

September 7, 2018

To: All CLC Affiliates

Sisters and Brothers,

Yesterday, I am told that each of you received a letter from members of Unite Here Local 75 staff that quite frankly is disturbing but is at the very least consistent with the defamatory allegations they have been leveling toward Unifor and the former leadership of Unite Here Local 75 which are currently before the courts in Ontario.

In late August our membership voted (by 99 percent) to support the National Executive Board decision to disaffiliate from the CLC.

Despite the desire of those who wish to vilify our union and label Unifor as a raiding union, our members know better and have not fallen for the same flawed messaging many others in the labour movement wish to perpetuate about our union.

Over the past many months, we have been in discussions with the CLC in an attempt to resolve the ongoing dispute without success.

At the core of this discussion is the autonomy of Canadian workers to chart their own course and the rights of Canadian Union members to belong to a union of their choosing.

Our movement continues to be influenced, and in many ways controlled by the decisions of those beyond our borders, and union members continue to be treated as chattel owned by their union. These are not principles our union believes in and we will not sit idle while these injustices continue.

The principled fight our union is engaged in is one to be celebrated and not vilified with lies and assertions that simply are not true.

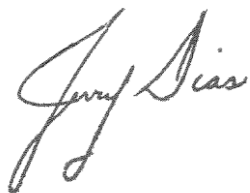
In an attempt to move toward resolve, Unifor is prepared to sit down with affiliate leaders with the following principles as guidelines for discussions.

1. Canadian workers, without interference by their U.S based union will make decisions related to the Canadian operation of their Union, including the election and appointments of Canadian representatives on International Executive boards.
2. Trusteeship of union locals will not be imposed for the purposes of quelling the dissent of workers seeking to change unions.
3. Affiliates will not interfere in the CLC Article 4 process. The CLC will have full access to affiliate members to conduct Article 4 investigations without interference or obstruction.

The three principles identified above are the basis for Unifor's position. Unifor has not and will not interfere in the membership of another affiliate that has not blatantly violated these principles.

Unifor remains committed to building a stronger and more fair labour movement. We remain willing to discuss our return to the CLC and ask that all affiliates consider our statement of principles and whether or not you can truly oppose the basis in which Unifor takes the positions we have.

In solidarity,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jerry Dias". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the typed name and title.

Jerry Dias
National President

JD:lmc/cope-343

cc: National Executive Board, Unifor Leadership, Unifor Locals, National Representatives