

# The Face of Workplace Tragedy





Association for Workplace Tragedy Family Support

Threads of Life is a national charity, dedicated to helping Canadian families living with the outcome of a workplace fatality, life-altering injury, or occupational disease.



#### **Our Mission**

Our mission is to help families heal through a community of support and to promote the elimination of life-altering workplace injuries, illnesses and deaths.

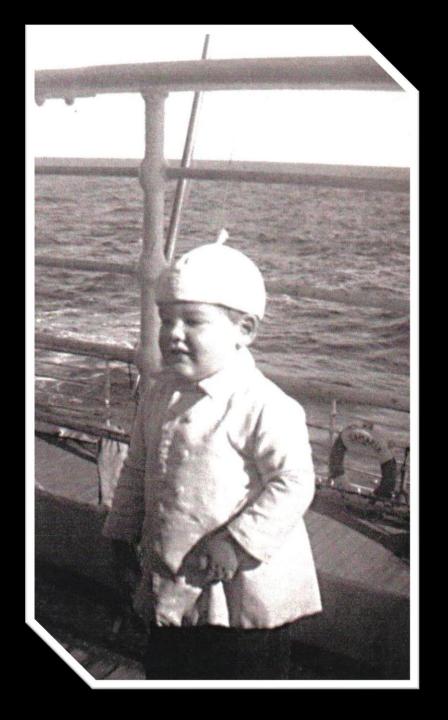




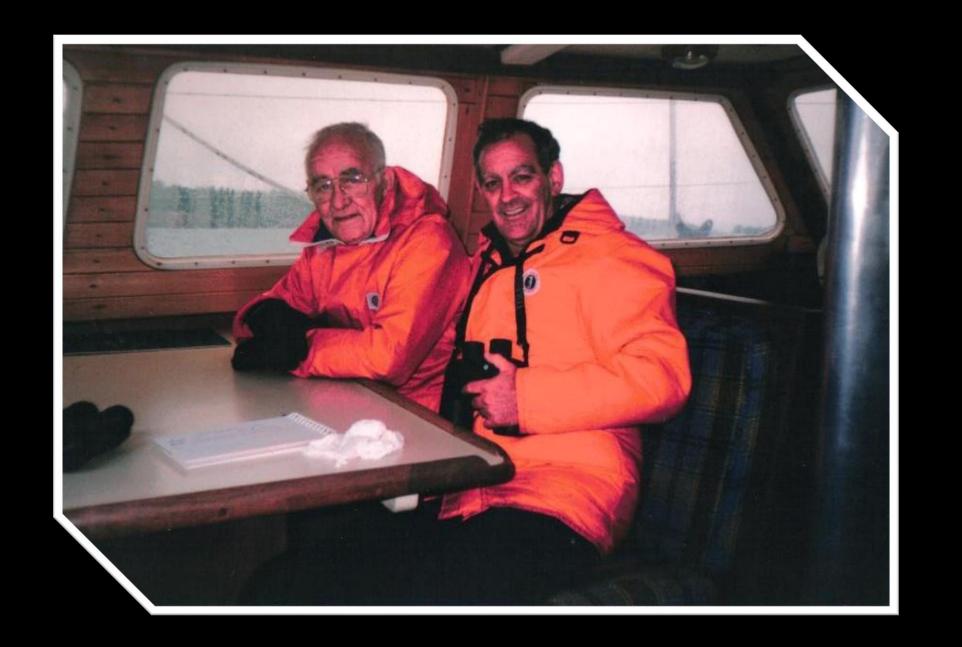
#### **Our Vision**

Threads of Life will lead and inspire a culture shift as a result of which work-related injuries, illnesses and deaths are morally, socially and economically unacceptable.

