



**OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**

Mailing address: PO Box 5350 Stn Terminal, Vancouver BC V6B 5L5

[worksafebc.com](http://worksafebc.com)

June 8, 2021

AD Al Phillips  
Business Manager & Financial Secretary  
UA Local 170

Dear Mr. Phillips:

Re: Sanitation Concerns and Washroom Facilities

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I write in response to your letter of April 21 addressed to WorkSafeBC's board of directors. WorkSafeBC is committed to ensuring that workers are provided with the occupational environment necessary to ensure their health, including access to washrooms and handwashing facilities.

The experience of COVID 19 has highlighted the need for these facilities to be accessible and of a reasonable quality to ensure workers can maintain suitable hygiene. WorkSafeBC has regulatory requirements in place relating to the provision of plumbed washroom facilities, or where those are not practicable, portable washroom and handwashing facilities. These requirements are intended to balance the practicalities of temporary or short-term workplaces with reasonable access to adequate hygiene facilities.

We recognize the challenges in maintaining plumbed facilities in temporary workplaces like construction sites, however we also recognize that not all workplaces, even temporary workplaces, are the same, and that there are opportunities to improve practices at these workplaces. We therefore are more than willing to engage with our stakeholders to ensure that our expectations around industry practices are both realistic and provide a reasonable level of hygiene to workers.

To this end, members of our Prevention team are actively working with BC Building Trades around how to improve practices in this area. I am hopeful that this process will lead to tangible improvements for your membership and other workers who work in similar contexts.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Anne Naser".

Anne Naser  
President & CEO

cc. Jeff Parr, Chair Board of Directors, WorkSafeBC