National Office 205 Placer Court Toronto, ON M2H 3H9



Bureau national 205 Placer Court Toronto, Ontario M2H3H9

Jerry Dias National President Président National **Renaud Gagné** *Quebec Director Directeur Québécois* **Peter Kennedy** National Secretary-Treasurer Secrétaire-trésorier national

August 4, 2015

UNIFOR LOCAL UNION PRESIDENTS AND FINANCIAL SECRETARIES

Greetings,

Re: 2015 FEDERAL ELECTION FINANCING

Political Contributions by Unions Prohibited

Trade unions, corporations and unincorporated organizations are prohibited from making political contributions in federal elections. Accordingly, Local Unions must not make any donation of money, services or goods to a political party, nomination contestant, candidate, or riding association. Individuals are, of course, encouraged to contribute to the party or candidate of their choice subject to the individual contribution limits.

Work Release for Campaigning

Union members and union staff cannot be released for campaign work and be paid by the Union. Union members and union staff can use earned vacation, banked overtime or unpaid leave for campaign work.

Communicating with our own Members

Unifor members and staff can communicate with our own members. Any materials to be distributed to our membership about the election should be approved by the Office of the National Secretary-Treasurer. This will ensure that Unifor does not violate the very strict rules in the *Elections Act*. Those rules restrict what third parties can do during an election campaign. Third party advertising is restricted.

Volunteering

Members are encouraged to be involved in the electoral process and to volunteer their time working on campaigns. Volunteer labour, done outside of working hours, continues to be permitted under the *Canada Elections Act*.

If you have any questions, please contact Rolly Kiehne at 416-495-6562 or Patty Barrera at 416-718-8443 in the Political Action Department.

In solidarity,

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JERRY DIAS National President

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cc: Peter Kennedy, Assistants, National Executive Board, National Representatives

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