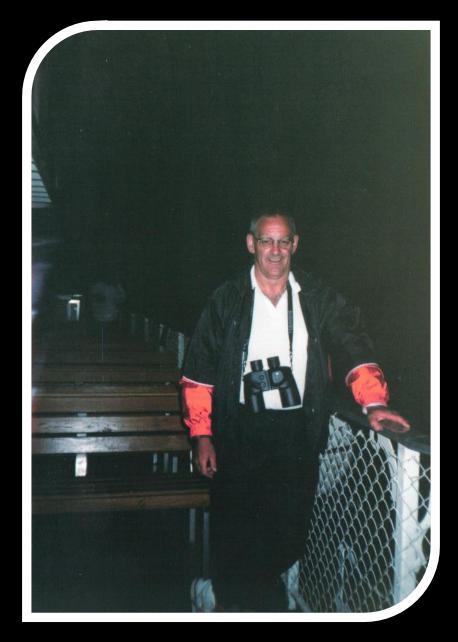




Robert
"Sea Wolf"
Nesbitt



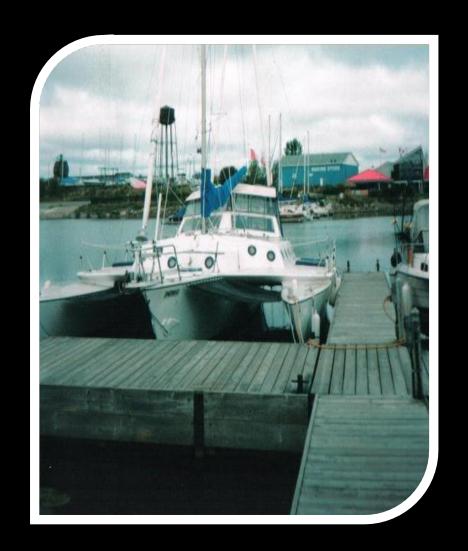




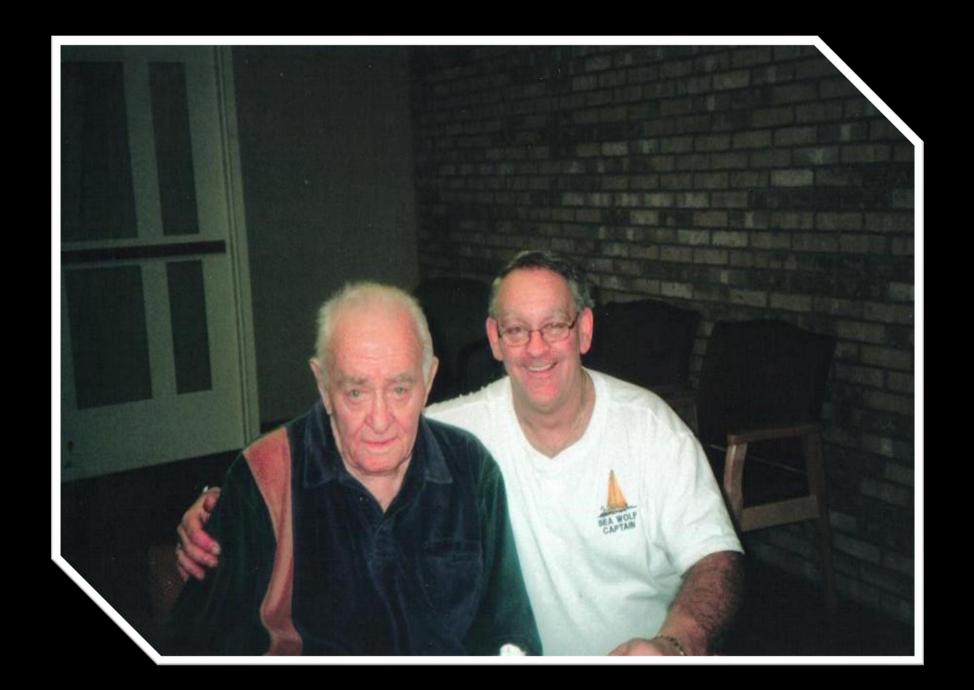


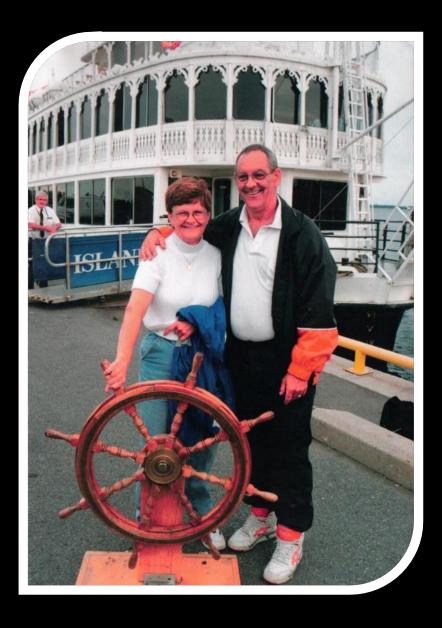
Avid Sailor



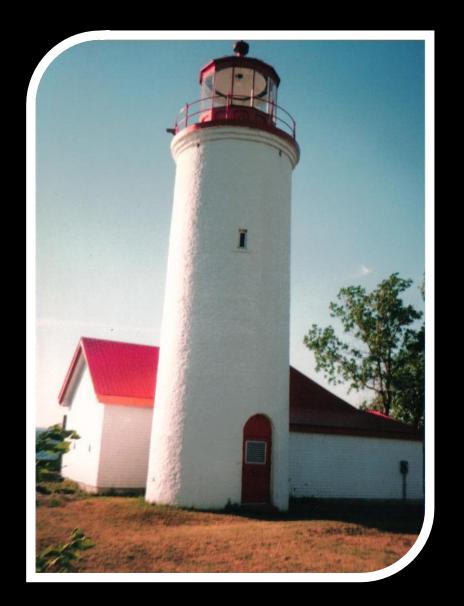


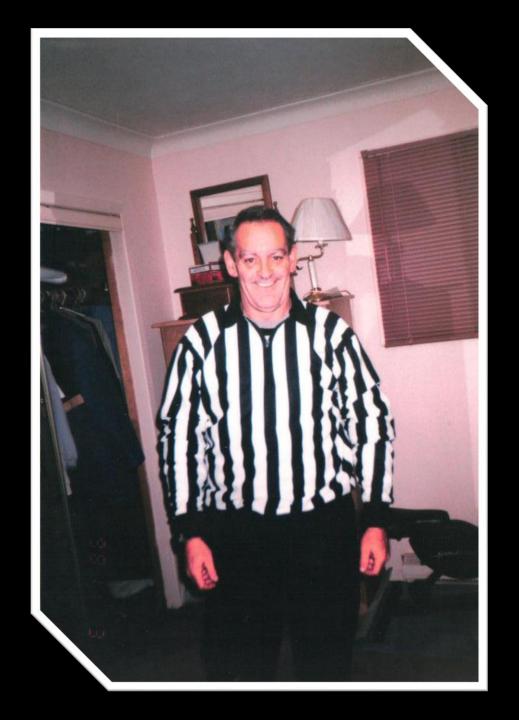
"The hardest thing we had to do after his death was sell his boats....his dream..."





#### Kingston, Ontario





"Hero of the week...
now this hero is
gone..."

# Veteran miner killed at Stobie Mine

#### BY HEIDI ULRICHSEN

HEIDI@NORTHERNLIFE.CA

A father of four with more than 37 years of mining experience was killed at Inco's Stobie Mine Monday.

The company has confirmed 57-year-old Robert Nesbitt was operating a remote control scoop tram from a concrete platform at the 2,600-foot level when the accident occurred.

He was found beneath the platform, which is about four feet off the ground, by a co-worker



NESBITT

at approximately 10 am, and later pronounced dead at St. Joseph's Health Centre.

