



Canadian Office and Professional Employees Union Local 378

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June 13, 2008

Fax: 604-279-7599

Anne Burch, Director
Policy and Research Division
Workers' Compensation Board
PO Box 5350 Stn Terminal
Vancouver, BC V6B 5L5

Dear Ms. Burch:

RE: REGULATION AMENDMENTS 2008

On behalf of the Canadian Office & Professional Employees Union Local 378, which represents more than 10,000 members throughout B.C., I am writing in support of the B.C. Federation of Labour's Submission on the proposed regulation amendments for 2008.


We would like to highlight the following recommendations contained within the report:

- We support a total ban on smoking in the workplace.
- We do not agree that the proposed Section 4.82 (2)(a) amendments regarding the removal of Environmental Tobacco Smoke (ETS) will be effective, as current evidence shows there is no way of effectively removing ETS from the workplace.
- The WCB Board of Directors amend the proposed change to Section 5.57.1 to include the Workplace Hazardous Materials Information System (WHIMS) reference to reproductive toxins and sensitizers.
- We support the proposed amendment to Section 17.2 that would place the responsibility on employers to ensure an assessment of road conditions, weather and traffic conditions be conducted prior to the beginning of work and vehicle safety concerns are corrected before the vehicle is used.

We support the Federation's recommendations and urge the WCB Board of Directors to seriously consider and implement them. This is an opportunity for the WCB to fulfill their mandate to improve the health and safety regulations and thereby provide the workers of B.C. with greater protection.

We are pleased to have the opportunity to participate in this process.

Yours truly,


Andy Ross
President
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