

# Annual Report

2010

## Yukon Workers' Compensation Health and Safety Board



Yukon Workers'  
Compensation  
Health and  
Safety Board

Commission de  
la santé et de  
la sécurité au  
travail du Yukon



## Members of the Board

The Yukon Workers' Compensation Health and Safety Board (YWCHSB) is governed by a Board of Directors made up of two representatives of workers, two representatives of employers, a neutral chair and a neutral alternate chair. The President/CEO of YWCHSB sits as a non-voting member.

**Mark Pike, Chair**

Appointed November 5, 2010 – November 4, 2013

**Vicki Hancock, Alternate Chair**

Appointed August 24, 2009 – August 23, 2012

(Earlier appointment: August 15, 2006 – August 14, 2009)

**Gary Annau, Representative of Employers**

Appointed November 29, 2008 – November 28, 2011

(Earlier appointments:

November 29, 2005 - November 28, 2008;

November 29, 2004 – November 28, 2005)

**Tamara Goepfel, Representative of Employers**

Appointed February 8, 2008 – February 7, 2011

**Barbara Evans, Representative of Workers**

Appointed November 19, 2008 – November 19, 2011

Reappointed September 19, 2008 – November 18, 2008

(Earlier appointments:

September 19, 2005 – September 18, 2008;

September 19, 2005 – September 18, 2005;

March 1, 2000 – August 30, 2002)

**Don Austin, Representative of Workers**

Appointed October 28, 2009 – October 27, 2012

**Valerie Royle, President/CEO**

## Message from the Board

The Board of Directors is proud of the accomplishments achieved in governing the compensation system in 2010 with the cooperation and assistance of its stakeholder partners, employers, workers and staff.

The goals and objectives of its 2006 - 2011 Strategic Plan have been met with some of the lowest claims durations for injured workers in the country. Employers, workers and health care providers are cooperating to prevent disabilities by getting injured workers back on the job as early and safely as possible, as part of the injured worker's healing process.

Improved return to work outcomes contributed to lower claims costs and enabled the Board, for the second consecutive year, to lower assessment rates. Ninety-two percent of employers will receive rate decreases in 2011 ranging up to 17%. Only one industry group will receive an increase (6%).

Yukon will no longer have the highest provisional average assessment rate in the country. The provisional average rate will decrease by almost 16% in 2011. YWCHSB internal efficiencies also contributed to lowering administration costs within the average rate.

The Board also recognizes that to lower assessment rates even further, it must focus on preventing disabilities by reducing workplace injuries. This will be accomplished through on-going consultation with stakeholders and increased participation of employers in improving safety outcomes in their workplaces. YWCHSB is still seeing too many injuries caused by failure to follow basic safety regulations. The Board continues to recognize that prevention is key and is working towards reducing the injury rate.

Based on consultations with employers and a review of the **CHOICES** incentive program, the Board decided to simplify participation processes for employers. Starting next year, employers who provide specified safety and/or return to work training for their workers will be eligible to receive credit rebates on their assessment premium accounts ranging from 4% to 6% of their annual assessment premiums.

The Board congratulates the growing number of Yukon employers participating in the Certificate of Recognition (COR) and Small Employer Certificate of Recognition (SECOR) programs. These businesses are demonstrating their commitment to improving safety and reducing injuries in their workplaces. They will receive the greatest benefit under the **CHOICES** program – an automatic 10% credit rebate on their assessment premiums, up to an annual maximum of \$25,000.

The growing number of foreign workers in Yukon prompted the Board to be pro-active in assisting these new workers to understand their rights and responsibilities in the workplace. In partnership with WorkSafe BC, YWCHSB has made available, free over-the-phone interpretive services for employers and foreign workers. This service is for issues related to assessments, injury claims or occupational health and safety requirements.

In keeping with its prudent approach to investments, the Board is pleased to report a positive return of 7.6% in 2010. This puts YWCHSB in a fully funded position of 134%. This means there are sufficient funds to provide full compensation benefits now and in the future for all injured workers and dependents currently in the system with additional funds available to cover unforeseen events.

The Investigations Unit investigated seven cases in 2010, all related to compensation claims. The investigative elements of four cases have been completed and of the four, three are in the final internal review process and one is under appeal. The three other investigations are ongoing.

In keeping with internal efficiencies, the Board decided, at this time, not to publish a Statistical Supplement for the annual reports. As with all compensation systems in the country, many of the annual Key Statistical Measures (KSMs) require a full year run-out before statistics are complete and final. For example, KSM data gathered for 2010 from Canadian workers' compensation jurisdictions, including Yukon, will not be resolved until after December 31, 2011. This data is then made available on the website of the Association of Workers' Compensation Boards of Canada at <http://www.awcbc.org/>. Data published prior to this date would be incomplete, inaccurate, a duplication of effort and would take away from YWCHSB's continued focus on internal efficiencies. The Board will continue to publish in its annual report, available data tables and graphs that provide key information about YWCHSB's yearly activities and performance.

The Board continues to demonstrate success in managing a highly complex system. The responsibility for making decisions about YWCHSB actions, including the distribution of funding, is the sole responsibility of the Board and it will continue to adhere to its fiduciary responsibilities.

The Board was saddened by two worker fatalities in 2010. A young worker at the Wolverine Mine was fatally injured when a section of wall in an underground area of the mine collapsed on April 25<sup>th</sup>.

Another worker also passed away this year due to an occupational disease. The worker was diagnosed in 2007 with lung disease caused by asbestosis. He succumbed to the disease in October 2010.

These workers will be remembered on April 28<sup>th</sup> during the Annual Day of Mourning ceremony in Whitehorse. The Board extends its condolences to their family, friends and co-workers.

As the Board develops its new five-year Strategic Plan, it will continue to consult and work with its stakeholder partners, employers, workers and health care providers to achieve more gains in preventing workplace injuries and ensuring the sustainability of the compensation system.

Under the Board's direction, YWCHSB is well positioned to face the challenges of today and tomorrow.

† Footnote: Details of the Board of Director's priorities and objectives can be found in its Strategic Plan, on the YWCHSB website at [www.wcb.yk.ca](http://www.wcb.yk.ca) under Board of Directors. The Board's performance measures are on the same website under Forms & Reports – Accountability.

## Effective Policies

A number of policies and amendments to existing policies were brought into effect in 2010. YWCHSB would like to thank members of the Policy Working Group, the Stakeholder Advisory Committee and others for their assistance with developing these policies.

One of the main policy development areas was for section 41 of the *Workers' Compensation Act*, which was proclaimed in 2010. This section provides re-employment protection for injured workers once they are medically able to return to their jobs. Only employers with 20 or more workers are subject to this section and it applies only to workers injured on or after January 1, 2011. It provides specific guidelines, remedies and penalties for employers.

Policies RE-04 through to RE-08 relate to section 41, which comes into effect January 1, 2011.

### **RE-04 EMPLOYER'S OBLIGATION TO RE-EMPLOY – OVERVIEW**

This new policy provides direction to employers and assists workers in understanding their obligations and roles in the re-employment process. It sets out the fundamental principles of the re-employment obligation, clarifying when this section applies to an employer, how the number of regularly employed workers will be calculated, what the re-employment obligation is, when a worker is medically unable to work, and what is suitable employment.

### **RE-05 ALTERNATIVE EMPLOYMENT COMPARABLE TO PRE-INJURY EMPLOYMENT**

The policy addresses the obligation of an employer who has a re-employment obligation to provide a worker with alternative work/employment of a nature and at earnings comparable to the worker's pre-injury employment.

The workplace parties (employer and worker) are responsible for determining whether the alternative employment is comparable in nature and in earnings to the pre-injury employment. If the workplace parties cannot agree, YWCHSB will make the final determination.

### **RE-06 ACCOMMODATING WORK OR A WORKPLACE**

This policy clarifies the accommodation requirements for employers and workers under the *Act*. It outlines the basic accommodation requirements for all employers and focuses on the specific accommodation requirements applicable to employers who have a re-employment obligation under section 41 of the *Act*.

The intent of the duty to accommodate is to provide equal opportunity and access to employment for workers with work-related injuries, who might otherwise face barriers to employment because of those injuries. It may also help to prevent work-related injuries or recurrences.

### **RE-07-1 COMPLIANCE WITH THE RE-EMPLOYMENT OBLIGATION**

This policy addresses issues concerning when an employer, who has a re-employment obligation, is in compliance with the re-employment provisions of section 41 as well as addressing how to determine the duration of the re-employment obligation.

If YWCHSB determines that an employer has not complied with the employer's obligations under this section, YWCHSB may levy penalties on the employer.

When a worker is medically able to perform the essential duties of the pre-injury employment, an employer who is subject to a re-employment obligation must:

- a) offer to re-employ the worker in the position that the worker held prior to the work-related injury; or
- b) offer an alternative position which is comparable in nature and earnings to the worker's pre-injury employment.

However, when a worker is medically unable to perform the essential duties of the worker's pre-injury employment but is able to perform suitable employment, the employer must offer the worker the first opportunity to accept suitable employment that may become available with the employer.

The employer must accommodate the work or workplace for the worker to the extent determined by YWCHSB.

### **RE-07-2 RE-EMPLOYMENT PENALTIES AND PAYMENTS**

This policy explains the penalty provisions set out in sections 41(14) and (15) of the *Act* for employer non-compliance with their re-employment obligations under section 41 as well as the applicable penalty provisions under section 40 for employer non-cooperation in the duty to co-operate in return to work.

### **RE- 07- 3 TERMINATION AFTER RE-EMPLOYMENT**

This policy outlines how YWCHSB determines whether an employer, who has a re-employment obligation, has failed to fulfill re-employment obligations when a worker has been terminated by the employer within six months of re-employment.

Where a worker is terminated within six months of re-employment, YWCHSB will presume that the employer has not fulfilled its re-employment obligation. YWCHSB must ensure that the work cessation is, in fact, a termination (e.g. severing the employment relationship) and not some other temporary cessation that is not intended to be a termination. To rebut this presumption, the employer must show that the termination of the worker's employment was not related to the work-related injury.

### **RE-08 RE-EMPLOYMENT PROVISIONS OF COLLECTIVE AGREEMENTS**

This policy addresses how collective agreements work in conjunction with the section 41 re-employment provisions of the *Act*.

When a worker is covered by the re-employment provisions of both a collective agreement and the *Act*, the provisions of the *Act* shall be applied, except where the workplace parties, in consultation with the bargaining agent or union representative, determine that the provisions of the collective agreement give the worker greater rights. In such cases, the provisions of the collective agreement shall prevail and the workplace parties shall notify YWCHSB in writing of this finding as soon as possible.

### **CH-04 CHOICES INCENTIVE PROGRAM**

This policy communicates the objectives of the CHOICES incentive program and provides an overview of the program. It outlines how the CHOICES program applies to employers and details eligibility requirements needed to participate in CHOICES.

CHOICES financially rewards employers who take steps to improve workplace safety and return to work outcomes through investments made in work-related occupational health and safety and/or return to work training. Such training leads to practices that create and advance safe and healthy workplaces. Fewer injuries and lower associated costs in turn lead toward lower assessment rates.

### **BD-02 TRAVEL**

Amendments were approved to this policy under Appendix A - Travel Rates. The rates for travel expenses were updated to fall in line with current federal guidelines.

### **GN-01 RELEASE OF INFORMATION**

This policy was revoked in 2010. It was originally put in place to deal with requests for the release of information about YWCHSB activities in an appropriate and timely manner and in accordance with its legal responsibilities.

The policy was established because of a 2002 ruling of the Information and Privacy Commissioner that YWCHSB is not a "public body" within the meaning of the *Access to Information and Protection of Privacy Act* (ATIPP) and therefore not subject to the jurisdiction of the ATIPP or the Information and Privacy Commissioner.

