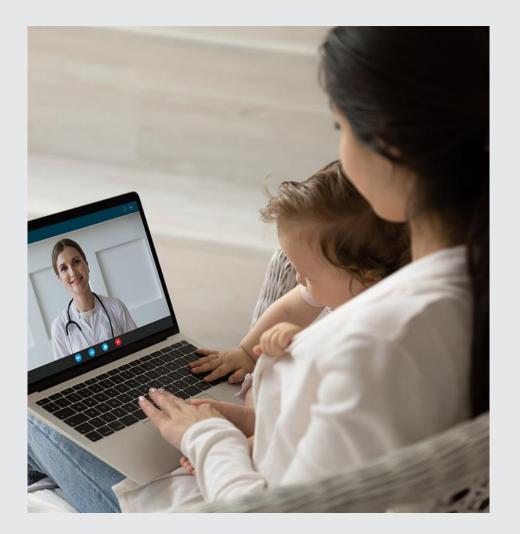
• **55%** of entrepreneurs having difficulty recruiting

The Great Resignation The Great Transformation

Group insurance is as popular as ever

- More valuable than public health care for 1/3 of members
- One of the main reasons to keep a job for 71%





The new basis of group insurance

- Virtual health care
- Health spending account/wellness account
- Increased maximum coverage for mental health services: \$2,000 to \$3,000

Discuss benefits

When choosing a plan

- An 83% gap between what employees want and what they have
- **33 to 59%** unhappy with health and wellness support provided

Once the plan is in place

 60% don't make use of existing mental health resources



66

Employers consistently underestimate financial well-being stressors, while employees see it as a priority.

x



A new generation of retirement savings plans

- More than just savings
- Training and education
- Financial advisor services included



New benefits

Changing work arrangements

- Mental health days
- 4 to 6 weeks off
- 4-day work week
- No overtime

New benefits

Flexibility

- More important than career progression for 55% of employees
- Most important tool in supporting mental health for 33%
- **3 out of 4** favour hybrid work
- **25%** willing to earn less to be able to work from home



Turning a necessity (telework) into a benefit: the right equation





New benefits

Across-the-board creativity

- Digital nomads
- Outdoor shared workspace
- Sponsored emergency fund for women
- Menopause policy

- Pet insurance
- Pet-sitting service

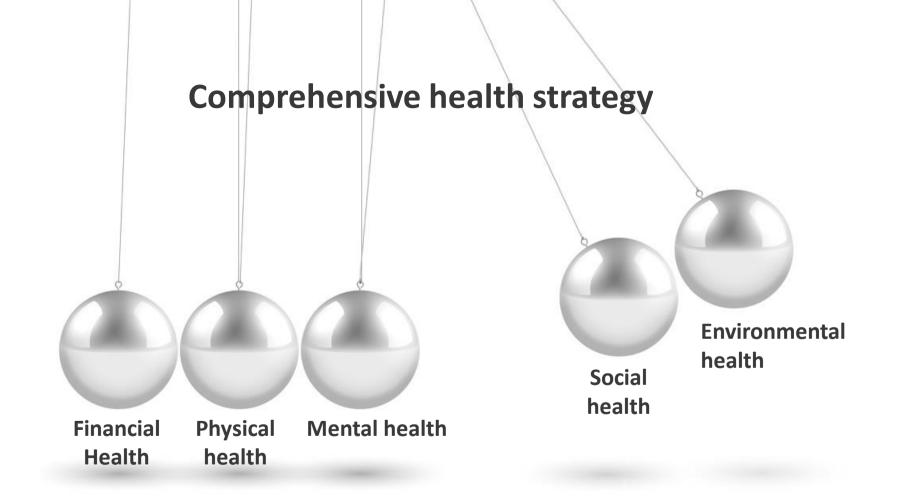
Prioritize rather than saturate

20

MEDIA

NEWS

2022 Goal: A strategy



A safe and healthy work environment



Corporate culture

- Caring in action
- Restoring meaning to the purpose of work
- Commitment from senior management and managers

EDI

A priority for 70% of leaders vs. a reality for 15% of employees



Management practices

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- Reorganize work to reduce
 anxiety
- Empower employees to do their work
- The right to disconnect





Communication

- One of the best retention strategies for **50%** of employers
- **44%** still use old-fashioned communication methods

Working conditions are the new benefits

Healthy employees in a healthy organization



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