October 9, 2008

The Select Committee on Human Rights
Yukon Legislative Assembly
Box 2703 [A-9]
Whitehorse, Yukon Y1A 2C6

Dear Select Committee:

Re: Written Submission to the Committee

The Yukon Volunteer Bureau’s mission is to foster and promote volunteerism throughout the Yukon by providing easy access to resources, training, consultation, and support for individuals and organizations.

We write to support the Yukon Human Rights Commission’s idea that volunteers need protection while they are performing their duties.

Specifically, we support the following:

Issue – Protection for Volunteers

Current Section of the Act - Section 9

Recommended Change - Add the following underlined words to section 9(a):

No person shall discriminate
(b) when offering or providing services, goods, or facilities to the public, including the use of volunteers, in whole or in part;

Why?
This would provide protection to volunteers who provide valuable services to the community. The P.E.I. Human Rights Act at section 10(1) of the P.E.I. Act and the Nova Scotia Human Rights Act at section 5(e), both cover volunteer public service.
Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Bruno Bourdache
Executive Director
Yukon Volunteer Bureau