

From: "Mochrie, Paul" <Paul.Mochrie@vancouver.ca>
To: "[Direct to Mayor and Council - DL](#)"
Date: 7/21/2022 4:08:22 PM
Subject: Winters Hotel fire - inquest
Attachments: 2022PSSG0053-001151.pdf

Hello Mayor and Council,

As per the attached announcement from the Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General released earlier this afternoon, the Minister has ordered a coroner's inquest into the fire at the Winters Hotel on April 11, 2022 and the two fatalities caused by that fire.

We will keep you apprised as the inquest proceeds.

Best,
Paul

Paul Mochrie (he/him)
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The City of Vancouver acknowledges that it is situated on the unceded traditional territories of the xʷməθkʷəy̍əm (Musqueam), Snw̓x̓w̓č̓w̓mesh (Squamish), and səlilwətaɫ (Tsleil-Waututh) Nations.

STATEMENT

For Immediate Release
2022PSSG0053-001151
July 21, 2022

Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General

Minister's statement on Winters Hotel deaths inquest

VICTORIA – Mike Farnworth, Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General, has released the following statement on directing an inquest into two deaths linked to the Winters Hotel fire:

“The fire that destroyed the Winters Hotel in Vancouver on April 11, 2022, tragically resulted in the death of two people.

“We are deeply saddened by this terrible loss of life. My thoughts are with Mary Ann Garlow's and Dennis Guay's loved ones, and with the other former residents of the hotel. I also recognize and thank the front-line staff and first responders who have supported everyone affected by the fire.

“Today, I have directed a coroner's inquest into these deaths. Once the coroner's investigation has gathered sufficient evidence, an inquest jury will hear evidence from witnesses under oath and make findings regarding the facts of the deaths. The jury may also make recommendations aimed at preventing deaths under similar circumstances.

“Our government is committed to keeping people safe and helping prevent families from losing loved ones to fires. In June, we announced we are partnering with Statistics Canada to create a Community Fire Risk Reduction Dashboard to help B.C. fire services prevent fires, reduce injuries and save lives.

“Everyone deserves to be safe in their homes. Recommendations from the inquest into the Winters Hotel deaths could help prevent fires in single-room occupancy buildings and save lives.

“As the number of fire-related deaths increases in British Columbia, it is imperative that we take action to ensure vulnerable people are protected from fire hazards.”

Contact:

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