



**YUKON WORKERS'
COMPENSATION
HEALTH AND
SAFETY BOARD**

News Release

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YWCHSB Launches Consultation: *Working Together on Prevention*

The Yukon Workers' Compensation Health and Safety Board is launching a consultation with workers, employers and the public on how all parties can work together to prevent workplace injuries and illnesses.

"Work-related injuries and illnesses hurt us whether we're workers or employers," said Craig Tuton, Chair of the Board of Directors. "They also hurt our families and our communities. We need to work together to prevent them."

The consultation is a continuation of work the YWCHSB is doing with its partners to bring positive change to Yukon workplace culture. "We need to find solutions, and we need the support, involvement and commitment of all workers and employers," said Tuton.

The impact of workplace injuries in the Yukon is growing. In 1992, the average length of a claim for someone injured severely enough to miss work was 35 days. In 2004, the average was more than 100 days.

The YWCHSB's consultation covers three key areas – prevention, economic incentives and indoor air quality/environmental tobacco smoke. "While prevention is the top priority, the other issues are linked," said Tuton.

"Our goal is to have 80 percent of Yukon workplaces by 2008 identify safety as their top priority," he said. "Every workplace injury and illness is preventable."

(more)

The consultation begins with a public meeting to present the issues on Tuesday, May 3rd from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. at Whitehorse City Council Chambers.

A newsletter highlighting the issues is available at the YWCHSB at 401 Strickland Street and at www.wcb.yk.ca. Detailed issue papers will be available and posted by **Friday, April 29th**.

The deadline for feedback is June 24th.

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