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Second Annual Day Without Injury Challenge Set for September 8

WHITEHORSE – Yukon’s Medical Officer of Health, Dr. Brendan Hanley, is again issuing a personal challenge to all Yukoners to make September 8 a day with no injuries.

The first annual Day Without Injury last year saw fewer people reporting injuries to the Whitehorse Hospital, community nursing stations and the Yukon Workers’ Compensation Health and Safety Board.

“Yukoners have shown they can accomplish just about any goal they set their minds to it,” Hanley said. “So this year, on September 8, whether you’re at work, at home or at play, take minute to think about what you’re going to do, and then focus on it while you’re doing it.”

Support for this annual challenge is growing with 35 businesses and community organizations adding their logos to Day Without Injury posters. These posters have been distributed to all Yukon communities.

“The biggest threat to Yukoners’ well-being is not H1N1,” Hanley added. “It’s preventable injuries. Traumatic injuries continue to kill Yukon residents at rates between two and three times the national average.”

Predictable and preventable injuries still cost the health care system billions of dollars every year. In addition to the financial impacts, unnecessary injuries also cause those injured and their families’ unnecessary suffering.

“Don’t leave your health and well-being to chance,” the MOH said. “Make September 8 the day you and your family meet the challenge of getting through this one day without a bump, a bruise or a scratch.”

Hanley will be monitoring reports of injuries at Whitehorse General Hospital, community nursing stations and reporting on how Yukoners are meeting the challenge of a Day Without Injury.

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