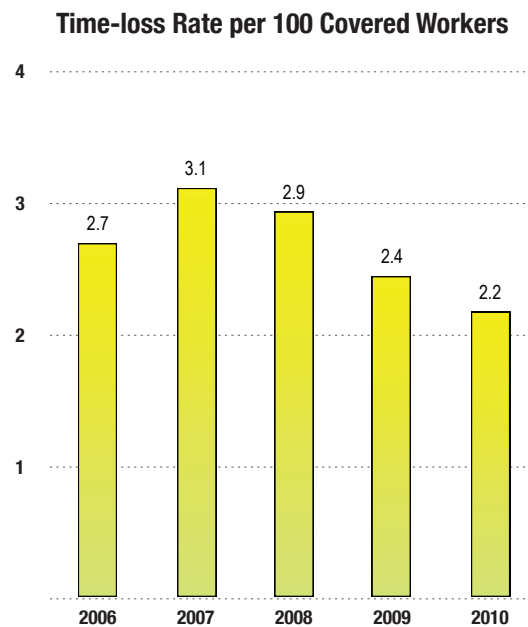
Amendments to the *ATIPP Act* in December 2009 reversed the 2002 ruling to include YWCHSB as a "public body" and making it subject to ATIPP legislation.

All requests for release of information by YWCHSB now follow the guidelines of the *ATIPP Act*.

## Worker Injuries

There were fewer reported injuries in 2010, but a small increase in the number of accepted claims. The number of injured workers requiring time off work, beyond the day of their injury, and receiving time-loss benefits was 453, a slight decrease from 2009.

There were 1,500 more workers covered by compensation in 2010 than the previous year, but the lost-time rate per 100 workers dropped to 2.2, compared with 2.4 last year. There is still a long way to go before YWCHSB hits its interim target rate of 1.0. To help achieve this goal, YWCHSB will be increasing its efforts with employers and workers to prevent worker injuries, disabilities and fatalities.



*Covered Workers estimated from Assessable Payrolls and Average Employment Income (including self-employment).*

*Average employment income for 2009 - 2010 is estimated from trend.*

*Time-loss claims based on the Annual Report Definition. This definition introduces a slight downward bias in trends.*

*Estimates revised April 20, 2011*



## Safety Compliance

Occupational Health and Safety (OH&S) undertook a number of initiatives in 2010 aimed at improving workplace safety. These actions followed feedback from employers who made it clear they wanted to see greater incentives for their competitors not to cut corners on safety.

There has been a history of employers not complying with OH&S written orders to correct unsafe conditions or workplace hazards. Non-compliance was contributing to increased workplace injuries, administration and claims costs. Employers were notified that failure to comply with these orders within the required deadline would be subject to an immediate penalty of \$250 beginning June 1st. The motivation was successful. Employers were found to comply with written orders and no penalties were issued between June 1st and December 31st.

OH&S adopted a zero tolerance policy (immediate penalties) for safety violations involving machine guards and equipment maintenance beginning June 1st. There were a number of serious injuries in these two areas and OH&S believes this policy will contribute to improving safety. However, by year's end four employers and one supervisor were issued administrative penalties for these infractions.

The OH&S practice of zero tolerance for fall arrest infractions began in 2009 when there were seven falls from heights. There were no falls from heights reported in 2010. However, a number of administrative penalties were issued to employers, supervisors and workers for fall arrest infractions.

Starting in June, administrative penalties for OH&S infractions were increased. This action was not aimed at increasing revenues for YWCHSB. It was to make penalty levels sufficient to make it more cost effective to fix safety issues rather than to continue to pay penalties.

Information about penalties issued each month for OH&S infractions were also posted on the YWCHSB website starting in June. Publicly releasing this information provides all employers with the opportunity to look at their workplaces and work habits to see if they have similar existing infractions, so they can be immediately corrected, avoiding administrative penalties and preventing injuries.

From June 1<sup>st</sup> to December 31<sup>st</sup>, 14 employers, six supervisors and seven workers were issued more than \$64-thousand in administrative penalties for OH&S infractions. In accordance with the *Workers' Compensation Act*, the money will be applied to offset future assessment rate calculations for the industry groups in which the infractions occurred.

Those not complying with OH&S safety regulations are contributing to increased workplace injuries and increased costs to the system.

YWCHSB continued to publish preliminary findings of serious workplace incidents on its website. In 2010, information was published on a workplace fall and one fatality. Publishing information in a timely manner on direct causes of these incidents helps workplace parties examine their own workplaces to see if they have similar situations and to correct them before someone is hurt or killed.

OH&S partnered with the Yukon Mine Training Association to develop and pilot an on-line training program for mine supervisors. Target date for implementation is 2011.

In 2010, consultations were concluded on amendments to existing Minimum First Aid regulations, many of which are outdated. Proposed new regulations have been drafted and are ready to begin the regulatory process, with an implementation target date in 2011. The proposed regulations will provide employers the flexibility to design their own emergency response in accordance with their situations, while still meeting compliance standards.

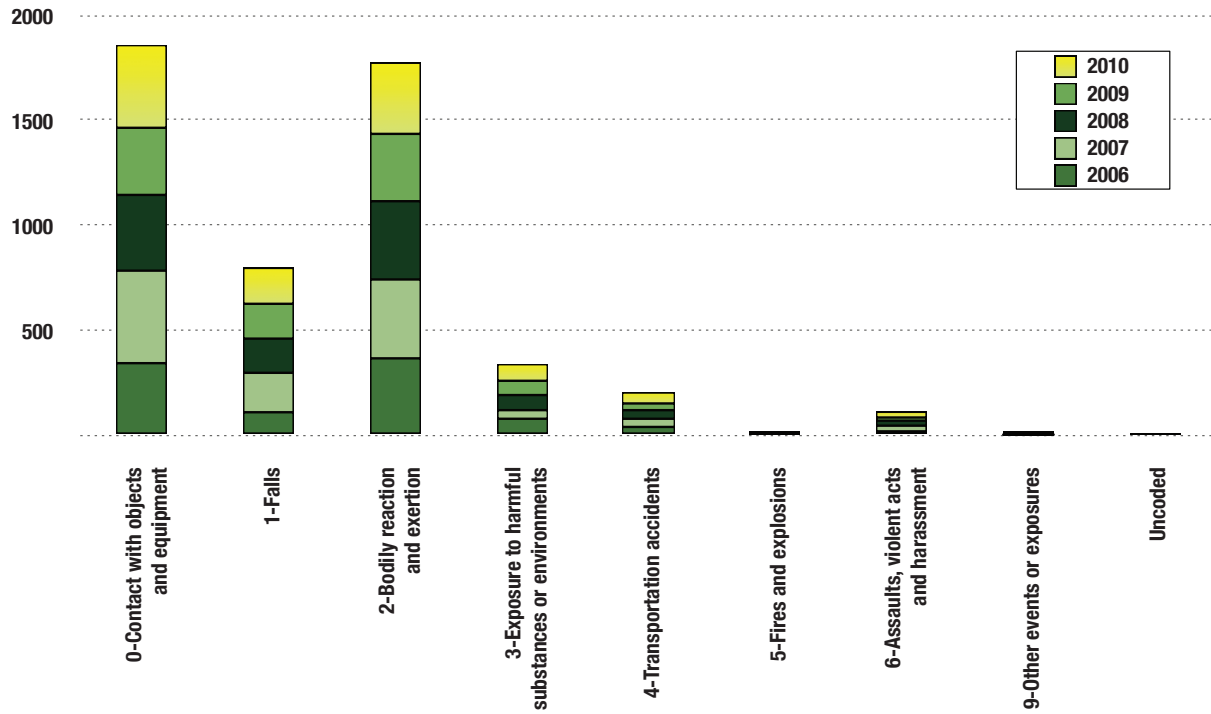
In May 2010, the Yukon Government's Department of Community Services, P.S. Sidhu Trucking and William Cratty were found guilty of allowing an unsafe blast to occur during the Whitehorse, Hamilton Boulevard extension project in 2008. The convictions have been appealed.

Procon Mining and Tunnelling Ltd. and Procon Miners Inc. were charged with eight infractions of OH&S regulations in 2010. The charges were laid following an investigation into the October 2009 death of Paul Wentzell, a young worker at Wolverine Mine.

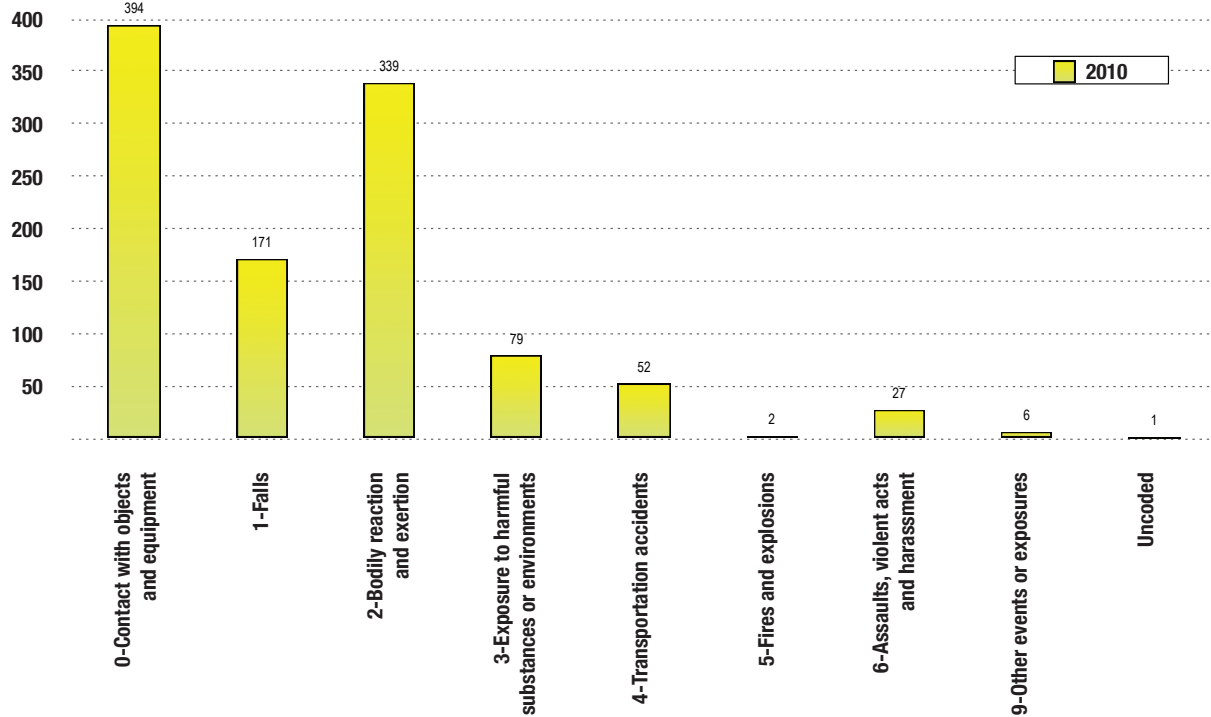
Unfortunately, another worker at the Wolverine mine died on the job in 2010. On April 25<sup>th</sup>, three workers at the mine were working in an underground area when a section of wall collapsed. Two of the workers survived but the third, 25-year-old Will Fisher was trapped by debris and was fatally injured.

Another worker also passed away this year due to an occupational disease. The worker was originally diagnosed in 2007 with lung disease caused by asbestosis. He succumbed to the disease in October 2010.

### Accepted Claims by Event or Exposure



### Accepted Claims by Event or Exposure - 2010



## Return-To-Work

Working with stakeholder partners, employers, workers and health care providers, YWCHSB continued to improve Return-To-Work (RTW) outcomes for injured workers.

Getting injured workers back on the job as early and safe as possible helps prevent the potential of long-term disability and aids in preventing psychosocial issues from developing for the worker and their family. Injured workers heal faster and more fully when they return to work, even though they may not be able to resume full duties right away. Effective RTW practices also enable YWCHSB to more effectively manage claims costs.

Under contract with YWCHSB, the Yukon Federation of Labour conducted a number of RTW training courses in 2010 for both large and small employers, including First Nation governments. Requests for RTW training are expected to increase in 2011 because of new Certificate of Recognition (COR) requirements for employers to bid on government contracts and the planned inclusion of RTW requirements in the COR standards.

The YWCHSB RTW Consultant continues to help employers and workers to find solutions that will accommodate the return to work of injured workers. The consultant also began educating employers about their future obligations to re-employ injured workers once they are medically able to return to their jobs. These obligations are outlined under Section 41 of the *Workers' Compensation Act*, which comes into effect January 1, 2011. Only employers with 20 or more workers (about 200) are subject to this legislation. It provides specific guidelines, remedies and penalties for employers.

