

# Lytton Subway Work Car Fatality Of April 23, 2007

Meeting Date: June 18, 2008

Subject: Lytton Subway Work Car Fatality Of April 23, 2007

## **Recommendation**

Receive investigation report for information.

## **Funding**

Funding has been captured in operating and capital budgets.

## **Background**

On April 23, 2007, the eleven member Asbestos Abatement crew was returning to Greenwood yard on the southbound Yonge subway line in work cars RT 45 and 46 when an extended platform on the attached flatbed work car RT 57 contacted the tunnel structure. The extended modular platform was then forced into the cab of work car RT 45 resulting in fatal injuries to TTC Work Car Operator Antonio Almeida and serious injuries to TTC employees Demetre Xynis and Stuart Ryan, who were transported to Sunnybrook Medical Centre. The remaining eight crew members sustained minor injuries and received trauma counselling.

Subway service was suspended between Finch and Eglinton subway stations both ways on April 23, 2007 for the entire day. Recovery operations were extensive due to vehicle and tunnel structure damage compounded with concerns surrounding the potential exposure to asbestos.

Toronto Police Service, Ministry of Labour representatives and the TTC personnel initiated an extensive investigation into the incident. Toronto Police Service determined that there was no criminal intent. The Ministry of Labour charged the TTC for failing to take every precaution reasonable in the circumstances for the protection of the worker resulting in a \$200,000 fine.

The TTC Safety Department staff led a detailed investigation identifying one causal factor with four root causes and other significant findings. Several recommendations were made and responsible

department managers have developed corrective action plans.

### **Discussion**

The corrective actions taken to date and those to which management has committed will greatly reduce the risk of recurrence so that it can be judged to be at an acceptable level. The Safety Department will report on the Management Corrective Action Plan to the Commission within six months.

TTC has partnered with a leading safety industry consultant, Behavioural Science Technology (BST), to develop a strategic plan for culture transformation and to achieve sustainable safety excellence throughout the organization.

### **Justification**

TTC is committed to learning from all incidents and to sharing information to improve safety.

May 30, 2008

13.77

Attachments: Lytton Subway Work Car Fatality Investigation Summary, May 2008

Lytton Subway Work Car Fatality Management Correct Action Checklist