

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

2005-08-09

Apparently all our worksites are so safe, Bell has decided safety investigations and inspections do not have to be done by the C.E.P. Health & Safety committee. A task we have been doing for the last 15 years. All of a sudden Bell in their great wisdom and obviously great concern are denying our committee time off the job to attend start up meetings for asbestos removal. An example of how important this is can be seen in this story. About 1 ½ years ago Ron Atkinson a member of our Health & Safety committee went to a start up meeting for asbestos removal at 76 Adelaide. At the meeting the process was discussed and agreed that the removal would happen after hours with the proper curtains and clean up protection. When Ron came in early one morning to insure compliance he found the removal planning to operate in the regular hours without all the agreed to protection. Ron shut the job down and forced compliance of proper procedures. This is one of many examples of the necessity of a diligent Health & Safety committee. Everyone surely remembers the fire at Simcoe in the summer of 1999 when Bell tried to send some of our members into a burning building to protect their precious equipment. Your Health & Safety committee was there and refused to let Bell make our members go in. Bell has complained that whenever we shut down a job for safety violations it costs them money. I find it ironic that during a time when Sabia is flapping about customer loyalty and his need to secure it he seems to forget who is going to get that customer loyalty for him. The same people who have a right to work in a healthy, secure, working environment!

Please help maintain the right for our Health & Safety committee to continue to work for you to ensure your safety, email Sabia and tell him loyalty is a two way street.

Remember you work for a **LIVING!**

-
In solidarity

Mike Douse