

USW – Emergency Bulletin

Ventilation Issues at KLG Real Cause for Concern

United Steelworkers organizers have received many complaints in the last two weeks regarding poor air quality in the deeper sections of the mine.

Workers are reporting increases in temperature and humidity and are experiencing symptoms associated with heat exhaustion.

Employees have also reported a rise in the presence of mold. Some workers are experiencing respiratory symptoms associated with mold exposure.

Although those symptoms may or may not be related to mold, there is no arguing KLG has a legal requirement to find out if the substance is harmful.

“Everything is fine... Get back to work!”

Pascal Boucher, organizer with the United Steelworkers, says workers are being told by Shifters and Captains that “everything is fine” and to “get back to work”.

On more than one occasion miners reported that while taking a heat break, they were told if they didn’t take their rounds, they would be replaced by contractors.

“This is very disturbing,” says Boucher, a miner by trade.

Mining is dangerous work, especially at Macassa, he adds.

“There is no other mine like it in the province. Anyone working underground knows that in order to stay safe we all need to look after one another, workers and bosses alike.

“To hear what’s happening at Macassa is very upsetting. Health and safety is not just something you say, it’s something you do. No person should be disrespected in that manner.”

“KL Gold workers clearly need a union!”

The Union Difference

The fact is, in Steelworker mines this very legitimate health and safety condition would have been dealt with immediately. These types of problems are addressed and resolved jointly and efficiently on a daily basis.

We really hope these ventilation issues get taken care of promptly. The United Steelworkers want the best outcome from this situation. We urge Kirkland Lake Gold management to do what’s right and respect their workforce.

The most important asset for any company is its WORKERS and the Steelworkers are here to help you remind KLG.

Demand Respect! Get Organized!

- ✓ Trained Health and Safety Worker Representatives.
 - ✓ Worker Health and Safety Committees free from Management Influence.
 - ✓ Safer Environment where concerns/conditions are dealt with promptly.
 - ✓ Access to representation and expertise from health and safety experts.
 - ✓ The right to participate in safety related discipline investigations. NO MORE ONE SIDED INVESTIGATIONS.
-
- ✓ Support and representation when dealing with WISB and other workplace issues such as, harassment and bullying.
 - ✓ The right to speak up without fear of being yelled at, disciplined or penalized.
 - ✓ Job promotions, training and transfers that occur without favoritism.
 - ✓ Protection of wages and benefits, job security and recall rights, even if the mine is sold.
 - ✓ Have your concerns and problems such as pay and bonus issues taken seriously and resolved.
 - ✓ Real protection against contractors.

Sign a Union Card Today!

STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL

Call: (705) 567- 1849

Text: (705) 521-3414

Email: uswnorth@usw.ca

PRIVATE & CONFIDENTIAL

Or

© Can Stock Photo

Obtain a card from one of our many card collectors.

