MOTION ON NOTICE

2. Enforce the Westray Amendments to Canada's Criminal Code

MOVER: Councillor Meggs SECONDER: Councillor Louie

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;
- Police and prosecutors are not utilizing the Westray amendments, and not investigating workplace fatalities through the lens of criminal accountability;
- 3. More than 1,000 workers a year are killed at work.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the City of Vancouver supports a campaign to urge our provincial government, specifically the Attorney General and Minister Responsible for Labour, 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;
- Police are educated, trained and directed to apply the Westray amendments;
- There is greater coordination among regulators, police and Crowns so that health and safety regulators are trained to reach out to police when there is a possibility that Westray amendment charges are warranted.

* * * * *