



## NEWS RELEASE

**For Immediate Release**

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### **WORKSAFE NB ANNOUNCES 2009 ASSESSMENT RATES**

WorkSafeNB announced today a slight decrease in the average assessment rate for the fourth consecutive year. Reduced accident frequency and accident costs warranted an average rate reduction of \$0.02, from \$2.05 per \$100 of payroll in 2008, to \$2.03. The minimum assessment rate will also be reduced, from \$0.40 per \$100 of payroll to \$0.35. The rates are effective January 1, 2009.

The rate reduction will see assessed premium amounts for approximately 7,300 employers either drop or remain stable in 2009, and represents the lowest average assessment rate in Atlantic Canada.

“This is good news for all New Brunswickers. By paying less for their compensation premiums, our registered employers will reduce their cost of doing business. But, more importantly, because accident costs play the largest part in determining assessment rates, it means that New Brunswick’s workplace safety continues to improve,” said Roberta Dugas, chair of WorkSafeNB’s board of directors.

#### **About WorkSafeNB**

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 the enforcement of the *Occupational Health and Safety Act*.