

1375, boul. St. Laurent Blvd., Ottawa, ON K1G 0Z7 (613) 237-1590, Fax/Téléc.: (613) 237-5508, cupemail@cupe.ca / courriel@scfp.ca / cupe.ca / scfp.ca

June 4, 2008

Hon. Stephen Harper Prime Minister House of Commons OTTAWA, ON K1A 0A6

## Dear Mr. Harper

On behalf of 570,000 Canadians, I am once again writing to implore your government to support InSite, Vancouver's Supervised Injection Site.

The evidence is clear that providing society's most vulnerable citizens with a safe injection site is critical to rehabilitation. It gives them a first point of contact with health care professionals who can help them get off drugs. This is the most important step that can be taken.

Not providing this assistance means these mostly homeless, poor citizens return to filthy conditions on the street where many die. InSite has been proven to save lives.

The Canadian Union of Public Employees supports efforts at harm reduction like InSite because we think addiction is an illness and people with that illness need our help, not our blame.

We applaud the recent ruling of the BC Supreme Court which found that Canada's Controlled Drugs and Substances Act is inconsistent with the Charter in regards to criminalizing use of the InSite. We urge you to let this decision stand and refrain from appealing the decision.

Sincerely,

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PAUL MOIST National President

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PAUL MOIST - National President / Président national CLAUDE GÉNÉREUX - National Secretary-Treasurer / Secrétaire-trésorier national

MARIO GERVAIS - DONALDA MacDONALD - BARRY O'NEILL - KEVIN REBECK - PATRICK (SID) RYAN - General Vice-Presidents / Vice-présidents généraux

