

Media Release

For Immediate Release

Greater Sudbury Chamber of Commerce considers council motion disappointing ***Both sides must turn inwards and begin petitioning one another instead of others***

(Greater Sudbury, April 29, 2010) The Greater Sudbury Chamber of Commerce (GSCC) is disappointed that city council decided to unanimously approve a motion to limit the use of replacement workers. The motion criticises Vale Inco for utilizing replacement workers and calls on the provincial government to enact legislation limiting the ability of private companies to use replacement workers during work stoppages. The motion was introduced by Ward 3 Councillor Claude Berthiaume.

“Motions like this - ineffective as they are in securing real change- undoubtedly harm Greater Sudbury's reputation as great place to do business,” said Steve Irwin, Chair of the GSCC. “It’s regrettable that our city council has thrown their support so strongly behind one side when commercial and industrial employers, including Vale Inco, continue to contribute to the improvement of our community.”

Only the Government of Ontario has the legislative power to amend or develop new labour laws affecting the use of replacement employees.

“While it’s clear that everyone in this community wants to see this dispute come to an end,” added Irwin, “there are only two parties who have the power to end it and right now it seems that both sides are more interested in pursuing activities that only compound the circumstances and prolong the walkout.”

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*The **Greater Sudbury Chamber of Commerce** represents over 1,000 businesses and through the participation of its member volunteers on committees and task forces, works to influence federal, provincial and local legislation affecting business.*