

MR. CAMERON, EXAM. BY MR. WELLS

1 Q. I'd like to start by asking you if you believe that
2 in health and safety, prevention pays?

3 A. Yes, I think that's the foundation of the philosophy
4 that we all believe in.

5 Q. Giving -- given that, with the record that Nova
6 Scotia has had for accidents and fatalities over the
7 years, I would like to ask why there wasn't more effort
8 put into further -- in more prevention prior to the days
9 of 1992 and more training from the Department of Labour?

10 A. I think that's a legitimate question and is one that
11 was addressed in the McKeough Report, where the unions
12 were very much involved. And that's really when the
13 Province took a different direction and went to an
14 internal responsibility system.

15 I would agree with you that we should have and could
16 have done more on the training side. Because I asked
17 some of the miners after this tragic explosion if, for
18 example, if they knew they could leave work without being
19 fired if they thought it was dangerous, and some said yes
20 and some said no. So clearly -- clearly, we -- there was
21 a role that better education could have done. There's no
22 question about that. I'm not pointing the finger at
23 anyone. I'm just saying that no one is perfect, and we
24 can all do better jobs. And we likely should have done a
25 better job in terms of education and training.