
NEWS RELEASE

BC Chamber decries attack on Port Metro employees

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Vancouver, December 17, 2013 – The BC Chamber calls on British Columbians to stand up for civilized public processes, following the cowardly attack that occurred yesterday on Port Metro Vancouver employees.

“For some time, we’ve seen emotions running high on resource projects but as British Columbians, we need to stand up for civilized Canadian debate and processes,” said John Winter, president and CEO of the BC Chamber of Commerce. “When resource project opponents intimidate employees in their place of work, it’s an attack on Canadians and Canadian values.”

Winter noted that, when it comes to B.C.’s resource-based economy, project discussions and consultations are an on-going part of B.C.’s public debates and are only going to increase in the years ahead. He stressed the critical need for civilized public debate on projects from coal to pipelines to mines to resorts.

“Violence and intimidation are an attack on free speech and have no place in public discussion,” Winter said. “As British Columbians, we need to stand up for our values and decry any acts that jeopardize civilized public debate.”

The BC Chamber is the largest and most broadly-based business organization in the province. Representing more than 125 Chambers of Commerce and 36,000 businesses of every size, sector and region of the province, the BC Chamber of Commerce is “The Voice of Business in BC.”

- 30 -

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