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Media Release

Workers' Safety and Compensation Commission reviews recommendations from the Office of the Chief Coroner of the Northwest Territories

Yellowknife, NT (March 28, 2018) – Today, the Office of the Chief Coroner of the Northwest Territories released their report on the investigation into the death of David John Vinnicombe, with recommendations for the Workers' Safety and Compensation Commission (WSCC).

The WSCC is currently reviewing the recommendations made to determine a course of action moving forward. The purpose of the Chief Coroner's recommendations is to help prevent injuries or fatalities from incidents of a similar nature.

"The WSCC is continuously working to improve on our safety education for employers and workers," says Dave Grundy, WSCC President and CEO. "There is always more that can be done to ensure workplace safety for all, and so we thank the Chief Coroner for these recommendations."

The report stems from an incident on June 28, 2016 in which a worker, David John Vinnicombe, was fatally injured at a worksite near Inuvik, Northwest Territories.

Last month, Allen Services & Contracting Ltd. (Vinnicombe's employer) was sentenced to a fine of $100,000 for failing to ensure work was sufficiently and competently supervised, a violation of Section 16(1)(a) of the *Occupational Health and Safety (OHS) Regulations*.

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WSCC is an arm's length government agency responsible for administering the Workers' Compensation Acts, Safety Acts, Explosives Use Acts, the Mine Health and Safety Acts, and associated Regulations.

Together, with our partners, the WSCC provides services to almost 40,000 workers and 4,000 employers across the Northwest Territories and Nunavut. We process over 3,000 claims and conduct over 1,000 inspections annually to ensure the safety of Northern workplaces. The WSCC is unique in Canada as it is the only workers' compensation organization in the country to insure workers across more than one province or territory. We proudly offer services in the official languages of both territories.