



Yukon Workers'
Compensation
Health and
Safety Board

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 20, 2010

YWCHSB ANNOUNCES A LOWER AVERAGE ASSESSMENT RATE FOR 2011.

Whitehorse: The Board of Directors of YWCHSB is pleased to announce that the average assessment rate for 2011 will be significantly lower than the 2010 rate.

The rate will drop from this year's level of \$2.95 to \$2.49 in 2011, a decrease of 15.6% or 46-cents less, per \$100 of assessable payroll.

This also means a projected drop in assessment revenues collected in 2011 of just over \$4 million.

To be clear, this does not mean an across-the-board decrease in assessment premiums for all employers. Industries that continue to show decreases in the number and severity of injuries are likely to see rate decreases in 2011. However, those industries who continue to show a lack of due diligence in improving safety and Return-To-Work outcomes in their workplaces are unlikely to see any decreases in their rates.

Specific rates for each of the 69 industries will be announced in the fall.

A major contributing factor to the lower rate is the recent trend in lower claims costs including a 43% reduction in 2009. This puts the time-loss rate per 100 workers covered in 2009 at 2.3. This compares with 2.8 in 2008 and 3 in 2007. The interim goal is a lost-time rate of 1.

With assistance from its stakeholder partners, this was achieved by a concentrated focus on Return-To-Work – getting injured workers back on the job as safely and quickly as possible, which is good for the employer and aids in the worker's full recovery. It also shortens the duration or length of time injured workers are receiving time-loss benefits. YWCHSB has the best results of any jurisdiction in Canada in this category. (see reverse of this page) The percentage of time-loss claims for which the last payment was made within 90 days from the claim starting was over 88% in 2009.

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