

May 18, 2000

24



Policy & Regulation Development Bureau  
Workers' Compensation Board of British Columbia  
PO Box 5350 Station Terminal  
Vancouver, BC V6B 5L5  
Fax: (604) 214-6957

Dear WCB:

Re: Proposed Regulation to Ban  
Workplace Exposure to Secondhand Smoke

This letter is to express my wholehearted support for your proposed ban on workplace exposure to secondhand smoke.

I have been a hospitality worker for many years and currently work at the Opa Japanese restaurant in Gibsons, BC. I suffer from asthma. Prior to December 31, 1999, Opa was a "smoking allowed" restaurant. At that time, I was spending about \$80 per month on medicine to cope with my asthma. When the January 1, 2000 ban came into effect and the restaurant went "non-smoking", my health improved and my monthly asthma medicine cost went down to about \$20. Also, I immediately felt better and no longer smelled like cigarette smoke when I went home from work.

With my encouragement, Opa continued on with the healthy policy and remained smoke-free after the erroneous court decision of March 22 which lifted the ban. The restaurant has suffered no loss of business because of the previous ban nor its decision to stay smoke-free since the ban was lifted.

Please bring in the new ban as soon as possible so that all workers receive protection from toxic secondhand smoke.

Sincerely,

*Laudie K. Noël*

GIBSONS, B.C.  
V0N 1V6.

ROBERTS CREEK, BC VAN 144

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