

# Fall Into Mine Fatal To Boy, 4; Body Recovered

GHOST PINE CREEK, Alta. (AP) — A mother's vigil and a father's hope ended when their 4-year-old son was found dead Wednesday night 34 hours after he tumbled into an abandoned mine shaft.

Rescue workers found the body of Kenny Kowalchuk caught between the steps of a mine ladder 54 feet below the surface. His head was buried in loose earth and the two-man team said the chubby dark-haired boy appeared to have suffocated. He also had broken bones.

Mine officials believed his fall started a trickle of loose earth that eventually buried him.

The body was raised gently to the surface in the bucket of a power shovel. Unknown to officials, the mother was in the hushed crowd at the pithead.

She rushed forward just as the bucket was lowered to the ground. A policeman restrained her while the body was taken to a funeral home at nearby Three Hills.