



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

FOR RELEASE #027
February 6, 2002

JOINT STATEMENT FROM YUKON WORKERS' COMPENSATION HEALTH AND SAFETY BOARD AND GOVERNMENT OF YUKON

WHITEHORSE – The Minister responsible for the Yukon Workers' Compensation Health and Safety Board (YWCHSB), Sue Edelman, and Chair, Dale Schmekel, issued the following statement this afternoon:

“The Government of Yukon and the Board of Directors for the Yukon Workers' Compensation Health and Safety Board agree that the Workers' Compensation Health and Safety system must be accountable to the stakeholders. Employers and workers have expressed concerns about the accountability of the current system. Recognizing significant improvements have been made in recent years, a number of issues remain outstanding which include the reporting relationship of the President of the YWCHSB to the Yukon government and the board of directors, the efficiency of the system and accountability to stakeholders.”

As required by Section 104 of the *Workers' Compensation Act*, the Workers' Compensation system is currently undergoing Special Examination by the Auditor General's Office of Canada. The chair of the board and the minister responsible for Workers' Compensation will forward a letter requesting that the audit provide guidance regarding governance, including the reporting relationship of the president to the board of directors and the Yukon government. The Special Examination Report by the Auditor General's Office is expected in June 2002.

“As a result, the Yukon Workers' Compensation Health and Safety Board will not be part of the governance legislation that is being brought forward by the Yukon government.”

The statement follows a meeting between Edelman and Schmekel earlier this week.

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Contact:

Bernie Adilman
Cabinet Communications Advisor
(867) 667-8075
bernie.adilman@gov.yk.ca

Tina Sebert
Public Relations Liaison, YWCHSB
(867) 667-8695
tina.sebert@gov.yk.ca