



October 21, 2009

James Smith
Canadian District Vice-President
United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America
807 - 5799 Yonge Street
Willowdale, Ontario
M2M 3V3

Dear Brother Smith,

Re: Disaffiliation of UBCJA from the Canadian Labour Congress

I have received a letter dated September 30, 2009 from the International General Secretary-Treasurer advising of the disaffiliation of the UBCJA from the CLC. If this is indeed the case, pursuant to the Constitution of the CLC, since you are the Ranking Officer of the UBCJA in Canada, I therefore require a letter from you advising of the disaffiliation.

If your union does disaffiliate from the CLC, it will be a sad end to a long history of active participation of the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America in the Canadian Labour Congress and its predecessor organization the Trades and Labour Congress, as well as provincial federations of labour and the district labour councils. Over the decades the UBCJA has played a very important role in labour campaigns, strikes and legislative actions. Your members will be missed in many of our federations and labour councils.

It is somewhat ironic that at a time when we are making major headway in legislative changes and programs that will benefit the members of your union, you decide not to continue to play a role and pay your fair share as the other affiliates do, to achieve legislative and policy enhancements that directly benefit your membership.

Recent amendments to bankruptcy legislation will protect the wages and benefits of carpenters as well as other workers. The advances we are making in apprenticeship programs, as illustrated by the recent government publication 'It Pays to Hire an Apprentice' would benefit carpenters, and the extra training funds in the Employment Insurance program, we convinced the government to allocate, would also be available to members of your union.

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In addition, for the past two years, we have spearheaded a campaign to prevent CLAC from expanding its membership base in the trades. There have been a number of successes in winning campaigns and votes against them. As well, since they are a direct threat to your union, it seems odd that you would not want to continue to work with us.

Jim, I believe that your decision to leave the CLC is not a good one for either your union or the Congress itself. There is a lot that we have accomplished and much more work to do. I am asking you to reconsider your decision.

However, if you do not reconsider and still wish to disaffiliate from the Canadian labour movement, I want to draw to your attention that the publicly reported membership of the UBCJA is more than 60,000 and you were paying per capita on behalf of only 30,000 members for all of 2008 and the first 3 months of 2009. You unilaterally reduced your per capita payments to the Congress to just 10,000 members for the period April to July.

You have outstanding arrears on your per capita for 20,000 members per month for April to July and for 30,000 members for the period August to the end of September.

In addition, you have failed to pay the per capita for the CLC building which was authorized by the Convention and the Executive Council. The total amount owing on the building is \$166,322 and the amount for your per capita on 30,000 members that is in arrears is \$98,000.

Please advise me when we can expect payment.

In solidarity,



Ken Georgetti
President

cc: Hassan Yussuff, Secretary-Treasurer, CLC
CLC Executive Committee
Phil Flemming, Canadian Vice-President, IBEW
Andris J. Silins, General Secretary-Treasurer, UBCJA