"The most important thing from our perspective is

that the family is supported. Obviously, our condolences go to family

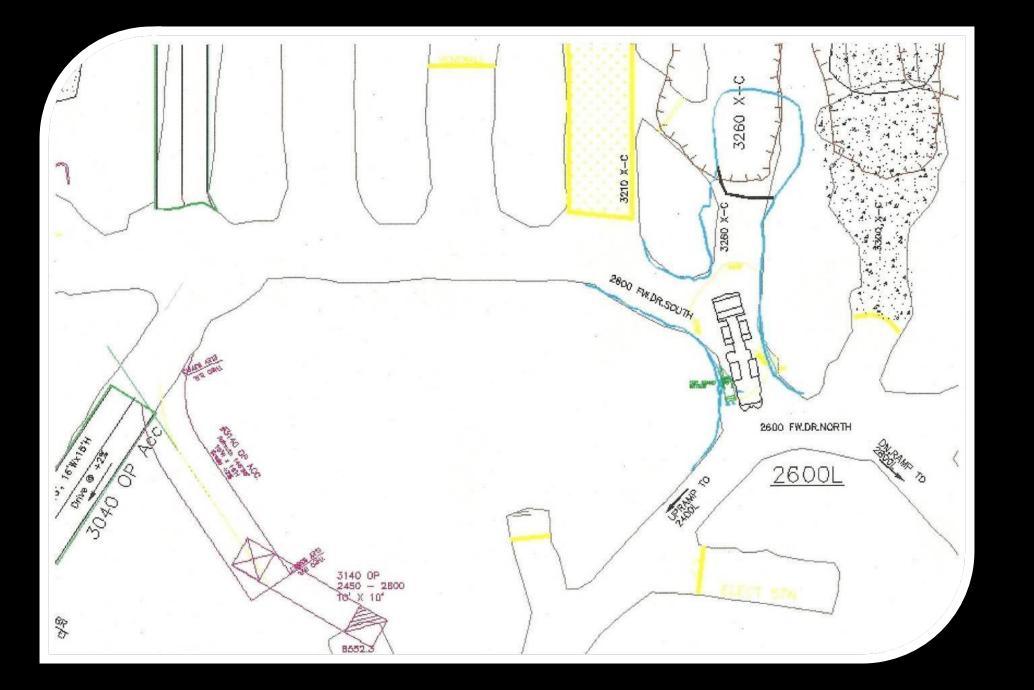
and friends and colleagues," sai Mark Cutifani, Inco's presiden of North America and Europe who spoke to reporters Monday a a press conference at the Coppe Cliff Club.

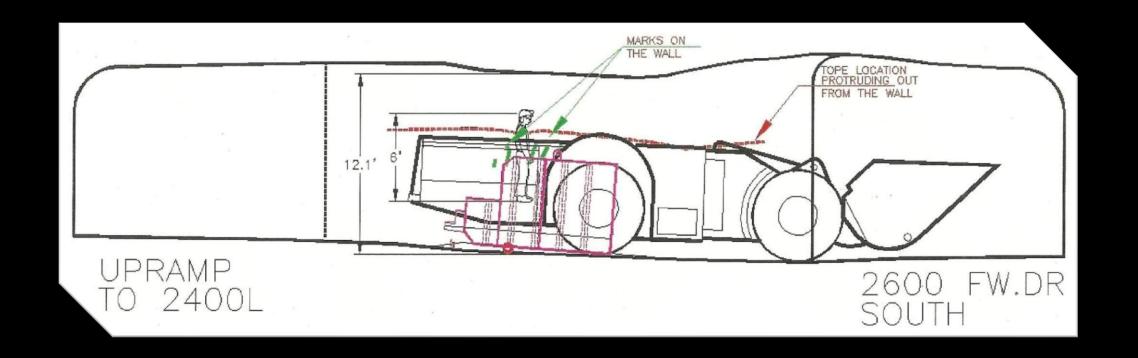
The platform Nesbitt wa standing on at the time of the acc dent was protected by a three-foo tall metal barrier. It is believed the scoop tram may have hit the plat form, causing the miner to fall off

"That's all we know at thi

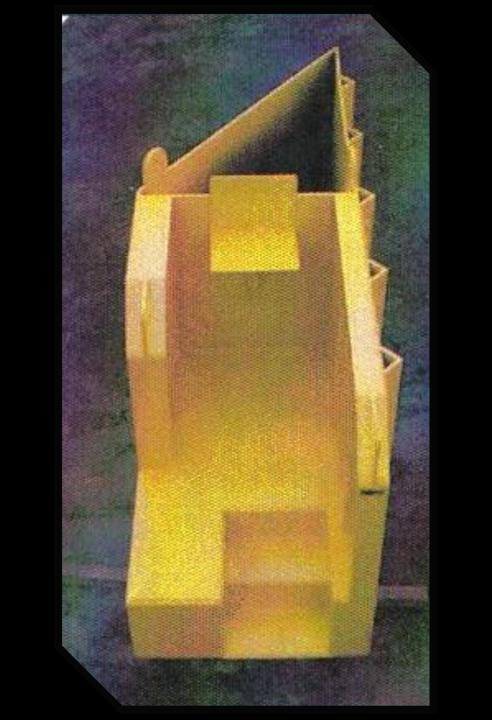
See VETERAN, Po

March 6<sup>th</sup>, 2006 10:06 am





#### Scoop Tram







### Juror wants to honour victim

#### Robert Nesbitt died when scoop tram toppled tower he was on

BY BOB VAILLANCOURT

The Sudbury Star

Any new procedures or practices initiated at Vale Inco operations as the result of a coroner's inquest into Robert Nesbitt's death should be named in his honour, a juror at the inquest recommended Thursday.

