News Release



Workplace Health, Safety and Compensation Commission of New Brunswick

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WHSCC TO PUBLISH ACCIDENT REPORTS

Saint John, NB: The Workplace Health, Safety and Compensation Commission (WHSCC) of New Brunswick is pleased to announce that it will begin to publish non-specific details relating to a small sample of the serious workplace accidents happening around the province.

"We're taking this step because we believe one of the key elements of successful accident prevention is the timely delivery of information relating to hazards and risks in the workplace," says Dave Greason, Vice-President of the Commission's WorkSafe Services Division. "We want employers and workers to know what kinds of accidents are happening in their industry as they occur, so they can quickly implement changes at their worksite that are in everyone's best interest."

Content for the Accident Reports is drawn from the WHSCC's *Preliminary Accident Notification* documents, which are created when the Commission is notified that a serious workplace accident has taken place.

"No specific details, such as the names of employers or injured workers, will be made public," Greason explains. "We're focussing directly on the accident – because that's what we want to be able to prevent in the future."

Accident Reports will be published on an ongoing basis in WHSCC News – the Commission's print-edition newsletter; WHSCC E-News – the Commission's monthly email newsletter; and on the Commission website, at <u>www.whscc.nb.ca</u>.

SAMPLE ACCIDENT REPORT

Date of Accident: Injury Type: Hospitalized: Industry/Nature of work: Location: Notes: February, 2005 Head injury Yes Forestry Services/Labourer Northwest The worker was operating a mulching grinder, when a large piece of metal came off the machine and struck the worker in the head. The worker was wearing a hard hat at the time.

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*.