



Yukon Workers'
Compensation
Health and
Safety Board

For Release

November 5, 2009

YWCHSB announces 2010 Assessment Rates and Classification changes.

WHITEHORSE: The Board of Directors of YWCHSB is pleased to announce that the 2010 assessment rates will see a majority of Yukon employers receiving rate decreases.

Approximately 1,800 employers will be receiving rate decreases while about 1,100 will be seeing rate increases.

In keeping with Board practice, rate changes are being transitioned over 2 years.

The average assessment rate for 2010 is set at \$2.95 compared with \$3.00 last year – an indication that overall, the YWCHSB needs less money to operate in 2010 as a result of trends of both decreasing numbers and costs of claims.

Eight industries have been reclassified into either higher or lower rate groups based on their claims costs or because of amendments to the classification structure.

YWCHSB has responded to employers who wanted to see a re-distribution of administration expenses based on the use of YWCHSB services.

All employers use common services and are responsible for a share of basic YWCHSB operational costs. Starting in 2010, a flat fee from each rate group will be used to pay for these common costs.

The remaining amount of each rate is based on variables, such as costs of claims and the additional services required to administer those claims.

A financial cap is set for large claims and a flat charge for fatalities, regardless of the actual costs.

In the past, large costs for claims would be assigned to just the industries within that rate group, making it difficult to keep that group's rate stable.

In the case of fatalities where there were no dependents, costs failed to reflect the seriousness of the event.

Starting in 2010, when compensation costs are greater than the financial cap, the additional costs will be shared by all industries across the system.

This prevents a single high cost fatality or claim in one industry destabilizing that group's rate. It also follows the principle of collective liability.

Beginning in 2010, fatalities will result in a flat charge to the rate group, equal to the financial cap for high cost claims, regardless of the actual costs related to the fatality.

Details of the 2010 rates can be found on the YWCHSB website: www.wcb.yk.ca

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