Nesbitt, 57, died March 6, 2006, at Vale Inco's Stobie Mine after a scoop tram he create their own personal was operating snagged on the raised platform he was on, pulling the two-ton stand on top of him.

The juror suggested the move would not only preserve Nesbitt's memory, but also remind workers to be careful, and there was a reason for the new practice.

Nesbitt's daughters, Sara Purvis and Lisa Kadosa, said

they were moved to tears because of the gesture.

Purvis and Kadosa said they "got pretty emotional" when that was done. They had no indication it was going to happen, they said.

After their father died, hisdaughters went to the Stobie Mine gate and posted a picture of him along with a floral tribute.

They not only wanted to memorial to their father, but a reminder to other workers to be careful, Purvis said.

see him" and remind them that even after 30 years on the job accidents can happen, she said.

Steve Ball, manager of coring the ore to an ore pass. porate affairs at Vale Inco. said the company would certainly look at ways to imple-

ment the suggestion to honour Nesbitt.

The inquest has been told Nesbitt was using the scoop to transport ore on the mine's 2,600-foot level to an ore

Because of the danger of falling ore, the scoop tram operator would guide the machine by remote control into the ore pile, while standing 40 or more feet away on a raised platform.

Once the bucket of the scoop tram was loaded, the operator would back it to his "I just wanted the guys to remote stand, bringing the machine close enough so that he could step from the stand to the machine and operate the machine manually, tak-

It appears that while moving the scoop tram close to the raised platform, it

snagged a sling or wire rope attached to the stand.

The wire ropes are used to move the stand from place to place in the mine.

The jurors heard testimony at the three-day inquiry that since the accident, the stands are no longer moved. Instead, they are bolted and cemented into place to prevent their falling over.

Several Vale Inco officials also testified that since the accident, the type of remote control devices used to manipulate the scoop trams has been changed.

The five members of the jury adopted those changes in their formal recommendations and also made three recommendations dealing with improved communica-

The jury called for an end

to the practice of a worker simply keying his radio transmitter when acknowledging a radio communication. Instead, said the jury, the worker should be required to use verbal communication.

The jury asked that an audit team be formed to "assess also the effectiveness of all of the safety systems and to ensure that all of information relevant to the safety of a worker be made available to all operations."

The jury also recommended the provincial Ministry of Labour, "once advised of any significant incidents. near misses or health and safety best practice issues, make reports available to all of the industry in order to alert of possible hazards to their workforce."

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any new procedures or practices initiated at Vale Inco operations as the result of a coroner's inquest should be named in his honour...a juror at the inquest recommended"







Inukshuk and
Sailboat made with
Nickel Ore





Each worker and family member who has been affected by a workplace tragedy is a thread in the quilt of life.

Each thread, by itself, cannot stand alone, but when woven together provides strength.

Although we are individuals, we are also connected in the fabric of life.

## How you can help



Our goal is to ensure that everyone who could benefit from Threads of Life's programs will be aware of what we have to offer.



Help organize an event or support your employees' volunteer efforts.



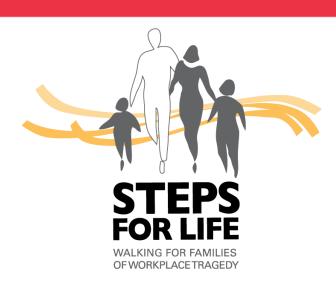
Help Threads of Life to get more people involved.



Help by donating, sponsoring, or hosting a fundraiser.

# Steps for Life







- Fun 5-km walks raising Health & Safety awareness and funds.
- Each spring in communities across Canada.
- Competition and team-building for corporate groups.



Robert "Sea Wolf" Nesbitt

November 20<sup>th</sup>, 1948 March 6<sup>th</sup>, 2006

57 years old









# Thank You for making a difference

For more information on how to support Threads of Life please contact us