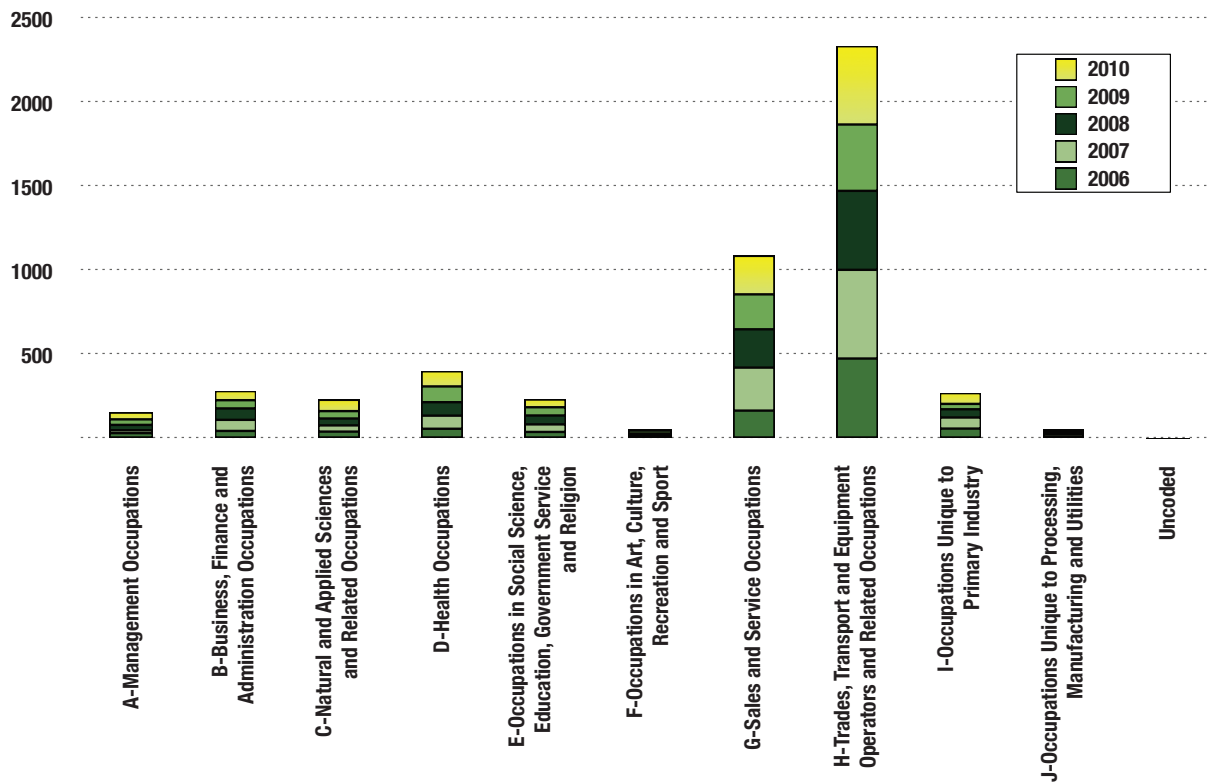
The consultant is also working with the medical community, encouraging doctors to focus on the functional abilities of injured workers rather than simply recommending time off work during the healing process.

Other contributing factors to improved RTW outcomes include making timely decisions on claims and decreasing claims durations.

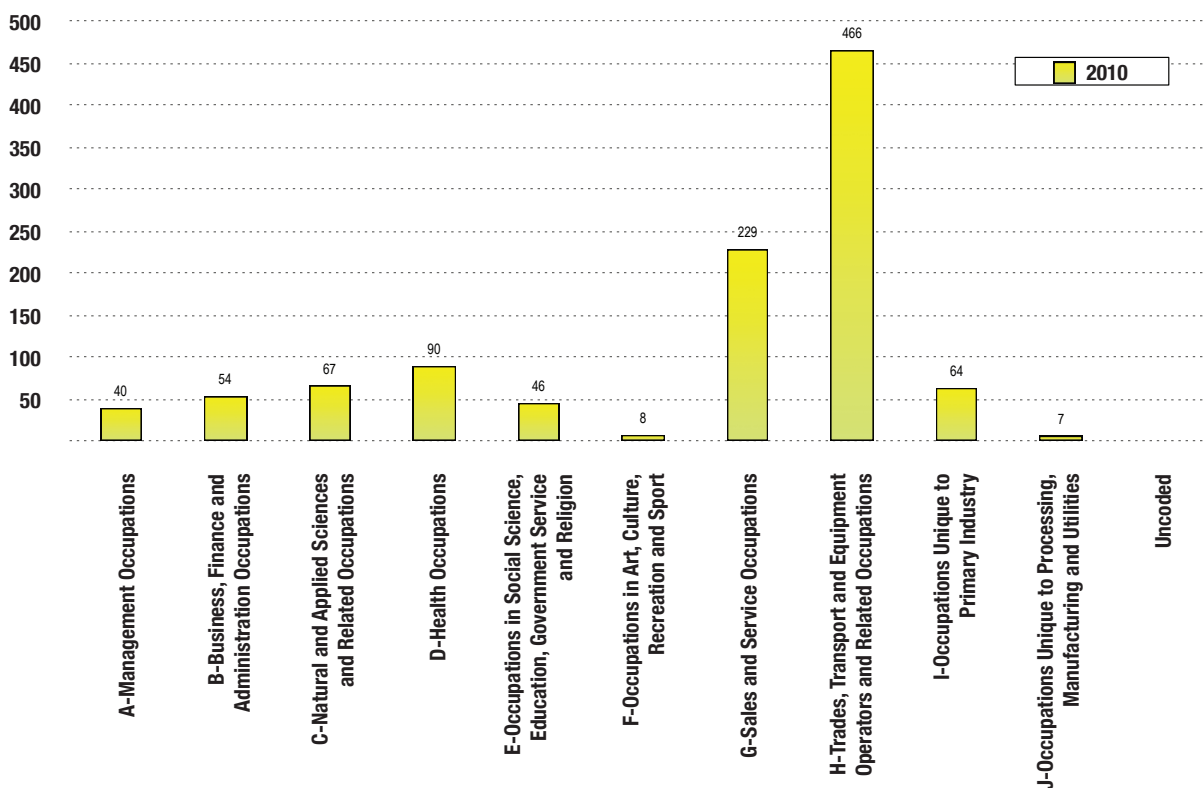
At the end of 2010, the percentage of time-loss claims for which the last payment was made less than 90 days from the claim starting was 87%. The last payment for time-loss claims less than 365 days was 97.9%. These are some of the best claims duration results in the country.

All of the above factors contribute to safe and healthy workplaces and the continued financial sustainability of the compensation system.

### Accepted Claims by Occupation Category



### Accepted Claims by Occupation Category - 2010



## Young and New Worker Initiatives

At the request of employers, a Code of Practice was developed to provide them with specific guidelines on how to safely orient and train young and new workers.

The Code of Practice went into effect January 1, 2010. It provides employers with practical guidance and clarity of expectations about their requirements under the Occupational Health and Safety (OH&S) regulations, section 106 – Training for Workers.

Further to the Code of Practice, OH&S has developed proposed regulations for young workers related to minimum age restrictions in certain industries and occupations. The proposed regulations have been presented to YWCHSB's Stakeholder Advisory Group and are now ready to go through the regulatory process.

The YWCHSB Young Worker Coordinator continued to teach the safety training program, "Work Shouldn't Hurt" to grade 10 high school students in Whitehorse and many rural Yukon high schools. The program explains young workers' workplace responsibilities and rights, why they're at higher risk of injury, how to identify common workplace hazards and how to work safely with chemicals and other controlled products.

A French language version of the program was also developed and presented to students at École Émilie-Tremblay in 2010.

The Young Worker Coordinator is currently developing a specialized presentation for the trades and technologies programs within high schools.

The "Work Shouldn't Hurt" program was also taught to students at Yukon College through its Working and Leading Workshops program, a special back to work initiative. These programs deal with young workers 18 years and older. The program was also presented to a variety of trades programs at the college.

A two-hour, grade eight young worker safety course called Hazard Assessment was presented to students in Whitehorse, Carmacks, Carcross, Haines Junction and Dawson. The course meets the required curriculum outcomes for this grade.

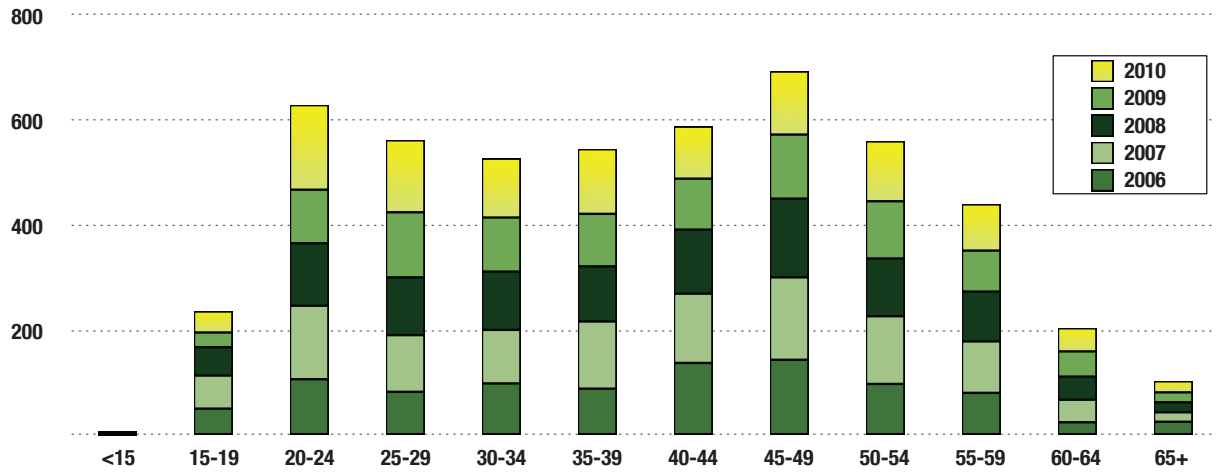
The Coordinator is also developing a young student activity course based on building safer communities. It meets the curriculum requirements for the Health and Career Education British Columbia curriculum for kindergarten to grade two. Discussions are on going with the Yukon Department of Education with hopes of the course being introduced in Yukon schools in 2011/2012.

The Young Worker Coordinator is also working with a variety of youth outreach organizations including a new partnership with Skills Canada Yukon to provide information and safety training for young workers.

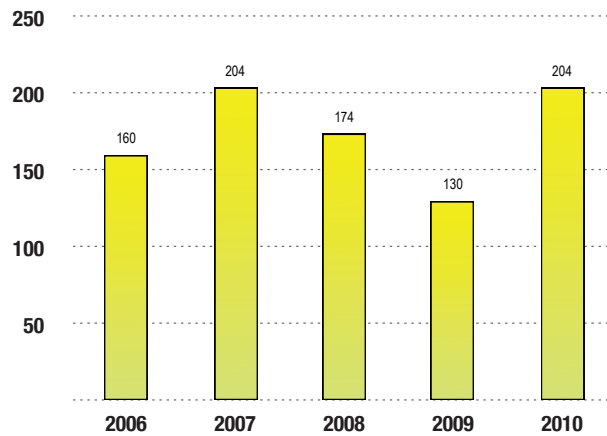
Within a year, it's expected that the Coordinator will become a member of the Skills Canada National Technical Committee and travel to western Canadian jurisdictions (Alberta and British Columbia) as one of the judges of the health and safety competition.

The Coordinator is also working with the Skills Canada Yukon team to present safety information at Skills Clubs around the territory. These clubs are extracurricular trade and technology skills workshops geared for high school students and youth.

Accepted Claims by Age Group



Accepted Claims by Young Workers (<25 years old)



## Investigation Unit Results

This two-person unit continues its role of investigating cases that may be resulting in the inappropriate use of the compensation system. It ensures the honest and ethical use of compensation funds.

The unit's investigatory mandate includes holding accountable YWCHSB Board members and staff, employers, workers, as well as health care and service providers.

Seven cases, all related to compensation claims, were investigated in 2010. The investigative elements of four cases have been completed and of the four, three are in the final internal review process and one is under appeal. The three other investigations are on going.

There is an additional case awaiting legal action for recovery of funds. Claimants in these cases currently reside in Manitoba, British Columbia and France.

Details of these cases cannot be provided because of confidentiality policies, an appeal period and pending potential legal action.

