

April 25, 2001

April 28 is the Annual Day of Mourning for Workers Killed or Injured on the Job

The **Annual Day of Mourning** is a national event that raises awareness of the tragic consequences of workplace accidents. This day of remembrance was founded in 1984 by the Canadian Labour Congress. The aim of the day is to publicly renew commitment to "fight for the living" as well as "mourn for the dead."

Last year, two Yukon workers lost their lives, 36 suffered permanent impairment, and over 1,000 experienced a work-related injury or illness. In the last decade, there have been 21 workplace fatalities and over 12,000 workplace injuries in the Yukon.

The Yukon Workers' Compensation Health and Safety Board is trying to raise awareness of the tragic consequences of workplace accidents by helping to publicize the **Annual Day of Mourning**.

On Friday, April 27 at noon, the Yukon Federation of Labour will be hosting an **Annual Day of Mourning** ceremony at the Elijah Smith Building. Everyone is invited to attend.

For more information please contact:

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**Guidelines for Workers, Supervisors and Managers to
Prevent Workplace Fatalities, Injuries and Disease**

Everyone has a role to play in preventing injuries and illnesses.

As a worker you are personally responsible for:

1. Following safe work procedures.
2. Understanding any training undertaken and using it.
3. Notifying supervisors or employers of hazards or other problems.
4. Participating in a joint workplace health and safety committee.
5. Using personal protection equipment, and using it properly.
6. Looking out for yourself—and others.

As a supervisor or manager you are personally responsible for:

1. Creating a written occupational health and safety policy.
2. Providing workers with specific job instructions and ensuring that they follow the instructions.
3. Holding regular crew talks to discuss safety issues with workers.
4. Conducting formal safety inspections and having the worker representative present.
5. Conducting informal daily inspections to ensure that workers are following safe work procedures.
6. Ensuring workers have access to, are instructed in, and use required personal protective equipment.
7. Participating in all joint health and safety committees.
8. Conducting investigations after an injury or incident has occurred.
9. Ensuring that equipment is properly maintained and inspected.
10. Training and supervising workers.

Families and friends should remind loved ones going into the workplace to work safely and not take chances.