

September 27, 2017

To: Ontario Local Unions

Re: Solidarity Actions in Support of Bell Clerical Workers

Sisters and Brothers,

On Tuesday, October 3rd the nearly 5,000 Unifor members of the Bell Canada Clerical employees bargaining unit will begin negotiations for the renewal of their collective agreement. Behind the scenes Bell clerical workers build the country's largest telecommunications company, keeping people and companies all across Canada connected.

This is the first round of collective bargaining since the creation of Unifor for these workers. Our union has been very vocal about the loss of jobs in various sectors of the Canadian economy and in this round of bargaining, **Unifor will fight to address the erosion of jobs in the Telco sector.** For years now members have experienced a concerted strategy by Bell to cut costs and to erode their membership. Enough is enough!

For the first time ever, our union will enter Bell Clerical bargaining with the full presence of the caucus at the bargaining table. I along with Renaud Gagné-Quebec Director and Naureen Rizvi-Ontario Regional Director will be in attendance to set the tone and to lay out Unifor's expectations for a fair deal. Our message to Bell is clear and concise – it's time to end job erosion.

On the first day of negotiations, October 3rd, union members are asked to join me at an important solidarity action in the morning to distribute leaflets and a united message of solidarity to the members Unifor represents in Bell Clerical.

I invite you to join us for an important Solidarity Action at one of the following locations on Tuesday morning, as well as our rally that afternoon. Let's show the members in this Bell unit what solidarity looks like, Unifor style.

The locations and times for solidarity actions are listed below. I am asking for your support and the support of members in your Local to support this important round of negotiations at Bell. **Send a united message to say It's Time** to end the erosion of good jobs at Bell Canada!

SOLIDARITY LEAFLET LOCATIONS – morning of Tuesday, October 3rd

OTTAWA, represented by Local 6004

Point Persons: Peter Mackey and Véronique Prévost

Address for leafleting: 160 Elgin St., Ottawa

Meeting point: 160 Elgin St. - Entrance off of Gloucester St.

Time for leafleting: 7:30 a.m.-9:30 a.m.

MISSISSAUGA, represented by Local 6008

Point Person: Michelle Vatafu, Bell Creekbank Campus, Mississauga L4W 5R1

Addresses for leafleting: (1) 5115 Creekbank Rd; and (2) entrance on Eglinton Ave & Tahoe Blvd, Mississauga

Parking: street parking on Aimco Blvd.

Meeting point: Main parking entrance on Creekbank Rd. (for 5115/5099/5025 Creekbank) between Aimco Blvd. and Eglinton Ave. East.

Time for leafleting: 6:30 a.m.-9:00 a.m.

KITCHENER, represented by Local 6008

Point Person: Ralph Harris, Tyson Siddall

Address for leafleting: 575 Riverbend Drive, Kitchener

Meeting point: 575 Riverbend Drive, Kitchener

Time for leafleting: 7:30 a.m.-9:30 a.m.

SOLIDARITY RALLY – afternoon of Tuesday, October 3rd

We will also have a rally which will be attended by the entire bargaining caucus including myself, Renaud Gagné-Quebec Director, and Naureen Rizvi Ontario Regional Director from 3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. at 5025 Creekbank Road, Main Gate. Parking on Aimco Boulevard.

Thank you in advance for your support and solidarity – it makes an incredible difference!

In solidarity,



Jerry Dias
National President

JD:lmc/cope-343

cc: Bob Orr, Renaud Gagné, Naureen Rizvi, Assistants, National Representatives in Ontario