The unit is actively investigating a number of claimant cases in western Canada and Yukon. These investigations could take from two weeks to a year to complete.

Note: In spring 2010, a member of the Investigation Unit was assigned to the Occupational Health and Safety division as lead investigator into the April fatality of a worker at the Wolverine Mine in southeast Yukon. The investigation required approximately six-months to complete.

## CHOICES

More employers are benefiting from YWCHSB's incentive program **CHOICES**. The program financially rewards employers for improving safety and return to work practices in their businesses.

In 2010, the number of employers participating in **CHOICES** increased by 12% from the previous year – to 439 from 389 members.

Financial rewards paid to employers increased 35% - to \$253,795 in 2010 from \$165,272 in 2009. The program includes registration forms along with four progressive levels of participation requiring a variety of actions at each level.

At the direction of the Board of Directors, an audit and review of the program was undertaken starting in 2009. This was followed up with a random survey of employers enrolled in the program. Employers indicated the program was beneficial but they found the required paperwork onerous and requested the program be simplified.

In November 2010, the Board approved changes to the program based on the results of the survey and review.

**CHOICES** has been modified and simplified to benefit both employers and YWCHSB while maintaining the overall goal of promoting safety and return to work practices in Yukon workplaces.

Registration forms and all progressive levels of the program, and their accompanying paperwork are eliminated. Employers will register in **CHOICES** by simply checking a box on their annual Employer Payroll Return form.

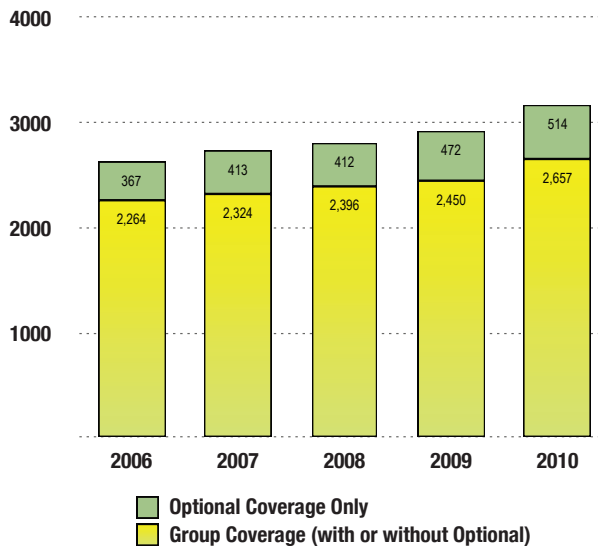
The reward system will provide employers with rebate credits to their assessment premium accounts. To get the rebate, employers need to show, through a third party provider, a specified number of safety and/or return to work training hours for their workers.

Employers that have COR, SECOR or equivalency certification will automatically receive the highest rebate of 10%. Non-certified employers will receive rebates between 4% and 6% once they have shown compliance with the required number of training hours for their industry.

The minimum annual rebate is \$75 and the maximum amount is \$25,000.

The revised **CHOICES** program goes into effect January 1, 2011.

Employers Registered



Count of employers with rateable assessment revenue.  
 Note: an employer may consist of multiple businesses.  
 Employers are counted once only.



## Employer Assessments

In 2010, assessment revenues were \$30.9 million compared to \$25 million in 2009. Although the majority of assessment rates decreased in 2010, assessment revenue increased by more than \$5 million.

This was due to an extraordinary increase in economic activity, especially in the mining and construction sectors. This led to significant increases in payrolls, resulting in employers paying more assessment premiums than originally forecast.

### Rate increases/decreases

In 2010, about 1,800 employers received rate decreases while approximately 1,100 received rate increases. The provisional average assessment rate was lowered to \$2.95 compared with the 2009 rate of \$3.00. A trend of decreasing claims numbers and costs contributed to YWCHSB's ability to lower most assessment rates while still ensuring the economic sustainability of the compensation system.

In May, it was announced that the provisional average assessment rate would decrease about 16% in 2011. Internal efficiencies, the increase in assessable payroll combined with the strong financial position of the Compensation Fund were key factors in the 2011 rate reduction.

In September, YWCHSB announced a second consecutive year of rate decreases for most employers. Starting January 1, 2011, approximately 92% of employers (more than 2,800) will receive rate decreases ranging up to 17%. About 8% of employers (approximately 250) will see their rates increase by 6%. Three industries (Outfitting, Bridge Construction and Road Making and Personal Aesthetic Services) will also be moved into lower rate groups, resulting in up to a 47% decrease for these industries. This action supports the Board's message that industries with good performance will not have to support those with poor performance. 2011 rates reflect true claims costs, per rate group.

### Letters of Clearance

Letters of Clearance confirm that contractors working for an employer are registered with YWCHSB and have paid their assessment premiums. This protects employers from any potential liability of paying assessment premiums for contractors on the labour portion of their contracts. Approximately 15,000 Letters of Clearance were issued in 2010.

**Audits**

Audits are conducted to confirm accurate reporting of employer payrolls and that employers are in their correct classification, based on their industry activities. The audits also provide opportunities to inform new employers about the compensation system. There were 214 employers audited in 2010.

**Penalties**

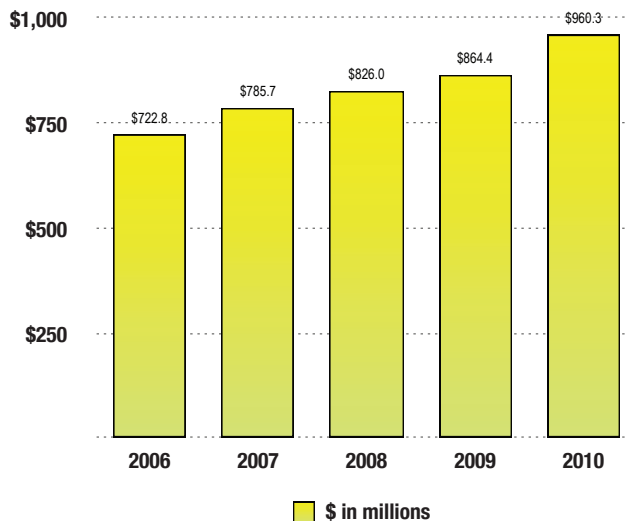
An improved data system allows accurate tracking of employers' required timelines for registering with YWCHSB, filing annual returns and paying their assessment premiums.

Employers who do not meet their obligations add costs to the compensation system. To reduce costs and support employers who are in compliance, penalties and interest charges were increased for those who did not meet their required timelines.

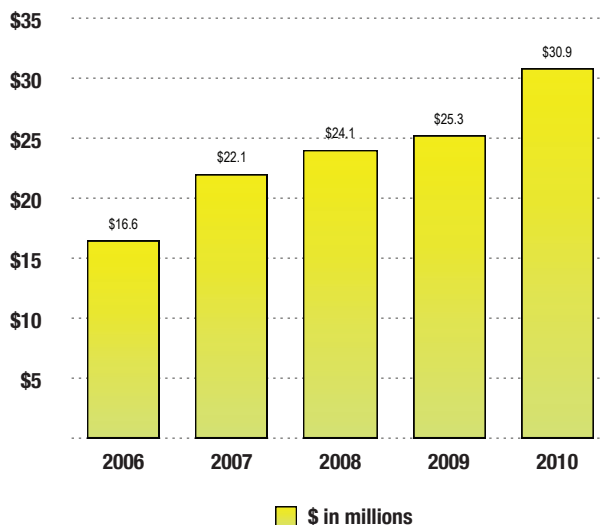
In 2010, YWCHSB issued more than \$542-thousand in penalties to employers who were late filing their Employer Payroll Return, underestimated payroll and/or did not pay their assessment premiums.

This money is allocated to assessment revenues and will be used to offset future assessment rate calculations.

**Total Estimated Assessable Payroll**



**Assessment Revenue**



*Note: prepared on Assessment Year basis and will not match estimates from Financial Statements*

## WORKERS' COMPENSATION APPEAL TRIBUNAL

### Number of Appeals Heard, Resolved and Pending in 2010

In 2010, 17 appeals were heard. A total of 18 decisions were rendered. Two decisions from appeals heard in 2009 were pending at the beginning of 2010. One of the appeals, originally heard by documentary review, was adjourned in December 2010 to allow the appellant to return to the territory as the appeal committee wished to conduct an oral hearing and gather more information

#### Outcome of Appeals Resolved in 2010

Appeals allowed	7 out of 18
Appeals denied	9 out of 18
Appeals varied	1 out of 18
Appeals reversed & varied	1 out of 18
Appeals withdrawn/postponed	2

### Appeal Panel of the Board of Directors

<b>Determination on Right of Action and Assessment Appeals</b>	<b>1</b>
Confirmed	1
Reversed	0
Varied	0

## 2010 Appeal Statistics for January 1 to December 31, 2010

### Hearing Officer 2010

<b>Reviews by Hearing Officer</b>	<b>40</b>
Decisions confirmed	31
Decisions reversed	8
Decisions varied	1
Interim decision from Dec 09	Varied
Pending decision from Dec 09	Confirmed

### Appeal Panel of the Board of Directors

<b>Occupational Health and Safety Appeals</b>	<b>4</b>
Administrative Penalty Appeals	2
Confirmed	2
Revoked	0
Decreased	0

<b>Assessment Appeals</b>	<b>0</b>
Decision confirmed	0
Decision reversed	0
Decision varied	0

### Release of Information Statistics for 2010

	Worker Advocate	Worker	Employer	Appeal Tribunal	Other	Total
<b>January - March</b>	53	18	3	19	21	114
<b>April - June</b>	63	19	3	22	12	119
<b>July - September</b>	24	7	4	8	18	61
<b>October - December</b>	42	7	1	7	10	67
<b>Total</b>	<b>182</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>361</b>
<b>2003-2010 Totals</b>						
<b>2010</b>	182	51	11	56	61	361
<b>2009</b>	173	45	23	22	24	287
<b>2008</b>	238	71	10	18	21	358
<b>2007</b>	194	69	20	66	2	351
<b>2006</b>	265	53	8	40	4	370
<b>2005</b>	408	67	6	71	10	562
<b>2004</b>	468	73	20	42	6	609
<b>2003</b>	336	80	14	44	9	483
<b>Total</b>	<b>2264</b>	<b>509</b>	<b>112</b>	<b>359</b>	<b>137</b>	<b>3381</b>

## Management Discussion and Analysis

This segment of the report deals with the Compensation Fund's financial performance for the year ended December 31, 2010. The audited financial statements that follow are integral to this analysis, and should be read in conjunction with it.

The operating surplus in 2010 was \$14.7 million versus a surplus of \$20.3 million in 2009. The main contributing factor to the surplus was significantly higher than expected assessment revenues. The unprecedented increase in economic activity in Yukon driven by the mining and construction sectors drove assessment revenues to record levels.

Investment revenue decreased from 2009 but the Fund still managed to post solid returns. Overall, the investments - which are based on market value at the end of the year - posted a positive return of 7.6 % compared to the benchmark return of 8.2%. Investment income net of investment management fees was \$9.9M, which included capital gains of \$5.6 million. The overall rate of return for the past 5 years has been 3.8% versus the benchmark return of 3.7%.

The continued strong financial results have contributed to a much stronger balance sheet and for the first time since the new funding policy was implemented, the reserve levels are above the target range.

Total current and future claims costs increased substantially in 2010 and totalled \$15.9 million versus \$10.1 million for 2009. However, \$4.8 million of this increase was due to the adjustment in the discount rate, which was decreased by 50 basis points to better reflect the asset mix in the Fund's investment portfolio. Lost time claims costs continue to be at levels much lower than previous years as improved management practices, combined with changes in legislation continue to impact this area positively through a focus on return to work and recovery. The Benefits Liability has increased to \$115.3 million as at December 31, 2010 which is an increase of \$3.3 million (2.9%) from the previous year. Most of the increase was due to the change in the discount rate.

Direct operating costs have not increased in 2010 as the YWCHSB has focused on controlling costs and streamlining operations without impacting service levels. In fact the 2010 general and administrative costs decreased by 1.5% from 2009.

The YWCHSB continues to invest in prevention through partnership agreements with its stakeholders. In fact, the 2010 general prevention related initiatives totalled \$690,000 versus \$915,000 in 2009.

