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Changes are being made to the Yukon's Occupational Health & Safety Regulations

"Read it because it could save your life" is the message the Yukon Workers' Compensation Health and Safety Board (WCHSB) wants to get out about the draft Occupational Health & Safety Regulation Review document. The draft document contains safety procedures that will affect every Yukon business and worker, including the general safety, mine safety and the blasting regulations.

"We want people to read, think and talk about the draft regulations," says WCHSB prevention consultant Richard Zral. "We've made changes so the new safety regulations will be the best safety procedures in Canada. Our goal was to produce a set of easy-to-use regulations that clearly define safe practices for the workplace."

The new regulations are part of the Yukon WCHSB's focus on prevention. The regulations provide employers and workers with the information they need to work safely.

Draft one of the safety regulations went out to public consultation last fall. Open houses were held across the Yukon, and the WCHSB gathered comments from workers and employers. Draft two, which incorporates many of comments the WCHSB received on draft one, was completed on January 17, 2000.

"We made many of the changes that our stakeholders asked for," says Zral about the second draft of the safety regulations.

The public can pick up a copy of draft two of the regulations at the Yukon WCHSB building at 401 Strickland in Whitehorse. The document is available on the Internet at www.wcb.yk.ca. Interested parties may also call the Yukon WCHSB at 1-800-661-0443 or 867-667-5645 and request that a copy be

mailed. The regulations will be open to public comment and review until March 3, 2000. Mail your comments to the Yukon WCHSB office, or fax them to 867-393-6279, or email Richard Zral at Richard.Zral@gov.yk.ca.

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