

This policy amendment proposal relating to emergency transportation will reflect the issues consulted on during the engagement for the *Workers' Safety and Compensation Act* (the 'Act') and will align the amendments made in the new legislation.

The new Act comes into force July 1, 2022. The intended effective date of the proposed policy amendments will be July 1, 2022.

The proposed amended Emergency Transportation policy will reflect minor changes to ensure consistency with the provisions of the Act.

A five-year policy review plan will be developed later in 2022. After July 1, 2022, all amended policies to align with the new Act will be prioritized for a more detailed review.

The purpose of this policy is to provide information on the provision of emergency transportation for workers.

Relevant sections of the Act

The following sections of the Act are relevant:

• 115 emergency transportation

Proposed minor changes to this policy are highlighted in yellow

- changes to section references, language and definitions
- clarifies subsequent emergency transportation costs

Board Orders/Regulations

N/A

Current policy

EN-04 Emergency Transportation



The board of directors is providing this policy amendment proposal to stakeholders seeking their input, comments, questions and suggestions.

Some questions for consideration:

- 1. Are there any general comments about this policy proposal?
- 2. Are there any gaps in this policy proposal?
- 3. Additional comments?

The views of our stakeholders are important to us. All feedback will be considered prior to the board of directors approving any amendments.

Engagement on this policy proposal closes on April 30, 2022. Please provide your feedback by:

- 1. Downloading a <u>fillable form</u> on our website and sending it as an attachment to Policy.Feedback@wcb.yk.ca
- 2. Emailing comments directly to Policy.Feedback@wcb.yk.ca
- 3. Receipt in our building by April 30, 2022, by mail or drop off at Yukon Workers' Compensation Health and Safety Board 401 Strickland Street
 Whitehorse, Yukon Y1A 5N8

By the end of May a summary of all feedback on this policy amendment proposal will be published on our website at www.wcb.yk.ca



Preventing work-related injuries is the most important job in any workplace. The *Workers' Safety* and *Compensation Act* establishes the responsibilities of all workplace parties to work together to ensure the physical and psychological health and safety of workers. When injuries do occur, workers and employers must continue to work together to facilitate an injured worker's early and safe return to health and work.

Purpose

This policy provides information on the provision of emergency transportation for workers.

Definitions

board means the Workers' Safety and Compensation Board

emergency means a work-related injury that calls for immediate action without the benefit of full medical deliberation

emergency transportation means the immediate transport of a worker, who has suffered a work-related injury, to initial treatment

initial treatment means medical treatment, provided by a nurse working in an expanded role or by a medical practitioner that stabilizes the condition of the worker and allows for full medical deliberation in taking further action

nurse working in an expanded role means a nurse with outpost nursing or advanced clinical skills training who is recognized as such by the Government of Yukon. This designation allows the nurse to carry out an initial physical assessment and, in consultation with a medical practitioner, provide treatment, dispense medication and request a medivac as required by the condition of a patient in a small community or in a remote location

worker means a person who performs work or services for an employer under a contract of service or apprenticeship, written or oral, express or implied and as further defined in section 77 of the Act

Policy Statement

1. General

If a worker suffers a work-related injury and is in need of medical aid, and if this worker is in need of transportation to a health care facility, the worker's employer must immediately provide and pay for emergency transportation for the worker to a health care facility, health care provider, home or other place that may be required by the worker's condition.



If an employer fails to provide emergency transportation and another person or the board incurs expense in doing so, the expense that is incurred by another person will be reimbursed by the board and the amount incurred by the board or reimbursed by the board is a debt due from the employer to the board.

Calling for Emergency Transportation

The employer's first-aid attendant decides whether a work-related injury requires emergency transportation, and, if the first-aid attendant is not present, the employer, the worker or another person may call for emergency transportation.

2. Emergency Transportation Costs

The employer is responsible for the payment of all emergency transportation costs to initial treatment within Yukon. If emergency transportation takes the worker out of Yukon, the employer is responsible for payment of the Yukon portion of such transportation including percentage payment of air transport to Yukon border.

Emergency transportation costs are all costs related to transporting a worker to initial treatment. These costs include, but are not limited to, air carriers' contract services, medical practitioners' travel expenses, ambulance services, telecommunication charges, employees' wages, and employees' travel expenses. Costs may also include any other means of transportation (e.g., boat or snowmobile) required to move a worker.

Emergency transportation costs are separate from, and may be in addition to, costs incurred by fulfilling the requirements of the Minimum First-aid Regulations of the Act.

3. Subsequent Emergency Transportation Costs

If, as a result of a worker's condition, a medical practitioner is called to the site of injury, and the medical practitioner subsequently decides that the worker should be transported to a medical facility, the employer is responsible for the transportation costs as set out in the Act, regulations and this policy.