



Canada Employment and Immigration Union
Syndicat de l'Emploi et de l'Immigration du Canada

December 21, 2018

BY EMAIL: justin.trudeau@parl.gc.ca

The Right Honourable Justin Trudeau
Prime Minister
House of Commons
Ottawa, ON K1A 0A6

Dear Mr. Trudeau:

The Canada Employment and Immigration Union (CEIU), a component of the Public Service Alliance of Canada (PSAC) represents the vast majority of unionized employees working at Employment and Social Development Canada (ESDC), Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada (IRCC) and the Immigration Refugee Board (IRB).

As you are aware, our members have been dealing with the Phoenix issues for almost three years now, with no real end in sight. Our members are dedicated public sector workers who continue to do their jobs every day with endless uncertainty if they will be paid for the public services that they provide to Canadians and future Canadians every single day.

Members of CEIU have been impacted by Phoenix and some have suffered major hardships yet, their Employer is still not ending this nightmare. It needs to stop. This cannot continue. How can the government, in this day and age, not pay their employees correctly, or even, for some, not pay them at all? CEIU members deserve better from their Employer and they should get their bi-weekly pays in the amounts owing for the work that they do week after week. My members need to know that the Employer will FIX IT, not just continue to put bandages on it.

This week, CEIU activists embarked on a campaign to send their employer a lump of coal this holiday season, and our members have been responding in huge numbers. Our members are fed up with their Employer. The CEIU National Executive Vice-President, Crystal Warner, and I as National President, have brought one lump of coal for each letter that we receive from our members in response to this campaign. At this rate, Santa's sleigh won't be big enough, but we will DELIVER the messages from our members to their Employer, along with hundreds of grievances.

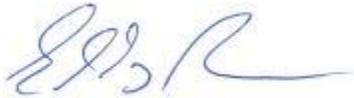
In the midst of Phoenix, our members are letting us know their huge discontentment with the federal Liberal government due to the lack of compensation and monetary gains being offered at the bargaining table. They are not asking for the moon, so don't just offer them dirt. This government should be ashamed of its lack of offer, after putting its employees through such a rough patch in the last few years. Your loyal employees have stayed the course, continuing to serve Canadians despite not being paid correctly if at all for over three years!! Our members are telling us that they are ready to walk and with the lack of bargaining, it seems that is where we are heading. Bad news for this government right before a federal election!

Is there still time for this government to make it right? Our members are not holding their breath, but maybe, just maybe, this government will have a heart and make it right.

I hope that we have your support to put pressure on the other Ministers and the Prime Minister and make 2019 extra special for your employees, our members.

As one member wrote: "T'was the night before Christmas and all through the house, not a person was eating, not even the mouse". This truly shows the hurt and the pain that Phoenix and the lack of monies being suggested at bargaining is having on your employees.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Eddy Bourque', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Eddy Bourque
National President

c.c. Crystal Warner, NEVP