

## Leaders stick to scripts in national English debate



JUSTIN TANG THE CANADIAN PRESS

## 31 rubber workers' WSIB claims accepted

Review allows cases previously denied due to new evidence, scientific research

**WATERLOO REGION RECORD**  
KITCHENER — More than 30 occupational disease claims from former Kitchener rubber workers that were previously denied by the Workplace Safety and Insurance Board have now been accepted after months of review.

The WSIB announced Monday it had concluded its review of about 300 claims and that 31 would now be accepted, due in part to new evidence and updated scientific research. Another 24 claims are currently in the appeal process, while 253 claims previously denied by the WSIB will remain that way.

The review was ordered last December by WSIB chair Elizabeth Witmer, who was concerned by stories of a cluster of cancer and lung disease among workers exposed to carcinogens in Kitchener's rubber manufacturing industry.

Witmer, a former Progressive Conservative MPP for Kitchener-Waterloo, also held cabinet portfolios in the labour, health and environment ministries.

The team reviewed each claim individually to apply new evidence and updated scientific research that linked chemical exposure to particular diseases. The group was made up of occupational disease adjudicators, occupational hygienists and physician experts.

Since the launch of the review, another 174 claims have been filed and are now being adjudicated through the regular claims process, the WSIB said.

"When someone gets sick, we all ask why? The WSIB has to be guided by scientific evidence and that evidence has now led

RUBBER continued on A2

Sick of toxic talk at election time? Listen to local candidates // A3

Scheer's campaign pulls altered image of Liberals' policy paper // A8

## Scheer launches no-holds-barred attack on Trudeau, saying he doesn't deserve to govern

JOAN BRYDEN AND MIA RABSON  
THE CANADIAN PRESS

OTTAWA — Conservative Leader Andrew Scheer went on the offensive early in Monday's English leaders' debate, calling Liberal Leader Justin Trudeau a phoney and a fraud.

The debate, the first to feature all six federal party leaders, kicked off with a question from a member of the audience about how each of the six leaders would defend Canada's interests and values on the world stage.

But none of the leaders answered the question, preferring instead to open with their preferred messages of the night. And Scheer's no-holds-barred attack on Trudeau made it clear what his message was.

"Justin Trudeau only pretends to stand up for Canada," Scheer said. "You know, he's very good at pretending things. He can't even remember how many times he put blackface on because the fact of the matter is he's always wearing a mask."

Scheer accused Trudeau of wearing masks on Indigenous reconciliation, feminism and on his concern for middle-class Canadians.

"Mr. Trudeau, you're a phoney and you're a fraud and you do not deserve to govern this country."

The format of the debate gave Trudeau no immediate opportunity to respond to Scheer's attack.

Scheer rounded on Trudeau again later, raising the SNC-Lavalin affair. He accused Trudeau of breaking ethics

law, shutting down parliamentary inquiries and firing two senior female cabinet ministers who objected to his trying to pressure his former attorney general to halt a criminal prosecution of the Montreal engineering giant.

"Tell me, when did you decide that the rules don't apply to you?" he said.

"Mr. Scheer, the role of a prime minister

DEBATE continued on A2

Liberal Leader Justin Trudeau, left, and Conservative Leader Andrew Scheer debate a point during the federal leaders debate in Gatineau, Que. on Monday.



FOR MORE DEBATE COVERAGE visit therecord.com



## Two years after teens died in police chase, family files lawsuit

JEFF OUTHIT  
WATERLOO REGION RECORD

WATERLOO REGION — Taryn Hewitt, 16, died when her new boyfriend fled police in a stolen car, lost control while being chased and slammed head-on into a transport trailer hauling wheat.

Taryn was a passenger in the car involved in the crash, which also killed her boyfriend, Nathan Wehrle, 15.

Two years later, how it all went wrong remains under review and in dispute, after investigators cleared Waterloo Regional Police of criminal wrongdoing.

The Office of the Chief Coroner is poised to examine the

deaths this month, to help decide if an inquest will be held.

Meanwhile, Taryn's parents, Kate and Steven Hewitt, have sued police and Family and Children's Services of the Waterloo Region for negligence, seeking \$500,000.

"I'm looking for answers and to have them change the system," Steven Hewitt said.

"Mistakes were made, one after the other, from different groups and agencies. Mistake after mistake after mistake. If you took one of those mistakes out, my daughter would be sitting at the Christmas table with me."



Nathan Wehrle, 15, and Taryn Hewitt, 16, were killed Oct. 5, 2017 in a head-on crash.



Nathan was a ward of the local children's aid society who grew up in Cambridge. Taryn was from London, Ont. They died Oct. 5, 2017, after police chased a red Pontiac G5 out of Cambridge, along rural Gore Road at

high speeds, and then onto Highway 6.

Police chased the vehicle after a witness wrongly told them that a 25-year-old man beat a woman in her early 20s and then abducted her, forcing her into the car.

"For the safety of the possible victim in the passenger seat, in case she's being held against her will, we are in pursuit," an officer said by radio.

Videos at the pizza shop where the altercation occurred helped investigators conclude later that Nathan sought to force Taryn out of the car, until she forced her way back into it.

Taryn texted her mother minutes before she died: "I'm so sorry for everything, we stole a car and we're in a high-speed chase."

Allegations in the Hewitt family's lawsuit have not been proved in court.

The family argues police engaged in a dangerous chase, attempted an unsafe rolling blockade to stop the car, didn't communicate effectively with dispatch to find out they were chasing a teenage boy and failed to act with the care expected of them.

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## Artists Among Us

Artificial intelligence, robots and evolution are dominant themes and images in New Hamburg painter's work  
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