

To: Alberta Crown Prosecution Service, Alberta Justice and Solicitor General

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Re: R. vs Bradley Barton [Appeal No. 1503-0091-A. Docket No. 12029131Q1]

Date: Friday, April 3, 2015

Dear Sir or Madam,

The board of directors of Triple-X Workers' Solidarity Association of British Columbia wishes to register our support for the Crown's decision to file an appeal in the case R. vs Barton.

We are deeply concerned about the instruction to the jury regarding consent.

Court of Queen's Bench Justice Robert Graesser erred when he told the jury that Cindy Gladue's consent to provide services the first night she and Barton had sex in his hotel room "could be used to support a finding of honest but mistaken belief in consent" on the second night.

Evidence of prior provision of services is not an indication of future consent. Consent to provide services is not consent to assault.

Like with other commercial services, when providing sexual services, all individual acts are explicitly negotiated for a fee. This instruction by the judge could set a damaging precedent as it belittles triple-x workers' ability to consent. We feel this is a dangerous message to the public.

All workplace deaths — accidental or otherwise — deserve diligent scrutiny in order to protect the safety of workers in future. To leave the scene of a life-threatening accident without seeking medical aid is criminal.

Respectfully,



Andrew Sorfleet, President
Triple-X Workers' Solidarity Association of B.C.