

FOR RELEASE #05-299
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FAIR WAGE SCHEDULE INCREASED FOLLOWING PUBLIC CONSULTATION

WHITEHORSE – An increase to the Yukon Fair Wage Schedule has been announced by Glenn Hart, minister responsible for Consumer and Safety Services.

“I’m pleased to announce that the Fair Wage Schedule will increase by 10.9 per cent this fall,” Hart said in the Yukon Legislature yesterday. “In addition this increase, annual adjustments will be made to the Yukon’s fair wage schedule to reflect the Consumer Price Index to ensure that Yukon workers can maintain their standard of living.”

The Employment Standards Board recommendation was supported by 80 per cent of the respondents during a public consultation undertaken during the summer of 2005.

The fair wage schedule protects Yukon workers’ interests by setting a minimum wage for workers who are employed through Yukon government construction projects.

“We need to keep the fair wage schedule current, so that it corresponds with the cost of living for Yukoners,” said Hart.

“With the schedule in place, wages are not the major consideration in the bidding process. What this means, is that outside construction companies will not be able to undercut Yukon competitors by paying unreasonably low wages to their workers. I am also pleased to say that many Yukon contractors pay their crews above what is stipulated in the fair wage schedule,” Hart added.

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Attachment: Updated Fair Wage Schedule

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FAIR WAGE SCHEDULE CATEGORY RATE CHANGES

Effective December 1, 2005

OIC 2005/193

Category A Class	\$26.06 Per Hour
Boilermaker (erection & repair)	Interior Systems Mechanic (metal framing & walls, drywall application, drywall contact & suspended ceilings, acoustical & metal linear ceiling, demountable partition, shaft wall and access floor systems, plenum barriers, fireproofing & plasters)
Bricklayer & Stone Mason	Linesperson (electric)
Carpenter	Mechanical Systems Insulator
Crane Operator (overhead, climbing, skyway or equivalent)	Millwright
Diver	Plumber, Steamfitter and Welder (pipe)
Electrician	Refrigeration Mechanic
Elevator Mechanic	Sheet Metal Mechanic
Glass & Metal Installer	Sprinkler System Installer
Head Cook Camp (over 100 persons)	Structural Steel Erector (includes reinforcing ironwork)
Heavy Equipment Mechanic	Surveyor
Heavy Equipment Operator (dragline, gradall, pile driver, shovel, mobile crane)	Tile Setter
	Welder-General (acetylene & electric)

Category B Class	\$23.36 Per Hour
Asphalt or Concrete Spreader Operator	Head Cook (over 1-100 persons)
Batchperson (operator of asphalt or concrete plant)	Heavy Equipment Operator (rubber tire backhoe, tracked backhoe, bulldozer, front-end loaders, graders, scrapers or equivalent)
Blaster	Heavy Equipment Servicer
Cement Finisher	Hoist Operator
Compressor Operator	Ornamental & Miscellaneous Metal Erector
Concrete Mixer Operator	Painter & Paper Hanger
Driller	Pipelayer
Float Driver	Roofer
Floor Covering Installer (includes carpet & resilient tile)	Truck Driver (heavy - 10 Ton G.V.W. & up)

Category C Class	\$20.72 Per Hour
Blaster's Helper	Surveyor's Helper
Concrete Floatperson (puddleperson, screedperson)	Truck Driver (G.V.W. – 3 to 10 Tons)
Second Cook/Baker, Camp	

Category D Class	\$18.80 Per Hour
Asphalt Raker	Labourer
Camp/Kitchen Helper	Mortar Person
Driller's Helper	Pump Tender
First Aid Attendant	Roller Operator (roller, packer, or compactor)
Flagperson	Roofer's Helper
Jackhammer Operator	Watchperson or Security Guard