



NEW WESTMINSTER &
DISTRICT LABOUR COUNCIL

Christy Slusarenko, President
Janet Andrews, Secretary-Treasurer
Chartered By The Canadian Labour Congress

March 12, 2025

Mayor Mike Hurley, City of Burnaby
4949 Canada Way
Burnaby, BC
V5G 4A3

Dear Mayor Hurley and members of council,

The New Westminster & District Labour Council represents over 65,000 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, 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 request **an opportunity to appear as a delegation** to make a **5-minute presentation at the April 22, 2025 regular Council meeting**. A union member residing in the city will be presenting on behalf of the Labour Council. Our presentation will include up-to-date information on workers' health & safety issues, WorkSafeBC regulatory reviews and/or changes that have impacted BC's workplace accident and fatality rates.

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. Please join us on Monday, April 28th at 11 am at Westminster Pier Park in New Westminster as we mourn for those who have died from workplace accidents or disease and recommit ourselves to fight for the living.

Sincerely,

Janet Andrews
Secretary-Treasurer

JA/am
encl:



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