



## NEWS RELEASE

**For Immediate Release**

November 25, 2010

**Media Contact:** Mary Tucker, Manager of Communications  
WorkSafeNB  
Telephone: 506 632-2828 or 1 800 222-9775

### **NORTHEASTERN CONFERENCE TARGETS MUNICIPALITIES**

WorkSafeNB's northeast region hosted health and safety workshops for more than 110 municipal employees and construction contractors yesterday in Bathurst, covering topics such as due diligence, zero tolerance and building a health and safety structure. After reviewing audit results, injuries and fatalities within the municipal sector, WorkSafeNB identified a need for municipalities to expand the knowledge of occupational health and safety management programs and legislative requirements.

The workshops provided specific health and safety education for elected officials, directors, engineers, supervisors with health and safety responsibilities and contractors performing work for municipalities "We focused these sessions on municipalities because they provide such a diverse range of services with high-risk activities – trenching, working with heavy equipment and machinery, and working from heights, for example," said Pauline Roy, WorkSafeNB's regional director for the northeast.

While health and safety professionals and WorkSafeNB staff delivered most of the sessions, the mayor of Caraquet, Antoine Landry, gave a workshop on due diligence. Landry shared how a workplace fatality affected his municipality and how this tragedy renewed Caraquet's commitment to health and safety prevention.

"New Brunswick's municipalities form the roots of not only our culture but our economy, and are thereby so important to our province's health. By improving our province's health and safety infrastructure from the roots up we will continue to maintain and improve on our status as one of the safest provinces in Canada in which to work," Roy said.

### **ABOUT WORKSAFE NB**

WorkSafeNB administers no-fault workplace accident and disability insurance for employers and their workers, funded solely through employer assessments. WorkSafeNB is committed to preventing workplace injuries and illness through education and enforcement of the *Occupational Health and Safety Act*.