Labour History Project Working People: A History of Labour in BC



**Bea Zucco**

Film Summary: Out of the loss of her husband to an occupational-related illness came one woman's crusade for change.

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**Curriculum Application:**

Social Justice 12, Law 12, Youth work in trades 11/12 and Work Experience 11/12

**The Essential Questions:**

How does Worker's Compensation (WorkSafe BC) benefit workers?  How can individuals advocate effectively for changes in workplace safety?

What historical factors

**Summary of the Lesson Activities**

1. Focus questions for the vignette provides a short lesson option. ( 15 Minutes )
2. Small group activity/discussion to better understand the role of WorkSafe BC to ensure safe working conditions for workers in British Columbia.
3. Individual or small group activities to understand and evaluate the role Bea Zucco made to achieve change for families of victims of work-place injury or death.
4. Individuals or small groups of students work on creating newspaper style articles on the issues presented in the vignette and supporting print materials.

Learning Standards

1. To be able to explain what workplace safety protocols are in place to protect workers in British Columbia.
2. To analyze the role of individual citizens in promoting social justice in Canada.
3. To be aware of how individuals can provide leadership as agents for change in such matters as workplaces safety.
4. Contribute to care of self, others, and community
5. Access information and ideas on workplace safetyprior to work placement to determine workplace safety risks
6. Identify, demonstrate, and incorporate provincially legislated safety and

site-specific work-site safety procedures while at the work placement.

1. Understand occupational health and safety rights and responsibilities**,** including trade-specific hazards,

risk reduction, and the rights and **procedures**

1. to refuse unsafe work

**Materials and Resources Provided**

* [“Bea Zucco” Episode 3-](https://cdnapisec.kaltura.com/index.php/extwidget/preview/partner_id/1454421/uiconf_id/26824312/entry_id/0_dsofh51a/embed/dynamic)

[Working People – A History of](https://cdnapisec.kaltura.com/index.php/extwidget/preview/partner_id/1454421/uiconf_id/26824312/entry_id/0_dsofh51a/embed/dynamic)

[Labour in British Columbia](https://cdnapisec.kaltura.com/index.php/extwidget/preview/partner_id/1454421/uiconf_id/26824312/entry_id/0_dsofh51a/embed/dynamic)

Lesson Activity 1: Backgrounder and discussion questions.

**Additional Suggested Materials**

Worksafe BC

[Early Years of Workmen’s Compensation in BC 1917-2011](http://www.worksafebc.com/about_us/history/statistics_and_chronology/1917-1942/default.asp)

[On the Line: pages 140-141](https://bc-labour-heritage-centre-store.myshopify.com/products/on-the-line-a-history-of-the-british-columbia-labour-movement)

[Day of Mourning: BC Schools Project](http://www.labourheritagecentre.ca/projects/domschoolsproject)

[Lesson Plans:  Workplace Health & Safety](http://www.labourheritagecentre.ca/educate/lesson-plans) (Asbestos, Babine Lake and Westray Mines)

**Vignette Questions**

1. Why did WCB deny the Zucco claim?
2. How did this illness affect the entire family?
3. What methods did Bea Zucco and the family employ to achieve justice?
4. Why did Bea continue her campaign after her husband died?
5. Did the fact that Bea Zucco was a mother affect her activism?  Explain.

**Lesson Activities**

1. Teachers will need to explain that the Workmen’s Compensation Board was changed to its new operational name WorksSafe BC in 2005.
2. Students can read the brief biography (Lesson Activity 1) prior to the viewing of the vignette, Bea Zucco and then proceed to the discussion questions contained in the lesson activity individually or in small groups.

Credit: Teaching Activities and Lesson Plan developed by Dan Blake