

1 of those they regulate.

2 Third, the regulator must be accountable to workers
3 and to the community at large.

4 And, fourth, the process of regulation by which the
5 public interest is protected must be transparent and open
6 to public scrutiny at every level.

7 If these principles are embodied in your
8 recommendations, Mr. Commissioner, your report will be a
9 milestone in the evolution of occupational health and
10 safety in North America.

11 I want to begin my review of the evidence with the
12 evidence about the role of the regulators. And while we
13 appreciate the tone that Mr. Endres brought to his
14 presentation this morning on behalf of the Province, it's
15 simply not good enough to say we now know we could have
16 done better; we didn't properly implement the internal
17 responsibility system.

18 As one of the witnesses before you, Mr.
19 Commissioner, I believe it was Mr. Laffin said in his
20 testimony, "internal responsibility is basically common
21 sense."

22 We had laws in 1992, laws that would have prevented
23 this explosion and commonsense says they should have been
24 enforced. The evidence before you is that they were not
25 enforced and that's why we need to have a very close look