With the strong financial results over the last two years the YWCHSB has emerged from the worst market downturn in a generation with a very strong balance sheet and remains fully funded. In these volatile economic times the strong financial position of the Fund should help buffer future financial storms. The 2010 funding ratio (ratio of total assets to total liabilities) is 134% with reserves totalling \$40.7 million at the end of 2010. Over the past few years market volatility has had a significant impact on investment income causing substantial swings on funding levels, reinforcing the need for a strong balance sheet.

In 2010 YWCHSB has continued its preparation for the conversion to International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) from Canadian Generally Accepted Accounting Principles effective January 1, 2011. The Fund's IFRS conversion project is progressing well. The Fund continues to dedicate resources to this project and provides a monthly report to the Board of Directors. A detailed analysis of the differences between IFRS and the Fund's accounting policies as well as an assessment of the impact of various alternatives is substantially complete. Training continues to be provided to key employees and the impact of the transition on our business practices, information technology, and internal controls over financial reporting is being closely monitored.

None of the changes planned for the transition to IFRS are expected to have significant repercussions on the financial position of the Compensation Fund. However, the International Accounting Standards Board is currently working on IFRS 4 – Insurance Contracts. This standard is not finalized at this point in time but there is a possibility that this may have a significant impact on the Compensation Fund's financial statements.

In summary, YWCHSB's challenge in the upcoming years will be to manage the business through a period of unprecedented economic growth in the territory. The influx of new mining companies along with their workforce will require the appropriate level of resourcing for YWCHSB in order that workplace safety can continue to improve and injured workers can return to work in a timely fashion. Uncertain times globally will require vigilance in the management of the investments as global volatility becomes the new normal. The continued strong financial management of the Fund will be a key strategic factor in the future and will ensure that all stakeholders needs can be addressed both now and in the years to come.

## MANAGEMENT'S RESPONSIBILITY FOR FINANCIAL REPORTING

The management of the Yukon Workers' Compensation Health and Safety Board (the board) is responsible for establishing and maintaining a system of books, records, internal controls and management practices designed to provide reasonable assurance that reliable financial information is produced on a timely basis; Compensation Fund assets are safeguarded and controlled; transactions of the Compensation Fund are in accordance with relevant legislation, regulations and board policies; and that the board's resources are managed efficiently and economically and the operations of the board are carried out effectively.

Management is also responsible for the integrity and objectivity of the financial statements of the Compensation Fund. The financial statements as at December 31, 2010, which include amounts based on management's best estimates as determined through experience and judgement, are in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles. Other financial information included in the Annual Report is consistent with these financial statements.


Members of the Board of Directors (the Board) are responsible for ensuring that management fulfills its responsibilities for financial reporting and internal control. The Board exercises its responsibilities through the Finance, Investment, and Audit Committee. The Finance, Investment, and Audit Committee meets with management and the external auditors on a regular basis. The Committee has reviewed the financial statements and has submitted its report to the Board, which has approved these financial statements.

The Auditor General of Canada conducts an independent audit for the purpose of expressing her opinion on the financial statements. She also considers whether the transactions that come to her notice in the course of the audit are, in all significant respects, in accordance with specified legislation.

Morneau Shepell, an independent consulting actuarial firm, has completed an actuarial valuation of the benefits liability included in the financial statements of the Compensation Fund and reported thereon in accordance with accepted actuarial practice.



Valerie Royle, BComm (Hons), MBA  
President and Chief Executive Officer



Jim Stephens, CMA, CGA  
Vice President, Operations and  
Chief Financial Officer

April 19, 2011

## Actuarial Statement of Opinion

I have completed the actuarial valuation of the benefits liability of the Yukon Workers' Compensation Health and Safety Board (the "board") as at December 31, 2010 (the "valuation date"). Details of the data, actuarial assumptions, valuation methods and results are included in the actuarial valuation report as at the valuation date, of which this statement of opinion forms part. In my opinion:

1. The estimate of the actuarial liability as at the valuation date is \$115,302,000. This includes provisions for benefits expected to be paid after the valuation date for claims that occurred on or before the valuation date. This liability includes future administrative expenses for all benefits except Annuity benefits payable at age 65. It does not include any self-insured employers. A provision for future claims arising from long latency occupational diseases is not included in this valuation.
2. The liability as at the valuation date for Annuity contributions and interest already set aside by the board up to the valuation date for purposes of providing pension benefits at age 65 to injured workers was obtained from the board's finance division staff and is included in item 1 above.
3. The valuation is based on the provisions of the *Workers' Compensation Act* of the Yukon Territory and on the board's policies and practices in effect on the valuation date.
4. The data on which the valuation is based were supplied by the board in accordance with specifications provided by us. We applied such checks of reasonableness of the data as we considered appropriate, and have concluded that the data are sufficient and reliable to permit a realistic valuation of the benefits liability.
5. The actuarial assumptions adopted in computing the benefits liability are adequate and appropriate, and the methods used are in accordance with accepted actuarial practice for Workers' Compensation organizations in Canada. The economic assumptions are consistent with the funding and investment policies of the board. The discount rates used are disclosed in note 11 to the financial statements.



Conrad Ferguson, F.C.I.A.

*This report has been peer reviewed by Thane MacKay, F.C.I.A.*



Auditor General of Canada  
Vérificatrice générale du Canada

## INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Minister responsible for the Compensation Fund

### Report on the Financial Statements

I have audited the accompanying financial statements of the Compensation Fund, which comprise the balance sheet as at 31 December 2010, and the statement of operations and comprehensive income, statement of changes in funded position and statement of cash flow for the year then ended, and a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information.

#### *Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements*

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

#### *Auditor's Responsibility*

My responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on my audit. I conducted my audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that I comply with ethical requirements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my audit opinion.

#### *Opinion*

In my opinion, the financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Compensation Fund as at 31 December 2010, and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles.

### Report on Other Legal and Regulatory Requirements

As required by the *Workers' Compensation Act*, I report that, in my opinion, Canadian generally accepted accounting principles have been applied on a basis consistent with that of the preceding year.

Further, in my opinion, proper books of account have been kept by the Compensation Fund and the financial statements are in agreement therewith. In addition, the transactions of the Compensation Fund that have come to my notice during my audit of the financial statements have, in all significant respects, been in accordance with the *Workers' Compensation Act* and regulations, the *Occupational Health and Safety Act* and regulations and the *Financial Administration Act* of Yukon and regulations.

Sheila Fraser, FCA  
Auditor General of Canada

19 April 2011  
Vancouver, Canada



## Compensation Fund

### Balance Sheet

As at December 31

	2010 (\$000s)	2009 (\$000s)
<b>ASSETS</b>		
Cash	\$ 708	\$ -
Accounts receivable (note 5)	4,165	2,791
Investments (note 6)	149,715	134,823
Property and equipment (note 7)	2,814	2,885
Intangible assets (note 8)	4,381	4,334
	\$ 161,783	\$ 144,833
<b>LIABILITIES</b>		
Bank overdraft (note 9)	\$ -	\$ 994
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities (note 10)	3,878	4,153
Benefits liability (note 11)	115,302	111,991
Accrued employee benefits (note 12a)	1,327	1,092
	120,507	118,230
<b>FUNDED POSITION (note 13)</b>		
Prevention Fund	550	800
Reserves	40,726	25,803
	41,276	26,603
	\$ 161,783	\$ 144,833

Commitments and Contingencies (notes 15 and 19)

*The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.*

Approved by the Yukon Workers' Compensation Health and Safety Board



Mark Pike  
Chair

## Compensation Fund

### Statement of Operations and Comprehensive Income

For the year ended December 31

	<b>2010</b> (\$000s)	<b>2009</b> (\$000s)
<b>Revenue</b>		
Assessments	\$ 30,899	\$ 25,018
Investments - net (note 16)	9,865	15,904
Recoveries and other receipts	805	668
	<u>41,569</u>	<u>41,590</u>
<b>Expenses</b>		
Claims expenses (note 11)	15,871	10,086
Administration (note 17)		
General and Administration	8,214	8,337
Occupational Health and Safety	1,544	1,408
Workers' Advocate	326	312
Act Review	80	112
Appeal Tribunal	171	141
Prevention (note 18)	690	915
	<u>26,896</u>	<u>21,311</u>
Income before other comprehensive income	14,673	20,279
Other comprehensive income	-	-
	<u>14,673</u>	<u>20,279</u>
Operating surplus and comprehensive income	<u>\$ 14,673</u>	<u>\$ 20,279</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

## Compensation Fund

### Statement of Changes in Funded Position

For the year ended December 31

	<b>2010</b> (\$000s)	<b>2009</b> (\$000s)
<b>FUNDED POSITION</b>		
Balance, beginning of year	\$ 26,603	\$ 6,324
Operating surplus and comprehensive income	14,673	20,279
Balance, end of year	<u>\$ 41,276</u>	<u>\$ 26,603</u>
<b>Allocation of Funded Position:</b>		
<b>PREVENTION FUND</b>		
Balance, beginning of year	800	3,123
Transfer to Stabilization Reserve	(250)	(429)
Transfer to Adverse Events Reserve	-	(1,894)
Balance, end of year	<u>\$ 550</u>	<u>\$ 800</u>
<b>ADVERSE EVENTS RESERVE</b>		
Balance, beginning of year	18,274	16,380
Transfer from Stabilization Reserve	1,017	-
Transfer from Prevention Fund	-	1,894
Balance, end of year	<u>19,291</u>	<u>18,274</u>
<b>STABILIZATION RESERVE</b>		
Balance, beginning of year	7,529	(13,179)
Operating surplus and comprehensive income	14,673	20,279
Transfer from Prevention Fund	250	429
Transfer to Adverse Events Reserve	(1,017)	-
Balance, end of year	<u>21,435</u>	<u>7,529</u>
<b>Total Reserves Balance</b>	<u>\$ 40,726</u>	<u>\$ 25,803</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements

## Compensation Fund

### Statement of Cash Flows

For the year ended December 31

	2010 (\$000s)	2009 (\$000s)
<b>Operating activities</b>		
Cash received from:		
Employers, for assessments	\$ 30,133	\$ 25,241
Investment revenue - net	4,405	4,376
Recoveries and other receipts	691	711
	<u>35,229</u>	<u>30,328</u>
Cash paid to:		
Claimants or third parties on their behalf	(12,560)	(12,804)
Employees, for salaries and benefits	(6,946)	(6,804)
Suppliers, for administrative and other goods and services	(3,993)	(3,294)
	<u>(23,499)</u>	<u>(22,902)</u>
Total cash provided by operating activities	<u>11,730</u>	<u>7,426</u>
<b>Investing activities</b>		
Proceeds on sales and maturities of investments	61,703	54,381
Purchases of investments	(71,097)	(57,757)
Purchases of property and equipment	(103)	(145)
Purchases of intangible assets	(531)	(758)
Total cash used in investing activities	<u>(10,028)</u>	<u>(4,279)</u>
Net increase in cash	1,702	3,147
Bank overdraft, beginning of year	(994)	(4,141)
Cash (bank overdraft), end of year	<u>\$ 708</u>	<u>\$ (994)</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

## Compensation Fund

### Notes to the Financial Statements

December 31, 2010

#### 1. Nature of Operations

---

The Compensation Fund (the Fund) was established by the *Workers' Compensation Act* (the Act) and is administered by the Yukon Workers' Compensation Health and Safety Board (the board) pursuant to the Act. In 2008, the Act was amended and received Assent in the Legislative Assembly. The effective date of the new Act was July 1, 2008. The Fund, as administered by the board, provides compensation for injury or death by accident arising out of and in the course of employment. Annual assessments are levied upon employers by applying their industry assessment rate to their actual or estimated payrolls for the year. The assessment and investment revenue pays for all claims, administration and prevention expenses. In 1992, the board was made responsible for the administration of the *Occupational Health and Safety Act* and regulations to advance strategies for preventing workplace injuries in the territory.

#### 2. Future Accounting Changes

---

##### *International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS)*

In February 2008, the CICA Accounting Standards Board confirmed that the transition to IFRS from Canadian generally accepted accounting principles will be required for publicly accountable enterprises for interim and annual financial statements effective for fiscal years beginning on or after January 1, 2011, including comparatives for 2010. The Fund will be adopting IFRS effective January 1, 2011.

#### 3. Significant Accounting Policies

---

These financial statements have been prepared by management in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles.

