



**Asbestos-related
Research, Education
& Advocacy Fund**

Asbestos-related diseases take more lives in Canada than any other occupational disease.

What is the AREA Fund?

It is the only fund in Canada that specifically supports asbestos-related research, education and advocacy. It is an endowment fund that will exist in perpetuity and grow with each donation, generating revenue for this important work over the long-term.

Why was the AREA Fund created?

The Ford family created this fund in 2010, in loving memory of Dave Ford who died of mesothelioma. They wanted to establish a fund for the wide variety of asbestos-related initiatives that are being undertaken.

Who manages the AREA Fund?

The Vancouver Foundation, Canada's largest community foundation helping people give back to communities since 1943, manages the AREA Fund. The AREA Fund Trustees decide how available grant money will be awarded.

Who are the AREA Fund Trustees?

- **Wayne Peppard**, Retired Executive Director
BC & Yukon Territory Building & Construction Trades Council
- **Dr. Christopher Lee**, Medical Oncologist
BC Cancer Agency, Fraser Valley Centre
- **Sheila Moir**, Occupational Health & Safety Officer
BC Government Employees' Union
- **Larry Stoffman**, Labour Consultant, OH&S Specialist
HMIRC Labour Governor; WHMIS Current Issues Committee
- **Tim K. Takaro**, Associate Professor
SFU Faculty of Health Sciences

The AREA Fund Advisor is Tracy Ford.

How can you help support the AREA Fund?

Please make a donation, tell others about the fund, and share your story with us.

Please Give Online www.areafund.ca or by Mail

AREA Fund c/o Vancouver Foundation
Suite 1200 – 555 West Hastings Street
Box 12132, Harbour Centre Vancouver, BC V6B 4N6



The AREA Fund is committed to raising awareness of the deadly effects of asbestos.

Globally

- The World Health Organization estimates that more than 107,000 people die each year from asbestos caused diseases — mesothelioma, asbestosis and lung cancer. This number continues to climb.
- Approximately 125 million workers worldwide are still regularly exposed to asbestos.
- Because industrialized countries no longer use asbestos, the asbestos industry is targeting the developing world. Consequently, in developing countries (where there is a lack of awareness of asbestos hazards) consumption is increasing.

Nationally

- Canada is the only developed country in the world still exporting asbestos; it is the 4th largest exporter, following Russia, Kazakhstan and Brazil.
- The majority of Canada's asbestos is exported to developing countries where workers and their families suffer gross over exposures.
- The Canadian and Quebec governments promote and subsidize the asbestos industry (\$35 million since 1984). The Quebec government, with the support of the Canadian government, is presently considering giving a \$58 million loan guarantee to reopen another asbestos mine in Quebec this year. This is an outrage.
- Although asbestos is strictly regulated in Canada, it is not banned. 150,000 Canadians are currently exposed to asbestos in the workplace and Canada continues to import asbestos containing products, such as cement and friction materials.
- The latency period between exposure and diagnosis is 20 to 50 years; progressively higher numbers of workers are expected to be diagnosed with asbestos-related diseases over the next 10 to 15 years.

All asbestos is carcinogenic — there is no safe way to use it and no cure for the diseases it creates. To prevent future pandemics of asbestos-related diseases, we must end the production and use of all forms of asbestos. Find out more at www.areafund.ca.