THE CITY OF VICTORIA



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

September 5, 2014

Honourable Christy Clark Premier of British Columbia Box 9041, Station PROV GOVT Victoria, BC V8W 9E1

Dear Premier Clark:

On behalf of Victoria City Council, I am writing to request that the Provincial government ensure Crown attorneys and Police are trained and directed to apply Bill C-45.

It has been more than two decades since the Westray mine disaster in Nova Scotia and a decade since amendments were made to the Criminal Code of Canada to hold corporations, their directors and executives criminally accountable for the health and safety of workers.

Approximately 1,000 workers are killed at work each year in Canada. Police and prosecutors do not appear to be utilizing Bill C-45, the "Westray Bill", and do not appear to be investigating workplace fatalities through the lens of criminal accountability.

Victoria City Council respectfully requests that the Provincial government ensure that:

- Crown attorneys are educated, trained and directed to apply Bill C-45;
- Dedicated prosecutors are given the responsibility for health and safety fatalities;
- Police are educated, trained and directed to apply Bill C-45;
- There is greater coordination among regulators, police and Crown attorneys so that health and safety regulators are trained to reach out to police when there is a possibility that Bill C-45 charges are warranted.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Dean Fortin MAYOR

Cc. Victoria City Council

Honourable Minister Suzanne Anton, Ministry of Justice and Attorney General