

July 20, 2020

Honourable Harry Bains Minister of Labour Room 342 Parliament Buildings Victoria, BC V8V 1X4

Dear Minister Bains:

Re: Bill 23, Workers Compensation Amendment Act, 2020 - CLR Response

As members of the Employer's Forum as well as the Council of Construction Associations (COCA), we have been provided with a copy of the letter that you received today from our partner associations. The content of that letter outlines the issues and concerns of our association and our membership very well so I will refrain from going into further detail except to express our own "significant and serious concerns with Bill 23, Workers' Compensation Amendment Act, 2020, which you tabled in the legislature on July 14."

As articulated in the attached letter that was authored by the partner associations, the Construction Labour Relations (CLR) Association of BC is extremely concerned and disappointed with the direction and timing of Bill 23. Our association and our member building trades signatory contractors are already struggling to do our part to facilitate the recovery of our provincial economy and maintain the viability of our businesses and the thousands of family supporting jobs we are responsible for. This effort by your Ministry will create even more difficult financial challenges at a time when frankly, many employers are already unsure how they will survive.

The CLR and our union jobs supporting members encourage your Ministry specifically, and our government in general, to reconsider this initiative. At the very least, the timing of it should be deferred affording time for greater financial recovery and offering more opportunity for consultation.

Sincerely,

Ken McCormack President & CEO

cc: john.horgan.mla@leg.bc.ca

adam.olsen@mla@leg.bc.ca andrew.wilkinson.mla@leg.bc.ca