The preparation of financial statements in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts in the financial statements and accompanying notes. Actual results could differ significantly from those estimates. The more significant management estimates relate to the determination of the benefits liability, accrued employee benefits, useful life of property and equipment and intangible assets, and accounts receivable and assessments revenue.

The following is a summary of the significant accounting policies:

##### **(a) Benefits liability**

The benefits liability is determined annually and represents the actuarial present value of all future benefit payments expected to be made for claims which have occurred in the current fiscal year or in any prior year. The benefits liability includes a provision for future payments on claims that have not been finalized to date. It also includes a provision for all benefits provided by current legislation, policies and administrative practices in respect of existing claims as well as future claims management costs. No provision has been made for claims related to known latent occupational diseases where the claim has not yet been reported and the year of disablement would be in a subsequent period (note 19).

The benefits liability is comprised of three liabilities - medical aid and compensation, pension, and annuity:

- Medical aid and compensation includes benefits for medical aid, compensation for loss of earnings and personal property, lump sum payments for permanent impairment, rehabilitation assistance, emergency transportation, traditional First Nations or Inuit healing, and death and funeral expenses.

- The pension liability includes monthly pension benefits indexed annually that are paid to spouses, dependent children and guardians of dependent children of those who die from a work-related injury.
- The annuity liability is for workers who have received compensation for the same disability for at least 24 months. An amount equal to ten percent of the total compensation payments, plus interest, is set aside to provide a retirement annuity at sixty-five years of age.

## (b) Financial instruments

### Recognition and measurement

The board has made the following classifications of the Fund's financial instruments:

#### Investments

Pursuant to CICA Handbook Section 3855, *Financial Instruments – Recognition and Measurement*, the board has elected to designate all investments as held for trading. Consequently, investments are recorded at fair value. The fair value of publicly traded investments is the quoted market prices. Pooled fund units are valued at their year-end net asset value, as determined by the fund manager. Purchases and sales of investments are recognized on the trade date. Short-term investments held by the investment managers for investment purposes are included in Investments.

Realized gains and losses, arising on the sale of investments, are recognized in investment income in the period earned net of previously recognized unrealized gains and losses. Unrealized gains and losses, arising from fluctuations in fair value, are recognized in investment income in the period in which they arise. Investment income arising from dividends and interest is recognized in the period earned. Investment income is presented net of investment management fees and transaction costs.

Investments denominated in foreign currencies are translated into Canadian dollars at exchange rates prevailing at the end of the year. Income from investments is translated at the rate in effect at the time it is earned. Exchange gains and losses resulting from the translation of foreign currency balances and transactions are recognized in investment income in the period in which they arise.

The board does not enter into any financial derivative instruments as part of managing its investment portfolio.

#### Cash

Cash includes cash on hand and bank balances. Cash and short term investments held by custodians for investment purposes are not available for general use and are included in investments.

#### Other financial assets and liabilities

Accounts receivable and assessments receivable are classified as loans and receivables. Bank overdraft, accounts payable and accrued liabilities, and assessments refundable are classified as other financial liabilities. All are initially measured at fair value, and subsequently measured at amortized cost using the effective interest rate method. Due to the short-term nature of accounts receivable, assessments receivable, bank overdraft, accounts payable and accrued liabilities, and assessments refundable, their carrying values approximate their fair values.

#### Fair value hierarchy

The Fund uses the following hierarchy for determining and disclosing the fair value of its financial instruments by valuation technique:

- Level 1: Quoted (unadjusted) prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities;
- Level 2: Other techniques for which all inputs which have a significant effect on the recorded fair value are observable, either directly or indirectly;
- Level 3: Techniques which use inputs which have a significant effect on the recorded fair value that are not based on observable market data.

Changes in valuation methods may result in transfers into or out of an instrument's assigned level. There were no such transfers between levels in 2010.

**(c) Assessments**

Assessment revenue is calculated monthly on actual or estimated payrolls as reported by the employer, or on provisional assessments as determined by the board. Separate rates of assessment are established for each industry classification. At year end, assessments receivable and payable are adjusted based on the difference between estimated and actual payrolls. An allowance for doubtful accounts is provided for assessments receivable based on management's best estimate.

The board administers the Government of Yukon employees' compensation claims related to injuries prior to January 1, 1993 when the Government was a self-insured employer. The Fund receives reimbursement for the claim costs and related administrative expenses of those employees (note 14). These amounts are recorded in Recoveries and other receipts in the year in which the related expenses are incurred.

**(d) Recoveries from third parties**

Under section 51 of the *Workers' Compensation Act*, the board is deemed to be an assignee of a cause of action in respect of a claimant's injury. If settled, or as a result of a Court decision, the legal costs and costs associated with the claim are deducted from the settlement. Any funds remaining will be paid to the claimant. This is over and above any future benefits entitlement. The remaining amount is used to offset future claims benefits, which were previously expensed in accordance with actuarial calculations, and which were previously incorporated in the benefits liability.

Revenue received from third party recoveries is recorded in the year the settlement occurs. No provision is made in the benefits liability for possible future third party recoveries because of their contingent nature.

**(e) Property and equipment**

Property and equipment are recorded at cost less accumulated amortization. Amortization is calculated based on the straight-line method, using rates based on the estimated useful lives of the assets as follows:

Buildings	50 years
Furniture and equipment	5 – 10 years
Computer equipment	5 years

Management evaluates the carrying values of property and equipment for indicators of potential impairment whenever changes in circumstances occur. On evaluation of the factors of potential impairment, if an impairment has been determined by management, the asset is written down to its fair value.

The Fund changed its accounting estimate for the amortization of property and equipment. Buildings were amortized at 40 years. The amortization rate was changed to 50 years to account for the useful life of the buildings. Furniture and equipment was amortized at 5 years. The amortization rate was changed to 5 – 10 years to account for the useful life of the furniture and equipment.

**(f) Intangible assets**

Intangible assets are recorded at cost less accumulated amortization. Salaries, wages and benefits directly related to internally developed software systems are included in the asset's cost. When the asset is substantially complete and ready for use, development costs capitalization will cease and the costs will be transferred to the related asset category and amortized. Amortization is calculated based on the straight-line method, using rates based on the estimated useful lives of the assets as follows:

Systems and software	5 to 12 years
----------------------	---------------

Management evaluates the carrying values of intangible assets for indicators of potential impairment whenever changes in circumstances occur. On evaluation of the factors of potential impairment, if an impairment has been determined by management, the asset is written down to its fair value.

**(g) Employee future benefits****Pension benefits**

All eligible employees participate in the Public Service Pension Plan administered by the Government of Canada. The Fund's contribution to the Plan reflects the full cost of the employer contributions. This amount is currently based on a multiple of the employees' required contributions, and may change from time to time depending on the experience of the Plan. These contributions represent the total pension obligations of the Fund and are expensed during the year in which the services are rendered. The Fund is not currently required to make contributions with respect to any actuarial deficiencies of the Public Service Pension Plan.

**Other benefits**

Under conditions of employment, employees may qualify and earn employment benefits for vacation, sick leave, long service leave, and severance benefits. The benefit obligation is determined on an actuarial basis. The liability for accrued employee benefits is based on the December 31, 2010 actuarial valuation as calculated by the board's actuary. The obligation for vacation leave, sick leave, severance and other benefits are calculated using the projected benefit method prorated on service.

**(h) Government funding**

In 2005, the Government of Yukon approved the reinstatement of ongoing funding for the Mine Safety Program through an annual grant to the board. The Program, which was transferred to the board in 1993, provides mine rescue training and support services as well as mine safety inspection services. The funding is to be reviewed by the Government, at a minimum, every five years. The revenue is accounted for in Recoveries and other receipts in the period in which the related expenses are incurred (note 14).

**4. Risk Management**

The Fund has exposure to the following financial risks: credit risk, liquidity risk, and market risk (which also includes inflation risk, interest rate risk and currency risk). The Fund's exposure to these risks arises primarily in relation to its investment portfolio, but also in relation to its other financial assets and financial liabilities.

The Fund's management is responsible for monitoring performance, recommending changes to the Investment Policy, and selecting fund managers. The Board of Directors is ultimately responsible for governance and strategic direction of the investment portfolio through its review and approval of the Investment Policy. The portfolio managers' compliance with this Investment Policy is monitored on a regular basis. Quarterly, the board retains independent consultants to benchmark the performance of its fund managers and to advise on the appropriateness and effectiveness of its Investment Policy and practices.

The following sections present information about the Fund's exposure to each of the above risks and the board's objectives, policies and processes for measuring and managing each risk:

**Credit risk**

Credit risk on financial instruments arises from the possibility that the issuer of a fixed-term instrument fails to meet its obligations. To manage this risk, the board has determined that short-term investments must have a credit rating of at least R1L, and long-term investments require a rating of BBB or higher by the Dominion Bond Rating Service or the equivalent rating by Moody's, in order to be eligible for consideration as an investment. Diversification of credit risk is managed by limiting the exposure in a single private institution to 15% of the portfolio. The board has stayed within these guidelines during the year.

## Fixed Income Portfolio Credit Ratings

Ratings:	AAA	AA	A	BBB	2010 (\$000's)	2009 (\$000's)
Fixed Income Securities	\$ 29,231	\$ 16,313	\$ 20,392	\$ 2,925	\$ 68,861	\$ 65,568
Totals	\$ 29,231	\$ 16,313	\$ 20,392	\$ 2,925	\$ 68,861	\$ 65,568



The Fund's exposure to credit risk associated with its accounts receivable and assessments receivable is the risk that an employer or a cost recovery customer (customer) will be unable to pay amounts due to the Fund. The Fund's maximum exposure to credit risk associated with its accounts receivable and assessments receivable is \$4,165,000 (2009 - \$2,791,000). Allowances for doubtful accounts are provided for potential losses that have been incurred at the balance sheet date. The amounts disclosed on the balance sheet are net of these allowances for bad debts. Accounts receivable and assessments receivable are considered for impairment on a case-by-case basis when they are past due or when objective evidence is received that a customer may default. The board takes into consideration the customer's payment history, their credit worthiness and the then current economic environment in which the customer operates to assess impairment. The board recognizes a specific bad debt provision when management considers that the expected recovery is less than the actual amount receivable. All bad debts are charged to administration expenses.

The board believes that the credit risk of accounts receivable and assessments receivable is mitigated by the following:

- i. The employer base is dispersed across various industries, with government comprising a significant concentration. The non-government based employers may be affected by any downturns due to prevailing economic conditions.
- ii. As at December 31, 2010, approximately 98% (2009 – 98%) of accounts receivable and assessments receivable are outstanding for less than 90 days. The board does not require collateral or other security from employers or customers for accounts receivable or assessments receivable.
- iii. The board has the power and remedies to enforce payment owing to the Fund.

All of the Fund's accounts receivable and assessments receivable are reviewed for indicators of impairment. A provision for doubtful accounts receivable and assessments receivable of \$92,000 (2009 – \$55,000) is included in accounts receivable on the balance sheet.

#### *Credit risk arising from securities - lending activities*

To generate additional income, the board's fund manager may lend any of its investments to eligible third parties for short periods. These loans are secured against loss with cash or readily marketable securities having a minimum fair value of 100% of the loan. Included in the fund manager's pooled fund investments at year end, the board's share of outstanding securities on loan amounted to nil (2009 – nil). The amount of collateral held for the securities at year end was nil (2009 – nil). For the year, securities-lending transactions within the board's fund manager's pooled investment funds generated incremental income of nil (2009 – nil).

#### **Liquidity risk**

Liquidity risk is the risk that the Fund is not able to meet its financial obligations as they become due or can do so only at excessive cost. The board's operations are financed through a combination of the cash flows from operations and investments. One of management's primary goals is to maintain an optimal level of liquidity through the active management of the assets and liabilities as well as the cash flows. The board has access to the Government of Yukon overall line of credit facility with the Government's banker. This access provides the board with overdraft coverage when needed. The Fund's accounts payable and accrued liabilities had a carrying value of \$3,878,000 as at December 31, 2010 (2009 – \$4,153,000) and are all due within 60 days.

#### **Market risk**

The Fund is exposed to market risk, which is the risk that the fair value or future cash flows of its investments will fluctuate in the future because of economic conditions. Market risk is managed through diversification between different asset classes and geographic diversification and by limiting the concentration in any single entity to 15% or less of the fair value of the investment fund.

