

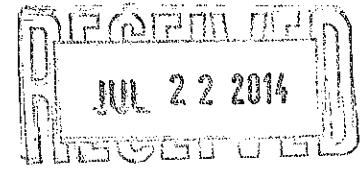
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File: 0230-20-SOC-19354

Date: July 17, 2014

Union of British Columbia Municipalities
Local Government House
525 Government Street
Victoria, BC V8V 0A8



To Whom It May Concern:

Re: Enforce the Westray Amendments to Canada's Criminal Code

At the Regular Meeting of Council In-Camera held July 14, 2014, City Council discussed a request from Director Stephen Hunt, United Steelworkers District 3. On behalf of United Steelworkers, he is encouraging Colwood City Council to pass a resolution to express their support for proactive action to protect workers and to send the resolution to their local provincial municipal associations.

COLWOOD CITY HALL
3300 Wishart Road
Colwood, BC V9C 1R1

CONTACT
Phone: 250 478 5999
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I wish to advise you that Council passed the following resolution at its July 14, 2014 meeting:

That:

WHEREAS 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 works; and

WHEREAS police and prosecutors are not utilizing the Westray amendments, and not investigating workplace facilities through the lens of criminal accountability; and

WHEREAS more than 1,000 workers a year are killed at work,

OFFICE HOURS:
8:30 am – 4:30 pm
Monday – Friday
except stat holidays
www.colwood.ca

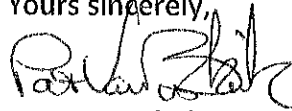
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THEREFORE IT BE RESOLVED that Colwood Council support a campaign to urge our federal/provincial/territorial government to ensure that:

- Crown attorneys are educated, trained and directed to apply the Westray amendments;
- Dedicated prosecutors are given the responsibility for health and safety fatalities;
- Police are educated, trained and directed to apply the Westray amendments; and
- 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 Westray amendment charges are warranted.

The Council of the City of Colwood hopes that you will take action on behalf of British Columbia municipalities and regional districts to encourage senior levels of government to take appropriate steps to enforce the Westray Law.

Yours sincerely,



Pat VanBuskirk, CMC
Director of Administration
& Corporate Officer

Copied to:

Honourable Suzanne Anton, Ministry of Justice, PO Box 9044, Stn Prov Govt, Victoria BC V8W 9E2

The Honourable Peter Gordon MacKay, Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada
284 Wellington Street, Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0H8

Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities
Local Government House, 525 Government Street, Victoria, BC V8W 0A8

Worksafe BC, 4514 Chatterton Way, Victoria, BC V8X 5H2

United Steelworkers, 300 – 3920 Norland Avenue, Burnaby, BC V5G 4K7 (Ref: 1920-100 Westray)