



PRESS RELEASE

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YUKON YOUTH ARE AT RISK ON THE JOB.

Yukon Federation of Labour calls on government to protect kids.

“Our hearts go out to the family of the young boy killed recently in Manitoba. It is a tragedy, and one we will surely face in the Yukon if action isn’t taken to protect young workers” says Alex Furlong, president of the Yukon Federation of Labour

Furlong calls again on the Yukon Territorial Government to enact legislation to protect young workers. He states “We have been lucky in the Yukon, but we know it’s only a matter of time before a young worker is seriously injured or killed on the job”.

The YFL has raised the issue of unregulated child labour in the Yukon, providing the government with a detailed report studying a young workforce at risk. Despite meeting with the previous Minister responsible, there has been no government action.

The Yukon Federation of Labour has urged the Government of Yukon to develop legislation creating age restrictions, hours of work and workplace supervision requirements for workers under the age of majority. The Yukon is one of only a few Canadian jurisdictions without child labour laws.

“We are increasingly concerned for the safety and well being of these young workers, so frequently given inadequate training, support and supervision,” concludes Furlong.

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