



Michael-James Pennie <[REDACTED]>

Thank You for Hearing Us

1 message

Michael-James Pennie <[REDACTED]> Thu, Mar 4, 2021 at 2:54 PM

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Cc: Faith Hayman <[REDACTED]>, "Catherine Adamson ([REDACTED])" <[REDACTED]>, Ann Forry <[REDACTED]>

Dear BC Liberal MLA Caucus,

Wanted to send you all a personal note and thank you very much for hosting us yesterday Wednesday March 3, at 3PM.

It meant a lot to us that you granted a full hour to discuss what we deem as the most critical human rights issue in the province - modernizing the province's antiquated wrongful death laws.

Catherine, Ann, Faith, and I all felt very heard and respected and we appreciate the opportunity to support you on this issue, as well as other access to justice and democratic challenges moving forward over the next 4 years.

We wanted to acknowledge Teresa Wat for organizing the meeting and putting it together.

We wanted to acknowledge Mike de Jong for taking the lead on this as the newly appointed AG critic and for all of Michael Lee's previous work.

Acknowledging Shirley Bond's leadership of the party and your commitment to this issue moving forward.

We appreciate all of your work as the minority party and doing what we believe is your best to call out the majority government when they put forth legislation that is not entirely well thought out and infringes on the rights and liberty of the individual.

We have seen this with respect to Michael Lee's debate on Bill 19 and in the party's opposition to No-Fault. We provide praise and deep respect for all of you in this regard.

For your review, I have attached the latest version of the 'Wrongful Death Accountability Act Briefing Note'.

This is comprehensive legislation that fully closes the loopholes for wrongdoers to escape accountability. The Society has done extensive legislative research, consulted both stakeholders, families, and the public for nearly two decades. This drafted legislation can solve this problem now. Appendix A summarizes what the families behind our Society are asking for.

We suspect the NDP government will draft its own legislation and they will likely deviate from the key tenets proposed. We suspect this will not afford the full measure of justice available in other jurisdictions and will not provide the full scope of intended deterrent mechanisms to prevent wrongful deaths in the first place.

Our hope is also that the province doesn't play a game of legislative "catchup" in BC, but is able to bring forth the best legislation in Canada to respect the dignity of the individual with full legislated protections. We intend to support the BC Liberal party to our fullest ability to understand and critique any legislation brought forward that does not meet this standard.

As mentioned on the call, here is a link to the Public Service Announcement that we created by an entirely volunteer team - <https://intheirname.ca/> (home page video). It's been featured on Global, CBC, CKPG, and The Sun UK so far. Ann put

this project together just a mere 3 months after losing Natasha, which has been incredibly inspiring for the families involved and the public.

Lastly, Catherine Adamson, who published her book "Heidi Dawn Klompas - Missed Opportunities" would like to send whomever is interested, a copy of her book. As a self-published author, and having done very limited promotion, her book is nearly about to break the top 100 list in hospital administration books on Amazon. <http://catherineadamson.com/writing> - She would very much like to send the book to whomever would be interested in receiving a copy.

Thank you very much again hearing us yesterday and your considerate review of this email.

Sending out best wishes for this term of government and look forward to continuing our work together moving forward.

Sincerely,

Michael-James Pennie

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Michael-James Pennie

President - BC Wrongful Death Law Reform Society

intheirname.ca

The BC Wrongful Death
Law Reform Society

Focused on solving the biggest human rights crisis in British Columbia



The Wrongful Death Accountability Act Briefing Note January 30 2021.pdf

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