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### **Ready to Feel Invigorated About the Work We Do?**

I hope you will take time to read [two blogs by Bob Wilson](#). His words have renewed my determination to do battle with all factors creating work disability, especially the unnecessary ones. We must never forget that we are dealing with people's lives, families, and livelihoods. Another reason I really liked these blogs is that they validate what we're doing with the Vocational Recovery Project (VRP) here in Washington. (And, yes, Bob inspired the name of the project.)

L&I's system has, to a great extent, encouraged a focus on process rather than on vocational recovery. Now that we understand more about the importance of engagement and activation, we need to make it easier for all of us to use these techniques in helping workers heal and return to work. The VRP offers us the opportunity to bring revolutionary change to our system.

Some in our industry may feel apprehensive about the prospect of significant changes. Yet the project offers an opportunity to co-design a new system that is collaborative, transparent, supports innovation and improves service quality. To develop solutions to our issues, private-sector vocational providers are working alongside L&I staff from our vocational and claims sections.

All of us owe a big thanks to external partners who are helping on the project and the pilot, whether through active participation or by supporting the use of their employee resources.

Want to hear more from Bob — and more about VRP? Attend our June 1 conference here in Tumwater.

You can also check out Bob Wilson's blog, "[From Bob's Cluttered Desk](#)." In his role as president and CEO of [WorkersCompensation.com](http://WorkersCompensation.com), he blogs on a wide variety of topics.

- Ryan