News Release



Workplace Health, Safety and Compensation Commission of New Brunswick

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WHSCC LAUNCHES HEALTH AND SAFETY GUIDE DESIGNED FOR SMALL BUSINESSES

Saint John: The Workplace Health, Safety and Compensation Commission (WHSCC) of New Brunswick is pleased to announce the launch of *The Small Business Guide to Health and Safety* – an interactive tool that will help small businesses protect workers from injuries and occupational diseases.

"This is a major initiative for us," says David Greason, Vice President of WHSCC's WorkSafe Services Division. "86% of businesses in this province have payrolls under \$400,000. We know they may have limited resources to devote to developing programs that keep workers safe, and that's why we developed this new guide."

The *Small Business Guide to Health and Safety* is an interactive easy-to-use mini CD-Rom presentation that will walk users through the basic steps of building a health and safety program. The WHSCC is able to stay in touch with users as they progress through the guide: learning about legislated requirements, identifying their workplaces hazards, implementing solutions to eliminate those hazards, and appointing health and safety representatives.

"We believe that health and safety is critical for small businesses," Greason says. "When you consider the costs associated with replacing an injured worker, other related accident costs, and the tight margins many small businesses operate under, injury prevention doesn't just make sense – it becomes a financial imperative."

The *Small Business Guide to Health and Safety* will be distributed free of charge, using a "Talk, Knowledge, Control" campaign theme.

"The Talk, Knowledge, Control campaign will grab the attention of small business owners around the province," Greason says. "Television commercials, newspaper ads, and a direct mail campaign will help us get the word out about this exciting new resource."

ABOUT THE WHSCC

The WHSCC administers no-fault workplace accident and disability insurance for employers and their workers, funded solely through assessments on employers. The WHSCC is committed to the prevention of workplace injuries and accidents through education and the enforcement of the *Occupational Health and Safety Act*.

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