

**APRIL 28**  
**NATIONAL DAY OF MOURNING FOR**  
**WORKERS KILLED OR INJURED ON THE JOB**



**SEVENTH ANNUAL DAY OF MOURNING PROGRAM**



**APRIL 28 AVRIL**

NATIONAL DAY  
OF MOURNING FOR WORKERS  
KILLED OR INJURED  
ON THE JOB  
EACH YEAR

JOUR NATIONAL DE DEUIL  
A LA MEMOIRE DES  
TRAVAILLEUSES ET TRAVAILLEURS  
TUES OU BLESSES  
A LEUR TRAVAIL CHAQUE ANNEE

MOURN FOR THE DEAD

PLEURONS LES TRAVAILLEUSES  
ET TRAVAILLEURS DISPARUS

FIGHT FOR THE LIVING

BATTONS-NOUS  
POUR LES VIVANTS

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND  
FEDERATION OF LABOUR

FEDERATION DES TRAVAILLEURS  
ET TRAVAILLEUSES DE  
L'ILE DU-PRINCE-EDOUARD

DEDICATED APRIL 28 2005

DEDIE LE 28 AVRIL 2005

## *Importance Of the National Day Of Mourning*

**The Day of Mourning offers us an opportunity to stand together with the world's workers to remember those who have died or been injured on Island jobsites, and to reflect on what needs to be done to prevent more deaths and injuries.**

**On April 28th :**

- **We remember all workers stricken with workplace illness, suffering injuries or killed on the job.**
- **We remember children left without a parent and families facing the emotional and economic challenges that come from the loss of a loved one.**
- **We remember young workers who are injured and killed at a much higher rate than mature workers.**
- **We remember women workers whose hazards are often unrecognized or ignored by health studies.**
- **We remember the working wounded who are forced to continue to work because they are denied fair compensation.**
- **We remember families and friends who have to nurse or care for ill or injured workers.**

**The Day of Mourning was born of the values of the union movement. It was created by working people in their constant fight for decent, safe working conditions. To create these conditions:**

- **we must remember that "an injury to one is an injury to all."**
- **we must demand the enforcement of health and safety laws.**
- **we must denounce those who place profits before workers' health.**
- **we must proclaim our right to safe workplaces and respect on the job.**

**On April 28th. we reaffirm our commitment to workplace health and safety and clearly state to all that we mourn the dead and fight for the living.**

## *Agenda For The Day Of Mourning Ceremony*

- **O'Canada - Gaye Hood**
- **Moment of Silence**
- **Invocation**
- **Carl Pursey, President PEIFL**
- **Carolyn Bertram, Minister of Community and Cultural Affairs and Labour**
- **Charlene MacInnis, Injured Worker**
- **Piper Wayne MacKinnon will lead everyone outside**
- **Wreath Laying and Rose Ceremony**
- **Closing Remarks**
- **Reception to follow in Province House**

**The PEI Federation of Labour would like to thank the Provincial Government and the Workers Compensation Board for their continued support of this important Day**

## *Let Us All Remember*

As we leave today's ceremony , let us remember those workers who did not make it home safely from work this year and in past years on PEI.

Let us use this to make a commitment and dedicate ourselves to remember how important our own safety is and to fight to improve workplace safety in anyway we can.

Finally, Let us remember that in the end the most important thing that we can bring home safely from our jobs is ourselves.

*The P.E.I Federation of Labour Thanks you for your attendance*

# *History of The April 28<sup>th</sup> National Day of Mourning*

**1984-** The Canadian Union of Public Employees announce at their National Health and Safety Conference in Vancouver the establishment of a Day of Mourning for workers who had been killed or injured on the job.

**1986** - Delegates at the Canadian Labour Congress Convention followed suit and passed a resolution calling for the recognition of April 28th for the Day of Mourning. April 28<sup>th</sup> was chosen because it was on this day in 1914 that the province of Ontario passed the first Worker's Compensation Legislation in Canada.

**1990** - NDP M.P. Rod Murphy (Churchill) introduced a private member's Bill calling for the government of Canada to recognize April 28th as the National Day of Mourning. After receiving full party support, Murphy's bill was passed into law with Royal Assent on February 1, 1991.

History was made, Canada officially became the first country in the world to recognize April 28<sup>th</sup> as the National Day of Mourning. Now, Day of Mourning Ceremonies are held in many communities across Canada. As we enter into the year 2008, the Day of Mourning is now also observed in over a hundred countries worldwide.

The canary in a cage is the internationally recognized symbol for April 28th. The tiny canary was once the only safeguard miners had against dangerous gas buildup. If the canary died, it was a signal to evacuate the mines... fast. Today, workers exposed to dangerous substances have no canaries to give them advance warning of danger.

