

NEWS RELEASE

Attention Business/News Editors

Workplace Safety in the Spotlight for Young Entrepreneurs' Award

TORONTO, February 14, 2008 – The Workplace Safety and Insurance Board (WSIB) is now accepting applications for the *2008 WSIB Chair's Health and Safety Excellence Award for Young Entrepreneurs*.

A total of \$10,000 will be awarded to young entrepreneurs within the Canadian Youth Business Foundation (CYBF) program who demonstrate a commitment to workplace safety. This award is open to Ontario entrepreneurs who are current or past recipients of CYBF loans.

"It's never too soon for a young entrepreneur to take action on workplace safety," says WSIB Chair Steve Mahoney. "If we want to create a culture of health and safety in Ontario workplaces, we need to reach out to young people just starting out in business. That's a key success factor on our Road to Zero injuries, illnesses, and fatalities."

More information and the award application form are available on the WSIB website at <http://www.wsib.on.ca/wsib/wsbsite.nsf/public/YoungEntrepreneurAward>. Applications must be received by the WSIB no later than 5:00 p.m. on Thursday, March 20, 2008.

The Canadian Youth Business Foundation (CYBF) is a national charity that provides youth, aged 18-34, who have a great business idea but are unable to access funds through other traditional sources, with the start-up financing, mentoring and business resources to create their own successful business. The CYBF has invested in more than 2,300 young entrepreneurs since 1996, whose businesses have generated approximately \$250 million in sales revenue, \$60 million in tax revenue, \$27 million in export revenue, and have created more than 12,700 new Canadian jobs. Information about CYBF is available at www.cybf.ca.

Ontario's Workplace Safety and Insurance Board (WSIB) plays a key role in the province's occupational health and safety system. The WSIB administers no-fault workplace insurance for employers and their workers and is committed to the prevention of workplace injuries and illnesses. The WSIB provides disability benefits, monitors the quality of healthcare, and assists in early and safe return to work for workers who are injured on the job or contract an occupational disease.

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