The table below presents the Fund's investment targets and actual asset mix at fair value as at December 31, 2010:

	Target		Actual	
	Minimum	Maximum	2010	2009
<b>Equities</b>				
Canadian	0%	25%	17.50%	15.90%
United States	0%	25%	16.90%	17.10%
International	0%	25%	18.30%	17.40%
<b>Fixed Income</b>				
Short-term Investments	0%	10%	1.10%	0.60%
Bonds	35%	85%	46.20%	49.00%
			100.00%	100.00%

The table below presents the effect of a material adverse change in the fair value of each of the categories of equities in the Fund's investments portfolio:

Percentage decrease in fair value	2010 (\$000's)		2009 (\$000's)	
	-10%	-20%	-10%	-20%
<b>Equities</b>				
Canadian	\$ (2,612)	\$ (5,224)	\$ (2,141)	\$ (4,282)
United States	(2,524)	(5,048)	(2,305)	(4,610)
International	(2,737)	(5,474)	(2,348)	(4,696)
Total decrease in fair value of equity investments	\$ (7,873)	\$ (15,746)	\$ (6,794)	\$ (13,588)

#### **Inflation risk**

Inflation risk is the risk that a general increase in price level may result in loss of future purchasing power of current monetary assets. The board manages inflation risk through its investment allocation between equities and fixed income investments.

#### **Interest rate risk**

Interest rate risk is the risk that the value of a financial security will fluctuate due to changes in market interest rates. The Fund's investment portfolio is exposed to interest rate risk through its holdings of short and long-term fixed income investments. Interest rate risk is minimized by actively managing the duration of the fixed income investments.

The table below presents the effects of a 50 and 100 bps<sup>1</sup> adverse change in the nominal interest rate on the fair value of the bond portfolio:

Positive bp change in nominal interest rate	2010 (\$000's)		2009 (\$000's)	
	+50bp	+100bp	+50bp	+100bp
Bonds	\$ (1,970)	\$ (3,940)	\$ (1,819)	\$ (3,638)
Total decrease in fair value of fixed income investments	\$ (1,970)	\$ (3,940)	\$ (1,819)	\$ (3,638)

(1) One basis point (bp) equals 1/100 of 1%; 50 bp's = 50/100 of 1%, or 0.5%.

The table below presents the remaining terms to maturity at fair value, along with the average effective yields for each maturity, for fixed income investments exposed to inflation and interest rate risk as at December 31, 2010:

	Remaining term to maturity			2010 (\$000's)	2009 (\$000's)
	1 - 5 years	5 - 10 years	> 10 years	Total	Total
Bonds	\$ 33,959	\$ 18,972	\$ 15,930	\$ 68,861	\$ 65,568
Average effective yield	2.43%	3.83%	4.43%	3.28%	3.49%

#### **Currency risk**

Currency risk is the risk that the value of financial assets and financial liabilities denominated in foreign currencies will fluctuate due to changes in their respective exchange rates relative to the Canadian dollar.

Within its pooled investments, the Fund is exposed to exchange rate volatility that is managed by the contracted fund manager. The board does not undertake long-term hedging strategies for the currency risk of foreign investments. The fair value of the Fund's US dollar investments as at December 31, 2010 was \$39,200,000 (2009 – \$35,400,000). The Fund did not hold any investments in other foreign currencies at December 31, 2010 (2009 – nil).

The table below presents the effects of a change in the Canadian/US dollar exchange rates for all equities held in US dollars:

	<b>2010</b> (\$000's)	<b>2009</b> (\$000's)
Appreciation in the Canadian Dollar relative to the U.S. Dollar	+10%	+10%
<b>Decrease in fair value of US Dollar based Equities</b>	<b>\$ (3,563)</b>	<b>\$ (3,218)</b>

#### Derivative financial instruments

The Fund did not have any derivative financial instruments during the year or at year end (2009 – nil).

## 5. Accounts Receivable

	<b>2010</b> (\$000s)	<b>2009</b> (\$000s)
<b>Receivable</b>		
Assessments	\$ 3,750	\$ 2,509
Government of Yukon (note 14)	129	69
Other receivables	286	213
	<b>\$ 4,165</b>	<b>\$ 2,791</b>

## 6. Investments

The Board of Directors has established an Investment Policy for the management of the investment process, utilizing external investment portfolio managers. The portfolio managers' compliance with this Investment Policy is monitored on a regular basis.

	<b>2010</b> (\$000s)	<b>2009</b> (\$000s)
	Fair Value	Fair Value
<b>Fixed-term securities</b>		
Federal bonds	\$ 23,096	\$ 24,755
Provincial bonds	3,220	3,178
Corporate bonds	42,545	37,635
	<b>68,861</b>	<b>65,568</b>
<b>Equities</b>		
Canadian	26,122	21,409
United States	25,238	23,051
International	27,370	23,482
	<b>78,730</b>	<b>67,942</b>
<b>Other Investments</b>		
Cash on account	119	108
Short-term investments	2,101	978
Accrued interest receivable	(16)	311
	<b>2,204</b>	<b>1,397</b>
Investments, sub-total	149,795	134,907
Management fee accrual	(80)	(84)
	<b>\$ 149,715</b>	<b>\$ 134,823</b>

As at December 31, 2010, the Fund held the following financial instruments measured at fair value:

	Quoted prices in active markets for identical assets  (Level 1)	Significant other observable inputs  (Level 2)	Significant other unobservable inputs  (Level 3)	Total
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ 2,124	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,124
Bonds	6,716	62,145	-	68,861
Equities	36,106	-	-	36,106
Pooled Funds	-	42,624	-	42,624
Total Investments	\$ 44,946	\$ 104,769	\$ -	\$ 149,715

## 7. Property and Equipment

	2010 (\$000s)		2009 (\$000s)	
	Cost	Accumulated Amortization	Net Book Value	Net Book Value
Land	\$ 390	\$ -	\$ 390	\$ 390
Buildings	3,772	(1,565)	2,207	2,269
Furniture and equipment	518	(431)	87	94
Computer systems and equipment	515	(385)	130	132
	\$ 5,195	\$ (2,381)	\$ 2,814	\$ 2,885

## 8. Intangible Assets

	2010 (\$000s)		2009 (\$000s)	
	Cost	Accumulated Amortization	Net Book Value	Net Book Value
Software and systems	\$ 6,579	\$ (2,900)	\$ 3,679	\$ 3,917
Systems under development <sup>(1)</sup>	702	-	702	417
	\$ 7,281	\$ (2,900)	\$ 4,381	\$ 4,334

(1) As of December 31, 2010, costs of \$702,000 (2009 - \$417,000) for the Occupational Health and Safety system were capitalized and will not be amortized until 2011 when the system is substantially complete and in use.

## 9. Bank Overdraft

The board has access to the Government of Yukon's overall line of credit facility with its banker. This access provides the board with overdraft coverage when needed. In 2010, the Fund paid no interest on the overdraft (2009 - \$16,598).

**10. Accounts Payable and Accrued Liabilities**

	<b>2010</b> (\$000s)	<b>2009</b> (\$000s)
<b>Payable</b>		
Assessments	\$ 1,665	\$ 1,151
Government of Yukon (note 14)	1,730	2,373
Other payables and accrued liabilities	483	629
	<u>\$ 3,878</u>	<u>\$ 4,153</u>

**11. Benefits Liability**

	<b>2010</b> (\$000s)			<b>2009</b> (\$000s)	
	<b>Medical Aid &amp; Compensation</b>	<b>Pension</b>	<b>Annuity</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Total</b>
Balance, beginning of year	\$ 83,301	\$ 22,013	\$ 6,677	\$ 111,991	\$ 114,709
Add claims costs incurred:					
Current year injuries	13,733	803	-	14,536	12,230
Prior years' injuries	(1,532)	2,733	134	1,335	(2,144)
	<u>12,201</u>	<u>3,536</u>	<u>134</u>	<u>15,871</u>	<u>10,086</u>
Less claims payments made:					
Current year injuries	3,323	-	-	3,323	2,783
Prior years' injuries	7,590	1,899	(252)	9,237	10,021
	<u>10,913</u>	<u>1,899</u>	<u>(252)</u>	<u>12,560</u>	<u>12,804</u>
Balance, end of year	<u>\$ 84,589</u>	<u>\$ 23,650</u>	<u>\$ 7,063</u>	<u>\$ 115,302</u>	<u>\$ 111,991</u>

The key actuarial assumptions used to value the benefits liability as at December 31 are as follows:

	<b>2010</b>	<b>2009</b>
Discount rate for medical aid benefits - net <sup>(1)</sup>	1.00%	1.50%
Discount rate for compensation benefits - net <sup>(2)</sup>	3.50%	4.00%
Discount rate for survivor and other pension benefits - net <sup>(2)</sup>	3.50%	4.00%

<sup>(1)</sup> Net of a discount rate attributable to inflation of 5.5%

<sup>(2)</sup> Net of a discount rate attributable to inflation of 3.0%

The benefits liability was determined using accepted actuarial practice in accordance with standards established by the Canadian Institute of Actuaries. The actuarial present value of future benefits reflects management's and the actuary's best estimates of long term economic and actuarial assumptions. As these assumptions may change over time to reflect underlying economic or legislated conditions, it is possible that such changes could cause a material change to the actuarial present value of future benefit payments.

Significant changes in the benefits liability due to actuarial assumptions included the following:

	Increase (decrease) in benefits liability	
	2010 (\$000s)	2009 (\$000s)
Other changes in actuarial assumptions	\$ 2,417	\$ (1,871)
Favourable claims experience during year	(5,243)	(3,500)
	<u>\$ (2,826)</u>	<u>\$ (5,371)</u>

The most significant assumption in the determination of the benefits liability is the net discount rate. The net discount rate is the assumed rate of return in excess of the assumed inflation rate. A reduction in the net discount rate would increase the actuarial present value of the benefits liability. An increase in the discount rate would decrease the actuarial present value.

In 2010 the discount rate was decreased by 50 basis points resulting in an increase in the Benefit Liability of \$4,800,000. The board determined that given the Fund's asset mix in its investment portfolio this decrease would reflect a more appropriate discount rate.

Medical benefits represent approximately 19% of the benefits liability. An increase in the assumed excess medical inflation rate (above the assumed inflation rate) would result in an increase in the benefits liability for medical benefits.

	2010 (\$000s)		2009 (\$000s)	
	+1%	-1%	+1%	-1%
Percentage change in assumed rates				
Increase (decrease) in benefits liability from change in net discount rate	\$ (8,086)	\$ 9,319	\$ (7,644)	\$ 8,768
Increase (decrease) in benefits liability from change in excess medical inflation rate	1,641	(1,424)	1,660	(1,435)

As at December 31, 2010, seven claims were investigated by the Investigations Unit. Four of the investigations are awaiting decisions on final disposition while three are currently under review by the Investigations Unit. The outcome of the investigations is not determinable at this time and therefore, the potential future effect of these claims is not reflected in the benefits liability.

## 12. Employee Future Benefits

### (a) Accrued employee benefits

The liability accrual for employee non-pension benefits, including vacation, sick leave, long service leave, and severance at December 31 was as follows:

	2010 (\$000s)	2009 (\$000s)
Accrued employee benefits, beginning of the year	\$ 1,092	\$ 857
Payments made during the year	(61)	(72)
Costs for the year	160	155
Actuarial loss from changes in actuarial assumptions	136	152
Accrued employee benefits, end of the year	<u>\$ 1,327</u>	<u>\$ 1,092</u>

The key assumptions used to calculate the accrued employee benefits are a liability discount rate of 5.0% (2009 – 6.0%) and an annual rate of general escalation in wages of 3% (2009 – 3%).

**(b) Public Service Pension Plan**

Contributions made to the Public Service Pension Plan by the Fund and the employees for the year were as follows:

	<b>2010</b> (\$000s)	<b>2009</b> (\$000s)
Employees' contributions	\$ 350	\$ 331
Fund contributions	671	632
Total contributions	<u>\$ 1,021</u>	<u>\$ 963</u>

**13. Capital Management and Reserves**

The *Workers' Compensation Act* establishes that one of the purposes of the Act is to maintain a solvent Compensation Fund managed in the interest of workers and employers. To ensure that the Fund is able to meet its financial obligations, premiums charged to employers over time must be sufficient to cover current and future costs of all claims incurred by injured workers. These assessment revenues combined with investment returns from the Fund's assets are designed to provide the foundation for the Fund to meet all current and future obligations for injured workers.

