

September 14, 2009

TO ALL CUPE LOCAL PRESIDENTS, PLEASE MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO DISTRIBUTE THIS IMPORTANT LETTER TO YOUR RETIREES

TO ALL CUPE RETIREES

Dear Sisters and Brothers:

I hope this letter finds you well and enjoying having retired from the hustle and bustle of your years of working life.

I am writing today to share information about an important initiative CUPE is working on regarding pensions, and to encourage you to become involved.

At our National Convention this fall we will be bringing a resolution to chart a new course for pensions by lobbying provincial and federal governments to make bold new changes that will secure pensions for all workers.

We are fighting this on behalf of all current CUPE members and those of you who have reached retirement, including:

- Defined benefit pension plans to be a mandatory condition of employment;
- Expansion and improvement of the Canada Pension Plan/Quebec Pension Plan such that secure defined pension benefits are available to more Canadians and the benefits are increased;
- Improvements to Old Age Security;
- Portability of pensions plans and protection of plans when employers go out of business;
- Convening a national pension summit to develop a serious program for restructuring the Canadian pension system.

CUPE is working with our labour and social justice partners on these objectives; and we are hoping you too will get involved. The Canadian Labour Congress (CLC) and its affiliates have developed a comprehensive action plan on pensions and CUPE is proud to take action on behalf of our current and retired members.

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As we may well face a federal election this fall, lobbying efforts will continue to make pensions a key issue in the campaign. If you're not already plugged into the NDP, I encourage you to contact your riding association to add your voice to the call for adequate pensions and employment insurance.

The CLC is organizing a series of campaign training sessions in a number of cities across the country, and I have attached that list here for your consideration. It would be great if you could attend a session when it comes to your area.

Finally, I want to let you know that we've increased our financial support to the Congress of Union Retirees of Canada (CURC). They are an energetic and committed group of retirees, who are always looking for more involvement. Please get in touch with them to find out more about the chapter in your area. You can email them at curc@clc-ctc.ca or phone 613-526-7422.

Our CUPE retirees deserve to enjoy their time after they have left their workplaces without concern of their pensions being under attack. Your voice is important and your actions could help us in our work.

It will take the efforts of thousands of Canadians to get governments in all parts of the country on side and to adopt plans to stimulate the economy and to create and protect jobs, pensions and public services. Please be a part of it.

In solidarity,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Paul Moist". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

PAUL MOIST
National President

c.c.: Claude Généreux

Att.

:mlb/cope491

CLC PENSION CAMPAIGN TRAINING SESSIONS

September 9, 2009

Region/City	Training Session	Date(s)	Location	Particulars	Contact Info
ATLANTIC					
Moncton, NB	Pension Lobby Training Session	Mon., Sept. 28, 2009	Holiday Inn Express 2515 Mountain Road Moncton, NB	1:00 - 4:00 pm	Jean-Claude Basque 506-851-7086 or jcbasque@clc-ctc.ca
Dartmouth, NS	Pension Lobby Training Session	Wed., Sept. 30, 2009	Holiday Inn Harbourview 101 Wyse Road Dartmouth, NS	9:00 am - 1:00 pm	Tony Tracy 902-429-8868 or ttracy@clc-ctc.ca
St. John's, NL	Pension Lobby Training Session	Fri., Oct. 2, 2009	Holiday Inn Portugal Cove Road St. John's, NL	9:00 am - 1:00 pm	Mary Shortall 709-726-8745 or mshortall@clc-ctc.ca
ONTARIO					
London, ON	Pension Campaign Training Session	Mon., Sept. 28, 2009	Tolpuddle Common Room 380 Adelaide Street North London, ON	7:00 - 9:30	Sandi Ellis 519-432-4434 or sellis@clc-ctc.ca
Hamilton, ON	Pension Campaign Training Session	Tues., Sept. 29, 2009	USW Hall 1031 Barton Street East Hamilton, ON	6:30 - 9:00 pm	Mehdi Kouhestaninejad 416-441-3710 or mkouhestaninejad@clc-ctc.ca
Oshawa, ON	Pension Campaign Training Session	Wed., Sept. 30, 2009	CAW 222 Hall (TBC) 1425 Phillip Murray Ave. Oshawa, ON	TBC	Gogi Bhandal 416-441-3710 or gbhandal@clc-ctc.ca
Sudbury, ON	Pension Campaign Training Session	Thurs., Oct. 1, 2009	Quality Inn (TBC) 390 Elgin Street South Sudbury, ON	TBC	Eddie Ste. Marie 416-441-3710 or estemarie@clc-ctc.ca

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PACIFIC					
Kamloops, BC	Southern Interior LC Conference	Sept. 25-26, 2009	Coast Canadian Inn 339 St. Paul Street Kamloops, BC	Fri., Sept. 25th (Boardroom) 5:30 pm - "Labour Forum on the Economy" (No-host bar) 6:00 pm - Dinner * includes affiliates as well as LC delegates Sat., Sept 26th (Room TBA) 9:00 am to noon LC Delegate Conference / Campaign Briefing	Orion Irvine 604-430-6766 or orvine@clc-ctc.ca
Victoria, BC	All Island LC Conference	Oct. 2-3, 2009	Coast Victoria Harbourside 146 Kingston Street Victoria, BC	Fri., Oct. 2nd (Fairfield Room) 6:00 pm - "Labour Forum on the Economy" (No-host bar) 6:30 pm - Dinner * includes affiliates as well as LC delegates Sat., Oct. 3rd (Fairfield Room) 9:00 am - noon LC Delegate Conference / Campaign Briefing	Iris Taylor 604-430-6766 or itaylor@clc-ctc.ca
Burnaby, BC	Pension Campaign Briefing Session	Mon., Oct. 5, 2009	Hilton Vancouver Metrotown 6083 McKay Avenue Burnaby, BC	Tiffany Room 6:00 pm - Registration (coffee/tea provided) 7:00 pm - Briefing Session	Ron Stipp 604-430-6766 or rstipp@clc-ctc.ca

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PRAIRIE					
Edmonton, AB	Pension Campaign Training Session	Mon., Sept. 28, 2009	Edmonton & District Labour Council 201-10425 Princess Elizabeth, Edmonton, AB	EDLC Boardroom 7:00 - 9:00 pm	Rh'ena Oake 780-483-1812 or roake@clc-ctc.ca
Saskatoon, SK	Pension Campaign Training Session	Tues., Sept. 29, 2009	RWDSU 2154 Airport Drive Saskatoon, SK	RWDSU Boardroom 7:00 - 9:00 pm	Darla Leard 306-525-6137 or dleard@clc-ctc.ca
Regina, SK	Pension Campaign Training Session	Wed., Sept. 30, 2009	United Way 1440 Scarth Street Regina, SK	UW Boardroom 7:00 - 9:00 pm	Darla Leard 306-525-6137 or dleard@clc-ctc.ca
Brandon, MB	Pension Campaign Training Session	Thurs., Oct. 1, 2009	Canad Inn 1125 - 18th Street Brandon, MB	Ambassador B Room 3:30 - 5:30 pm	Deborah Jamerson 204-947-9494 or djamerson@clc-ctc.ca