



NEW WESTMINSTER &
DISTRICT LABOUR COUNCIL

Coleen Jones, President
Janet Andrews, Secretary-Treasurer
Chartered By The Canadian Labour Congress

March 16, 2021

Mayor Rob Vagramov, City of Port Moody
100 Newport Drive
Port Moody, BC

Via email: clerks@portmoody.ca

Dear Mayor Vagramov and members of Council,

The New Westminster & District Labour Council represents over 60,000 affiliated union members in 14 communities in the Lower Mainland. In 1984 our national organization, the Canadian Labour Congress (CLC), introduced the annual day of remembrance for workers killed and injured on the job. April 28th was chosen because this was the day that the third reading took place for the first comprehensive Workers' Compensation Act (Ontario 1914) in Canada. The "Workers Mourning Day Act" (Bill C223) became law on February 1, 1991, an Act which states "the day of April 28th shall be respected as the day of official recognition". The day of recognition was proclaimed by the government of British Columbia in 1989.

On behalf of our members and their families and all workers living and/or working in your community, we have **four requests of your Council**:

- We request you **declare April 28th** as the official "*Day of Mourning for Workers Killed and Injured on the Job*", and if your Council issues proclamations we would appreciate a copy. A copy of our Proclamation is enclosed to assist Council.
- We also request that **Council observe one minute of silence** in the Council Chambers at the evening Council meeting **on or before April 28th**.
- We thank-you for your leadership in your workplace by **encouraging your staff to observe one minute of silence at 11:00 a.m. on April 28th**.
- Finally, we will be requesting **an opportunity to appear as a delegation** to make a **5 minute presentation at the April 27th, 2021 regular Council meeting**. A member of the Labour Council residing in the city will be presenting on behalf of the Labour Council. Our presentation will focus on the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on health and safety for workers, their families and our communities.

There will be remembrances across Canada on April 28th for workers who have been killed on the job, and to recognize those who have suffered from workplace injury, accident or disease. As the Day of Mourning coincides with our regular delegate meeting you are invited to join us on Wednesday, April 28th at 7:00pm for a short virtual ceremony, registration is available at this link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZckdeGgqjwiEtdxYjZanx4gNlnnukbHAnz1>

Sincerely,

Janet Andrews
Secretary- Treasurer

JA/cb

encl:

moveup

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Mayor Rob Vagramov, City of Port Moody
100 Newport Drive
Port Moody, BC

Dear Mayor Vagramov & Members of Council:

Re: Day of Mourning Presentation

The "Day of Mourning for Workers Killed & Injured" is recognized nationally on April 28th as a day to mourn for workers who have been killed and injured on the job and an opportunity to rededicate ourselves to improve working conditions through education and prevention initiatives.

The New Westminster & District Labour Council requests an opportunity to appear as a delegation to make a **5 minute presentation at the Tuesday, April 27** regular Council meeting prior to April 28. Christy Slusarenko, a member of the Labour Council residing in the city will be presenting on behalf of the Labour Council.

Our presentation will focus on the health and safety impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on workers, their families and our communities.

We appreciate your commitment to the important issue of workers' health and safety and look forward to hearing from you at your earliest convenience.

Sincerely,

per

Janet Andrews
Secretary-Treasurer

JA/cb



Proclamation

WHEREAS: Every year, more than 1,000 Canadian workers are killed on the job.

AND WHEREAS: Thousands more are permanently disabled.

AND WHEREAS: Hundreds of thousands are injured.

AND WHEREAS: Thousands of others die from cancer, lung disease, and other ailments caused by exposure to toxic substances at their workplaces.

AND WHEREAS: April 28 of each year has been chosen by the Canadian Labour Congress as:

- a Day of Mourning for these victims of workplace accidents and disease;
- a day to remember the maximum sacrifice they have been forced to make in order to earn a living;
- a day to renew approaches to governments for tougher occupational health and safety standards, and more effective Compensation;
- a day to rededicate ourselves to the goal of making Canada's workplaces safer.

AND WHEREAS: April 28th was proclaimed a "Day of Mourning" by an Act of Parliament on February 1st, 1991.

I _____, of _____
do hereby proclaim April 28 as an annual Day of Mourning in recognition of workers killed, injured or disabled on the job.

Signed: _____

