



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

News Release

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Personal Tragedies Lead Father and Young Worker to Promote Safety

Two people who have experienced the tragic consequences of workplace accidents are in Whitehorse to promote programs aimed at making young workers – and the community in general – safer.

Paul Kells is the founder and vice-chair of the Safe Communities Foundation, which promotes community-wide injury prevention. He is also executive director of the Passport to Safety program, which focuses on improving the safety of workers aged 15 to 24.

Kells became involved in both initiatives after his 19-year-old son Sean was killed in a workplace explosion in 1994. He will be joined by Candace Carnahan, whose lower left leg was amputated following an accident at a paper mill where she was working as a student.

Kells and Carnahan were invited to Whitehorse by the Yukon Workers' Compensation Health and Safety Board.

"People spend a large part of their lives at work," said Tony Armstrong, President and CEO of the YWCHSB. "Being safe in a community involves being safe at work; that is why we have invited Paul Kells and Candace Carnahan to deliver their powerful messages to the Whitehorse community."

Passport to Safety is a cross-Canada program that encourages workplace safety training for workers aged 15 to 24 – the group at highest risk of workplace injury. Kells and Carnahan will promote the program in meetings with Whitehorse employers, workers, educators and youth groups.



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"We each have a personal choice to make; to accept the way things are, or to change them," said Kells. "For parents, for young people and for all employers, Passport to Safety is a call to action to prevent needless injuries to young people in our workplaces.

Kells and Carnahan will speak about Passport to Safety at a public information meeting in the **General Store of the Gold Rush on Thursday, January 29th at 7:00 p.m.** Everyone is invited.

For more information please contact:

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Or go to the following web sites:

www.passporttosafety.com

www.safecommunities.ca



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