



**Media Release
For Immediate Release**

Tuesday, April 25, 2017

Day of Mourning observed across Greater Victoria Schools on April 28, 2017

VICTORIA, BC — On April 28, 2017, the Greater Victoria School District will observe the Day of Mourning to remember workers across the country who have lost their lives as the result of workplace injury, illness, or disease. Canadian flags will be lowered to half-mast at all schools. This is an important day for reminding students—who are often new to the workforce—of the importance of safety in the workplace and their rights to a safe and healthy work environment.

In 2016, 144 BC workers did not go home at the end of their workday. Younger workers, those under 25, are statistically more likely to suffer injury or death at the workplace. In British Columbia, an average of 27 young workers (under the age of 25) experience time-loss injuries every day. Every week, seven young workers are permanently disabled in BC.

Each high school has received curriculum packages from the Greater Victoria Teachers' Association to incorporate into their classes this week. Lessons will focus on topics such as workplace safety, working alone, health and safety rights and duty to report hazards.

The Greater Victoria School District is pleased to partner with the Canadian Union of Public Employees (Locals 382 and 947) and the Greater Victoria Teachers' Association to raise awareness of workplace safety right and responsibilities and to remember those who have lost their lives as the result of workplace injury, illness, or disease.

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