

ASSOCIATION OF EMPLOYEES SUPPORTING EDUCATION SERVICES

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Proud Member of the Confederation of Canadian Unions

October 19, 2022

President Geoff Dawe
Public and Private Workers of Canada, Local 2
PO Box 370, 1616 Chaplin Street
Crofton, British Columbia
VOR 1R0

Dear Geoff,

It was great to connect with you again this past weekend in Vancouver at our meeting of the Confederation of Canadian Unions (CCU-CSC) Executive Board meeting. The opportunity to work with our sisters and brother unions across Canada is always a rewarding experience. We get to share the experiences of our members and learn from each other even though we are in different provinces and industries.

I was disheartened when you shared with us Local 2's difficulty negotiating a fair deal but also the shocking and disreputable behaviour of the Paper Excellence in your negotiations. You explained how your mill has done well and been profitable through the extraordinary efforts of your members. Overtime shifts on occasion may sound good in the short term, but in the long term, that is time away from friends and family and can lead to physical and mental burn-out. A workforce that is the right size for the job is good for worker's health, the community and the employer in the long run.

I now understand that you have held a strike vote of your membership, and 99% support holding Paper Excellence to provide a fair deal for the workers at the Catalyst Crofton Paper Mill. I hope that you can achieve a fair and equitable resolution with minimal disruption to member's lives and the operation of the Crofton Paper Mill.

AESES stands in solidarity with PPWC Local 2 and is prepared to honour our commitments as members of the Confederation of Canadian Unions should an affiliate go on strike. Please share this letter with your membership and Paper Excellence to know that the 3,100 members of AESES in Manitoba support your fight for a fair and equitable wage and personal health and safety.

In Solidarity,

Chris McCann, President AESES

Cc: Kelly Johnson, President, Confederation Canadian Unions (CCU-CSC) Chris Wasilenchuk, President, Construction Maintenance and Allied Workers (CMAW) John Wabb, President, Canadian Union of Skilled Workers (CUSW) Sonny Day, President, York University Staff Association (YUSA) Shelby Kennedy, President, Nova Scotia Union of Public & Private Employees (NSUPE) Rosa Borreggine, President, Canadian Overseas Telecommunications Union (COTU)