

April 28, 2013

Deputy Premier Thomas Lukaszuk
408 Legislature Building
10800 - 97 Avenue
Edmonton, AB T5K 2B6

Dear Honourable Lukaszuk:

The Alberta Federation of Labour is extremely concerned about how the Government's handling of the Remand Centre Strike, and how the situation is spinning out of control.

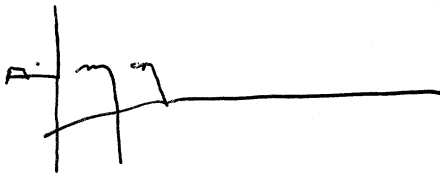
The government's response to this strike action has been un-nuanced, clumsy, unhelpful, and does not bode well for long-term labour peace in the province. On behalf of our 160,000 affiliated members, and working people across the province, we are disappointed that the government has been unwilling to address the legitimate safety concerns of the workers in Alberta's prisons.

These workers did the brave thing — the right thing — for demanding a safe workplace. The strike action they have taken is not one that they have taken lightly, or without due consideration. They have the support of their co-workers at prisons across the province, and the support of the workers in other roles at these prisons.

In short, the people who actually understand what it means to work in a prison are telling the government something, and the Redford government needs to listen. The government needs to stop focusing on bullying workers and start focusing on their concerns about health and safety, which are legitimate. If they do that, this situation will be resolved.

I look forward to your reply. I can be reached directed at 780-218-9888.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Gil McGowan', followed by a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Gil McGowan, President
Alberta Federation of Labour

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