

July 18, 2014
File #0220-01



Stephen Hunt, District Director
United Steelworkers
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Burnaby, BC V5G 4K7

City of Fort St. John
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Dear Mr. Hunt,

Reference: Support for Proactive Action to Protect Workers

At the City of Fort St. John Regular Council Meeting held July 14th, 2014, Council received correspondence from United Steelworkers requesting a resolution to express support for proactive action to protect workers.

At this meeting, Council passed Resolution No. 296/14 "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 workers,

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

AND WHEREAS, more than 1,000 workers a year are killed at work, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT, the Council of the City of Fort St. John support a campaign to urge our federal/provincial/territorial governments 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
- 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."

Sincerely yours,



Jessica Bookham
Administrative Clerk I

cc The Honourable Peter Gordon MacKay, Minister of Justice and
Attorney General of Canada
UBCM
Sean Ball, USW