

## **SUBJECT: Improving Workplace Safety for Youth**

### **SUBMITTED BY: Service and Hospitality Safety Association**

#### **BACKGROUND**

Saskatchewan has the second worst time-loss injury frequency record in Canada. In Saskatchewan one in four workplace injuries reported to the Workers' Compensation Board involves a worker less than 25 years of age (more than 8,000 each year). The rate at which young service industry workers are injured in this province is an unacceptable 30% of total workers in that age group. Since 7 out of 10 young adults get their first jobs in the tourism sector, primarily in the hotel and restaurant industries, this industry sector is uniquely positioned to lead a province-wide cultural change with regard to safety attitudes, starting with younger workers.

#### **ISSUE**

The issue is safety awareness amongst the youth of this province. Although there have been some improvements in this area in recent years, there needs to be a coordinated and strategic approach to bringing a focus onto youth safety awareness.

#### **RECOMMENDED**

1) That the Government of Saskatchewan encourage greater awareness of the importance of youth safety in the province, including the creation of a "Youth Safety Education Day."