

YUKON WORKERS' COMPENSATION HEALTH AND SAFETY BOARD

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE November 3, 2005

## Prevention Fund: "Think about the difference you could make"

WHITEHORSE – The Yukon Workers' Compensation Health and Safety Board (YWCHSB) released guidelines today for the Prevention Fund announced earlier this year.

"Far too many Yukoners are getting hurt at work, and it is going to take all of us to change that," said Craig Tuton, Chair of the YWCHSB Board of Directors. "That is why we have made this \$5 million fund available to help Yukoners protect themselves and others at work."

The Prevention Fund will provide support for initiatives that:

- Focus on developing a strong culture of workplace safety and health
- · Benefit a wide range of Yukon workers and employers
- Are sustainable after start-up support from the Prevention Fund
- Involve collaboration between workplace parties

"This fund is focused on achieving results," explained Valerie Royle, President of the YWCHSB. "We will work with people and organizations that seek to make a difference in workplace safety; we will help them develop their proposals to get through the application process quickly and easily."

The Prevention Fund will involve a 2-stage process. The first restage involves a simple, conceptual approach, while the second stage requires more detail, depending on the project and the amount of funding requested.

Guidelines are available now from the YWCHSB Prevention Consultant. Application kits will be available December 1<sup>st</sup>, and intake will begin January 3, 2006.

"We want to get this information into people's hands now so that they can think about it, and be in a better position to make use of this fund," said Kurt Dieckmann, Director of Occupational Health & Safety at YWCHSB.

-30-

Contact: Mark Hill A/Public Relations Liaison (867) 667-8695

Becky Streigler Prevention Consultant (867) 393-6420