All Ontario Municipalities

Re: Proposed Workplace Fatalities Family Bill of Rights

The following resolution #2009-251 was passed by Council of the City of Greater Sudbury on June 10, 2009:

WHEREAS a Proposed Workplace Fatalities Family Bill of Rights would provide fundamental information to the family of victims of workplace fatalities and serious injuries;

AND WHEREAS such Bill of Rights would ensure that:

1. Family members must have the right to designate a representative to act on their behalf in all matters related to the investigation and any follow-up legal actions related to the investigation.
2. Family members must be notified of all meetings, phone calls, hearings or other communications involving the accident investigation team and the employer, and be given the opportunity to participate in these events.
3. Family members must have the opportunity to recommend names of individuals to be interviewed by the accident investigation team and to submit questions to the investigators for response by the interviewees. Family members should be given the access to all transcripts of interview, affidavits, or written statements made by witnesses and others interviewed for the investigation.
4. Family members must have the right to be kept routinely informed (no less than once every 14 days) by the Minister of Labour and their investigators on the progress of the incident investigation, including an estimate of when the investigation will be completed.
5. Family members should have access to all documents gathered and produced as part of the accident investigation, including records prepared by first responders, police and Ministry officials. Information mentioning the deceased family member’s name and condition should not be redacted from documents provided to family members. All fees related to the production of document should be waived for family members.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the City of Greater Sudbury lends its full support to a Proposed Workplace Fatalities Family Bill of Rights;

AND FURTHER THAT this resolution be sent to the Association of Municipalities of Ontario for distribution and support from all municipalities in Ontario; The Honourable Peter Fonseca, Minister of Labour; The Honourable Rick Bartolucci, Minister of Community Safety and Correctional Services, and France Gélinas, MPP for Nickel Belt.

Yours truly

Angie Haché
City Clerk