The Board of Directors considers that capital includes all assets and liabilities. There have been no changes in the objectives and definition of capital from the previous period. The Fund does not have any external capital requirements. The reserves are established to protect the fully funded position of the Fund and to stabilize the effect of fluctuations in the employer assessment rates and investment returns. The Fund is considered fully funded when there are sufficient funds for the payment of all present and future compensation, including the cost of administration. At the end of the fiscal year, once the benefits liability is determined, the remaining difference between the Fund's assets and liabilities is allocated to reserves.

The Board of Directors uses the Funding Ratio (Assets/Liabilities) to manage capital. At December 31, 2010, the Funding Ratio is 134% (2009 – 123%).

In 2008, the Board of Directors amended the Fund's Funding Policy established in 2005, which provides for the establishment of a temporary fund (Prevention Fund) and two new reserves (Adverse Events Reserve and Stabilization Reserve).

Under the current Funding Policy, the Prevention Fund and two reserves are established as follows:

*Prevention Fund:*

The Prevention Fund serves to provide funding for the start up costs of pre-selected injury prevention and workplace safety initiatives. It was initially established in 2005, with \$5,000,000 and will not be replenished once depleted. In 2010, a total of \$250,000 (2009 – \$429,000) was incurred on injury prevention and workplace safety initiatives.

The Board of Directors decided to wind down the Prevention Fund in 2009. The remaining balance in the Prevention Fund will be used to cover future commitments from current funding agreements that were in place prior to this decision. At December 31, 2010, the Prevention Fund has a balance of \$550,000 (2009 – \$800,000).

*Reserves:***(i) Adverse Events Reserve**

The Adverse Events Reserve is to provide funding for infrequent, unexpected adverse claims experience and catastrophic events to protect employers from the sudden impact of the costs of these types of events. The target level for this reserve is \$19,291,000 (2009 – \$18,883,000), which has been set at 100 times the maximum wage rate plus 10 percent of the benefits liability and is calculated annually upon completion of the actuarial valuation of the benefits liability. Costs related to catastrophic and adverse events and latent occupational diseases are charged to this reserve, resulting in a charge of nil for 2010 (2009 – nil). This reserve is limited to its target level. Funds in excess of the target level are transferred to the Stabilization Reserve, with nil funds transferred in 2010 (2009 – nil). At December 31, 2010, the Adverse Events Reserve has a balance of \$19,291,000 (2009 – \$18,274,000).

Transfers cannot be made from this reserve to any other temporary fund or reserve if the transfer will reduce this reserve below its target level.

A funding deficiency exists when the reserve is below its target level. There was a funding deficiency of nil as at December 31, 2010 (2009 – \$609,000). In the event of a charge against this reserve and when a funding deficiency exists, the following steps will be taken to replenish the reserve to its target level:

- Any recovery of the costs charged to this reserve will be added to this reserve, up to the target level.
- Any surplus in the Stabilization Reserve will be transferred to this reserve to replenish it up to the target level, if possible.
- If the transfer from the Stabilization Reserve is not sufficient to replenish this reserve to the target level, the reserve will be replenished by a special assessment premium surcharge based on an established schedule as outlined in the Funding Policy.
- In subsequent years, if a recovery or a surplus in the Stabilization Reserve becomes sufficient to replenish the reserve, any special assessment premium surcharge will be cancelled.

In 2010, no surcharge was included in the assessment rates as none was required by the Funding Policy.

#### (ii) Stabilization Reserve

The Stabilization Reserve is to protect the fully funded position of the Fund and to stabilize the effect of fluctuations on employer assessment rates. The target level for this reserve is equal to 10 percent of the benefits liability, which was \$11,530,000 as at December 31, 2010 (2009 – \$11,199,000). The operating range for this reserve is determined as the target level balance plus or minus 3.5 percent of the benefits liability. The annual operating surplus, net of any amounts charged to the temporary fund and the Adverse Events Reserve, is transferred to this reserve. This resulted in an increase to this reserve in 2010 of \$13,906,000 (2009 – \$20,708,000). At December 31, 2010, the Stabilization Reserve has a balance of \$21,435,000 (2009 – \$7,529,000).

This reserve is considered to have a surplus when its balance exceeds the top of the operating range. Any surplus (determined as the difference between the reserve balance and its target level) is transferred to the Adverse Events Reserve, up to the target level if the latter reserve is below target. If the Adverse Events Reserve is at its target level and the balance of the Stabilization Reserve exceeds the upper threshold of the operating range, any remaining surplus will be applied as an employer assessment premium rebate based on an established schedule as outlined in the Funding Policy.

A funding deficiency exists when the reserve balance is below its target level. There was a funding deficiency of nil as at December 31, 2010 (2009 – \$3,670,000). The amount of the deficiency is determined as the difference between the reserve balance and its target level. In the event that this reserve falls below the lower threshold of the operating range, which was \$7,495,000 as at December 31, 2010 (2009 – \$7,279,000), the following steps will be taken:

- Any amounts in excess of the target level in the Adverse Events Reserve will be transferred to the Stabilization Reserve, up to the target level, if possible.
- Any remaining deficiency will be replenished up to the target level by a special assessment premium surcharge based on an established schedule as outlined in the Funding Policy.

In 2010 no surcharge was included in the assessment rates as none was required by the Funding Policy.

## 14. Related Party Transactions

As a statutory Corporation of the Government of Yukon (the Government), the board is related to all Government departments, agencies and Government corporations. The board enters into transactions with these entities in the normal course of business and the transactions are recorded at the exchange amount, which approximates fair value. All mainframe computer software is owned by the Government. The board has access to the Government's overall line of credit facility with its banker. This access provides the board with overdraft coverage when needed. At December 31, 2010, the Fund was required to pay no interest on the overdraft (2009 – \$16,598).

During 2010, the Compensation Fund paid the Government \$777,000 (2009 – \$749,000) for building maintenance, computer, office supplies, payroll processing, recruitment, vehicle and rehabilitation services. The Fund also reimbursed the Government for payroll costs of \$6,913,000 (2009 – \$6,825,000).

The Government pays certain claims costs to the Compensation Fund for claims prior to 1993 (note 3(c)) and also reimburses the cost of supplementary benefits pursuant to the Yukon Workers' Compensation Supplementary Benefits



Ordinance. Supplementary compensation benefits are granted, pursuant to the Yukon Workers' Compensation Supplementary Benefits Ordinance, to all persons receiving compensation on or after October 1, 1973 for accidents prior to that date. Compensation is increased to the amount that would have been granted had the accident occurred after the Act came into force. The cost of these benefits is recovered from the Yukon Consolidated Revenue Fund.

Effective January 1, 1993, all Government employees were covered by the Fund.

Revenues and recoveries from the Government of Yukon for the year ended December 31 are as follows:

	<b>2010</b> (\$000s)	<b>2009</b> (\$000s)
Assessments	\$ 6,190	\$ 5,923
Pre-93 claims costs	28	21
Supplementary compensation benefits	392	389
Recoveries and other receipts	358	236
Total revenues and recoveries from the Government of Yukon	<u>\$ 6,968</u>	<u>\$ 6,569</u>

As at December 31, balances due to and from related parties are as follows:

	<b>2010</b> (\$000s)	<b>2009</b> (\$000s)
Due to the Government of Yukon (note 10)	\$ (1,730)	\$ (2,373)
Due from the Government of Yukon - Recoveries (note 5)	129	69
Due from the Government of Yukon - Assessments	503	504
Net amount due to the Government of Yukon	<u>\$ (1,098)</u>	<u>\$ (1,800)</u>

Transactions with other related parties are in the normal course of business and are not material.

## 15. Commitments

The board has commitments for computer software development and maintenance fees, professional services contracts, contribution agreements, Prevention Fund agreements and office leases for the next five years, in thousands of dollars, as follows:

	Computer software	Professional Services Contracts	Contribution Agreements	Prevention Fund Agreements	Office Leases	Total
<b>2011</b>	27	621	588	94	12	1,342
<b>2012</b>	-	211	221	-	-	432
<b>2013</b>	-	5	-	-	-	5
<b>2014</b>	-	2	-	-	-	2
<b>2015</b>	-	-	-	-	-	-
	<u>\$ 27</u>	<u>\$ 839</u>	<u>\$ 809</u>	<u>\$ 94</u>	<u>\$ 12</u>	<u>\$ 1,781</u>

**16. Investment Revenue**

	<b>2010</b> (\$000s)	<b>2009</b> (\$000s)
Interest and dividends		
Bonds and short-term investments	\$ 2,990	\$ 3,086
Equities	1,767	1,755
	<u>4,757</u>	<u>4,841</u>
Gains - net		
Realized gains (losses) in the year	525	(566)
Increase in fair value in the year	5,056	12,128
	<u>10,338</u>	<u>16,403</u>
Investment management fees	(473)	(499)
	<u>\$ 9,865</u>	<u>\$ 15,904</u>

**17. Administration Expenses**

	<b>2010</b> (\$000s)	<b>2009</b> (\$000s)
Salaries and benefits	\$ 7,194	\$ 7,073
Consulting and professional	849	1,037
Amortization - intangible assets	483	460
Buildings	309	292
Automobile and travel	254	265
Computer systems	218	202
Communications	206	181
General administration	178	211
Staffing and recruitment	175	117
Board expenses	167	144
Amortization - property and equipment	161	206
Printing and publications	76	60
Supplies and stationery	47	49
Furniture and equipment	18	13
	<u>\$ 10,335</u>	<u>\$ 10,310</u>

**18. Prevention Expenses**

	<b>2010</b> (\$000s)	<b>2009</b> (\$000s)
Contribution Agreements - funded through the Prevention Fund	\$ 250	\$ 429
Contribution Agreements - funded through Operations	440	486
	<u>\$ 690</u>	<u>\$ 915</u>

## 19. Contingencies

---

The Fund is required to pay for future costs of claims relating to certain latent occupational diseases which may have occurred in the current year or previously, but which may not be recognized and reported for a number of years due to the extended latency period of such diseases. Because of the absence of reliable evidence and data pertaining to these matters, these liabilities cannot be reasonably estimated and are not included in the benefits liability or the financial statements.

Due to the nature of the board's operations, various legal matters are pending. In the opinion of management, these matters will not have a material effect on the Fund's financial position or results of operations.

## 2010 Year at a Glance

Note		2010	2009
1	Workers covered	20,900	19,400
2	Open Claims	2,904	3,060
1, 3	Claims	1,230	1,277
1, 3	Accepted Claims	1,071	931
1, 3	Lost-time Claims	453	473
1	Lost-time Rate ( <i>per 100 covered workers</i> )	2.2	2.4
	Permanent Impairment Awards	31	42
1	Fatality Claims Accepted	2	3
	Reviews by the Hearing Officer	40	44
4	Appeals heard by the Appeal Tribunal	17	8
1	Registered employers	3,171	2,922
	Maximum assessable earnings/wage rate	\$ 77,610	\$ 76,842
1	Assessable payroll ( <i>millions</i> )	\$ 960.3	\$ 864.4
6	Assessment revenue ( <i>millions</i> )	\$ 30.9	\$ 25.0
	Average estimated premium rate (per \$100 of insurable earnings)	\$ 2.95	\$ 3.00
1, 5	Average collected premium rate (per \$100 of insurable earnings)	\$ 3.17	\$ 2.93
6	Investment revenue ( <i>millions</i> )	\$ 9.87	\$ 15.9
6	Investment fund market return	7.6%	13.9%
	Fund balance ( <i>millions</i> )	\$ 149.7	\$ 134.8
7	Funded position (per AWCBC - KSM position)	134%	123%

### Notes:

Data may include revisions to prior releases.

1 Revised based on most recent data.

2 Due to changes in system operability, pre-2007 figures are not comparable.

3 Figures may include counts of duplicate occurrences.

4 Decisions rendered.

5 Based on rateable revenue only for the assessment year and includes adjustments to previous estimates of payroll and assessment revenue.

6 per Financial Statements

7 per revised 2008 KSM definition.





Yukon Workers'  
Compensation  
Health and  
Safety Board

Commission de  
la santé et de  
la sécurité au  
travail du Yukon