

March 31, 2000

New Appeal Tribunal Opens Doors

WHITEHORSE - The new Workers' Compensation Appeal Tribunal will come into existence on April 1. The Appeal Tribunal will hear appeals of decisions made by the Yukon Workers' Compensation Health and Safety Board, the hearing officer and the president under sections 7 (1), 17 (1) and 19 (4) of the *Workers' Compensation Act*.

The creation of the Appeal Tribunal is a result of the amendments to the *Workers' Compensation Act*, which were passed last fall. As set out in the *Act*, the Appeal Tribunal assumes responsibility for appeals of decisions made on compensation claims, effective April 1, 2000. It will not hear appeals of assessments or occupational health and safety matters, which will continue to be dealt with by the board.

"As a new appeal tribunal, our objective is to provide an appeal procedure that is simple, fair and accessible, with minimal delays," stated Appeal Tribunal Chair Heather MacFadgen.

The office of the Appeal Tribunal is located at 405 Ogilvie Street in Whitehorse. It will be open and operating on April 3. Anyone wanting information on how to file an appeal can call the Appeal Tribunal at 867-667-8731. The mailing address is: Appeal Tribunal, Box 5480, Whitehorse, Yukon Y1A 5L5.

The Appeal Tribunal is composed of six members. Heather MacFadgen has been appointed as Chair; Janet Wood has been selected as the Alternate Chair; Hank Ambrose and Jan Stick have been chosen as Employer Representatives; and Joe Radwanski and Karen Waroway have been selected as Worker Representatives.

For more information contact:

Vernna Johanson

Appeal Tribunal Secretary

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Appeal Tribunal appointments - biographical information

- Heather MacFadgen is a lawyer who previously worked as the Executive Director of the Yukon Human Rights Commission.
- Janet Wood owns and operates Abacus Accounting. She is a former Director of Finance at the Board and served on its Internal Review Committee.
- Hank Ambrose is an accountant and a former member of the Workers' Compensation Health and Safety Board.
- Jan Stick was previously a rehabilitation counsellor employed by the Department of Health and Social Services. She owns and operates Well Read Books.
- Joe Radwanski is a member of the United Brotherhood of Joiners and Carpenters, Local 2499 and former member of the Workers' Compensation Health and Safety Board.
- Karen Waroway is a member of Teamsters Local #31 and a former member of the Workers' Compensation Health and Safety Board.