



## **Statement by the Canadian Council of the Canadian Labour Congress**

**February 5, 2018**

The 55 unions represented on the Canadian Council of the Canadian Labour Congress (CLC) recognize without exception that when one of our affiliates is attacked, our movement is attacked.

Therefore, the CLC condemns, in the strongest possible terms, the decision and actions of the Unifor leadership to disaffiliate from the CLC and raid the members of UNITE HERE! Local 75 in the Greater Toronto Area. Raiding a union is a deplorable act that is irreconcilable with the principles of solidarity on which our movement was founded. The actions of Unifor are made worse when they defend their raiding activities with nationalist justifications and wholesale attacks on international unions.

Our Congress is made up of national, international and provincial unions from both the private and public sectors. The solidarity between these unions is where our movement derives its strength and integrity. The contribution to building our movement and defending workers' rights and human rights in Canada by our international affiliates cannot be discounted, disrespected, or dishonoured. The CLC will continue to value and defend all of our members from attacks on their unions regardless of whether they are provincial, national, or international.

It is this solidarity that has led to the enhancement of labour laws, expansion of the Canada Pension Plan, the comprehensive ban on asbestos, the creation of a Just Transition task force, the increase of the minimum wage in a number of jurisdictions, and the gains on leave for survivors of domestic violence, to name only a few.

The unions of the Canadian Labour Congress pledge to:

- Work together to protect our members from raids and organize the unorganized;
- Defend our members and their international unions from baseless attacks; and
- Recommit our efforts to the political action necessary to improve the lives of all workers.

The Canadian Labour Congress represents over 3 million workers and brings together Canada's national, international, and provincial unions along with the provincial and territorial federations of labour and 107 district labour councils, whose members work in virtually all sectors of the Canadian economy, in all occupations, in all parts of Canada.

Signed by,

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James Given President Seafarers' International Union of Canada (SIU)	James Jackson Director of Canadian Affairs Sheet Metal Workers' International Association (SMWIA)	Suzanne MacNeil President Halifax-Dartmouth and District Labour Council
Sam Hammond President Elementary Teachers' Federation of Ontario (ETFO)	Patricia Knight Teamsters Canada	George MacPherson President Shipyards General Workers' Federation of British Columbia (SGWBC)
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