



**YUKON WORKERS'  
COMPENSATION  
HEALTH AND  
SAFETY BOARD**    **COMMISSION DE LA  
SANTÉ ET DE LA SÉCURITÉ  
AU TRAVAIL  
DU YUKON**

# News Release

For Immediate Release  
February 28, 2002

## **Board of Directors approves new CL-35 Loss of Earnings Benefits policy**

The Board of Directors of the Yukon Workers' Compensation Health and Safety Board has approved a new CL-35 Loss of Earnings Benefits policy. The purpose of the policy is to provide the method for calculating a worker's loss of earnings benefits, as required under the Workers' Compensation Act.

"We are very pleased to have in place a new policy," said the board's alternate chair, Arthur Mitchell. "The board believes this new policy balances the interests of workers and employers. We also feel that the method for calculating benefits is fair to both seasonal and permanent employees."

The new policy calls for short-term and long-term benefits. Short-term benefits will be based on a worker's earnings at the time they were injured. They are calculated using a worker's daily, weekly or monthly earnings, whichever is most beneficial to the worker. Short-term benefits are guaranteed for 180 days. Where a worker's employment profile shows they historically work less than 365 days in a year, this short-term benefit may be extended up to a maximum of 364 days.

A long-term benefit is applied after the short-term benefit period is over. Long-term benefits are calculated using a worker's average yearly earnings.

The new policy also ensures the worker's involvement in the decision-making process. There is a provision for mandatory consultation with the worker regarding their employment profile and rehabilitation plan.

"The board would like to thank the stakeholders who took the time to comment on the draft policy during the consultation period," said Mitchell. The board received 10 submissions on the draft policy.

A draft policy was open to public consultation from November 2 until December 15, 2001. Anyone wishing to read the new policy or a synopsis of the comments the Board of Directors received during the public consultation period can pick up a copy at the YWCHSB building on 401 Strickland Street, call 1-800-661-0443 or 667-5645 and have a copy mailed to them, or download a version from [www.wcb.yk.ca](http://www.wcb.yk.ca).

The YWCHSB Board of Directors is composed of chair Dale Schmekel; alternate chair Arthur Mitchell; employer representatives Ivan Dechkoff, Barry Enders and John Pert;



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worker representatives Barb Evans, Michelle Kolla and Doug Rody; appeal tribunal chair Heather MacFadgen; and president & CEO Tony Armstrong. The Board of Directors interprets and applies the Workers' Compensation Act, Occupational Health and Safety Act, approves all policies and oversees investments.

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**For Broadcast Use:**

The Board of Directors of the Yukon Workers' Compensation Health and Safety Board has approved a new Loss of Earnings Benefits policy. The purpose of the policy is to provide the method for calculating a worker's loss of earnings benefits. The new policy calls for both short-term and long-term benefits. Short-term benefits will be based on a worker's earnings at the time they were injured and are guaranteed for 180 days. They are calculated using a worker's daily, weekly or monthly earnings—whichever is most beneficial to the worker. Where a worker's employment profile shows they historically work less than 365 days in a year, the short-term benefit may be extended. After the short-term benefit ends, workers' yearly earnings are used to calculate their long-term benefits.

The Board's Alternate Chair Arthur Mitchell commented that the board was very pleased to have in place a new policy. According to Mitchell, the board feels that this new policy balances the interests of workers and employers and is fair to both seasonal and permanent employees.

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