		Part:	Introduct		
	Yukon Workers' Compensation	Board Approval:	Original signed by Chair	Effective Date:	January 1, 2013
	Health and Safety Board	Number:	IN-03	Last Revised:	
		Board Order:		Review Date:	

TRANSITION POLICY – Workers' Compensation Act 2008

GENERAL INFORMATION

The Board of Directors' policies provide direction to ensure consistency in interpreting the *Workers' Compensation Act* S.Y. 2008 (the *"Act"*) and, where applicable, earlier *Workers' Compensation Acts*.

Attached, as Appendix A, is a section-by-section comparison of the *Workers' Compensation Act R.S.Y. 2002* and the *Act*.

PURPOSE

This policy outlines how the *Act* and the Board of Directors' policies apply to claims made before the effective date of the legislation.

DEFINITIONS

- **1. Entitlement:** means a decision-maker has accepted that a worker is eligible to receive compensation.
- 2. Compensation: means any amount payable or services provided under the *Act* in respect of an injured worker.

POLICY STATEMENT

1. Establishment of Policies Applicable to Prior Workers' Compensation Acts

Under the *Act*, the Board of Directors has the authority to establish policies, including policies under earlier *Workers' Compensation Acts*.

2. Application of Predecessor Legislation

Where a previous *Workers' Compensation Act* is repealed the normal rule of interpretation is to use the most current *Act*. The only exception is the transition

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part of a *Workers' Compensation Act*, which directs that entitlement of a worker to compensation is determined pursuant to the *Workers' Compensation Act* in force at the time of the worker's injury. Subsections 127 (a) to (g) of the *Act* confirm this, by specific legislative direction; that entitlement to compensation, which includes matters such as indexing of benefits or the amount of compensation, will be dealt with by using the specific *Workers' Compensation Acts* listed in section 127 of the *Act*.

Unless directed by section 127 of the *Act*, the normal rule of interpretation is, because the *Workers' Compensation Act* RSY 2002 is repealed, all compensation benefits will come under the *Workers' Compensation Act* S.Y. 2008.

Policies of the Board of Directors that were in force at the time of the worker's injury will apply, unless a subsequent policy states otherwise.

3. Directions on Interpreting the *Act*

a) Section 131 repeals the Workers' Compensation Act R.S.Y. 2002.

b) Effective July 1, 2008, section 14 "Mitigation of Loss" shall apply to all workers, regardless of their date of injury.

c) Effective July 1, 2008, sections 40(1) and (2) of the *Act*, "Duty to Cooperate in Return to Work," will apply to all employers and workers, regardless of date of injury.

d) Effective July 1, 2011, section 41 of the *Act*, "Employer's Obligation to Re-Employ" will apply to all employers who regularly employ more than 20 workers.

e) All review and appeals shall be brought under the procedures established under the 2008 *Act*, regardless of when the injury occurred, including earlier Yukon *Workers' Compensation Acts*.

4. Amendments to the Act

When any amendments are made to the *Act*, the Board of Directors will, as soon as practicable, make any changes to its policies that are required to ensure consistency with any amended provisions or section references to the *Act*.

Where any inconsistency exists between a provision of a policy of the Board of Directors and a provision of the *Act*, the provision of the *Act* will prevail to the extent of the inconsistency.

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APPLICATION

This policy applies to all policies established by the Board of Directors and to the YWCHSB, its staff, the appeal committees of the Workers' Compensation Appeal Tribunal, and all workers and employers covered by the *Act*.

ACT REFERENCES

Sections 14, 40, 41, 127, 131.

Subsection 127(1) of the Act, S.Y provides as follows:

If a worker is entitled to compensation as a result of a work-related injury caused:

- (a) in 1982 or earlier, the worker's entitlement to compensation shall be determined pursuant to predecessor legislation as it was in force before January 1, 1983;
- (b) subject to subsection 20(2) and paragraphs (c) to (e), in 1992 or earlier, the worker's entitlement to compensation shall, until January 1, 2002, be determined pursuant to predecessor legislation as it was in force before January 1, 1993;
- (c) after January 1, 2002, if a worker is in receipt of compensation, the worker's wage rate shall be the maximum wage rate determined pursuant to the maximum wage rate established by section 3;
- (d) section 35 of this *Act* shall apply to the indexing of the worker's wage rate determined after January 1, 2002;
- (e) for the purpose of section 35 of this *Act*, the worker's anniversary date shall be considered to be January 1, 2002;
- (f) in March 31, 2000 or earlier, the worker's entitlement to compensation shall be determined pursuant to predecessor legislation as it was in force before April 1, 2000;
- (g) for workers who suffered a work-related injury between July 31, 1973 and December 31, 1982
 - (i) the maximum wage rate is set at \$56,000, effective January 1, 2009,
 - (ii) the maximum wage rate increase will be set, effective January 1st of each subsequent year, by the Board of Directors adjusting this amount by the percentage change in the average index in the



Consumer Price Index for Whitehorse, calculated using the percent change between the average index for the preceding twelve month period ending October 31st and the same time period one year earlier, so long as the percentage change is not more than four percent or less than zero percent.

HISTORY

- IN-03, "Transition Policy *Workers' Compensation Act 2008*" effective July 1, 2008, revoked January 1, 2013
- IN-03, "Transition Policy *Workers' Compensation Act 2008*" effective April 26, 2005, revoked July 1, 2008.
- PL-03, "Transition Policy Amendments to The *Workers' Compensation Act*", effective April 26, 2005, revoked July 1, 2008.
- GC-02, "Bill 83 Transition Policy"; effective January 1, 2001, revoked April 26, 2005.
- GC-09, "Transitional Clause"; effective March 7, 1995, revoked April 26, 2005.
- GC-12, "2002 Revised Statutes of the Yukon Transition Policy"; effective December 2, 2003, revoked April 26, 2005.



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