



July 20, 2017

Mr. Mike Carr, Deputy Minister
Ministry of Labour Relations & Workplace Safety
300 – 1870 Albert Street
Regina, SK S4P 4W1

Dear Mr. Carr:

RE: Consultation on Interpersonal Violence and Employment Leaves

Thank you for the invitation to participate in this consultation process on interpersonal violence and the impact in the workplace. As indicated in our prior correspondence to Don Morgan, the Minister of Labour Relations & Workplace Safety, we see an imminent need for our government to address the crisis of domestic violence in Saskatchewan. While SEIU-West applauds the government's passage of Bill 67, *The Victims of Interpersonal Violence Amendment Act*, we would submit that this is a two part process, in that there is an additional need for critical supports for victims of domestic abuse to be provided by employers; we urge such supports to be mandated through legislation.

As we are certain you are aware, our Young Worker Committee (YWC) members have worked tirelessly with other allies in the community, including the Saskatchewan Federation of Labour (SFL) and Provincial Association of Transition Houses & Services of Saskatchewan (PATHS) to raise public awareness about domestic violence. Together, we see the need for improved workplace safety and secure funding for those agencies who provide necessary community supports for the victims of domestic violence. We are proud of the dedicated efforts of our YWC and their ongoing commitment to this cause.

The enclosed submissions are offered to you, on behalf of our YWC and SEIU-West. We hope that you will seriously consider the potential solutions we offer to address the significant problems experienced in Saskatchewan, as we currently have the highest rates of intimate partner violence among all Canadian provinces. We leave you with this thought: if these rates of intimate partner violence were affecting more men and not women, would we, as a government and as a society be so slow to assertively act to change this trend?

BARBARA CAPE
President

NEIL COLMIN
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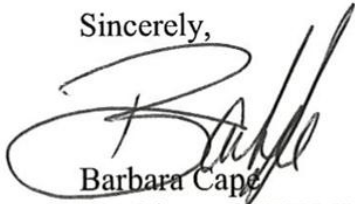
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Thank you for inviting our participation. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you should have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Barbara Cape', written over a circular stamp or seal.

Barbara Cape
President of SEIU-West

BC/js USW 5917

cc: Lori Johb, Secretary Treasurer, SFL
Crystal Giesbrecht, Director of Research and Communications,
PATHS
Hailey Johnson, Co-Chair, Young Workers Committee, SEIU-West
Janell Kachuik, Co-Chair, Young Workers Committee SEIU-West
David Forbes, Critic for Labour Relations and Workplace Safety, NDP
Nicole Sarauer, Critic for Justice, NDP
Executive Board, SEIU-West