



Justin P.J. Trudeau

Leader of the Liberal Party of Canada
Chef du Parti libéral du Canada

April 22, 2015

Cathie Fraser
Research Council Employees' Association
P.O. Box 8256
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Ottawa, ON. K1G 3H7

Dear Cathie Fraser and Members of Research Council Employees' Association,

I am writing to you today regarding a pressing issue facing Canada's labour movement. As you are aware, Stephen Harper's Conservatives in the Senate have revived Bill C-377: *An Act to Amend the Income Tax Act*, and have scheduled hearings to take place later this month.

Stephen Harper and his government claim that this bill is an initiative to ensure both transparency and accountability; Liberals firmly disagree. Bill C-377 singles out unions and places an unfair administrative burden on them. This bill, as well as Bill C-525 – which would drastically alter how unions can be formed and dissolved – are ideological and highly partisan pieces of legislation which serve no demonstrable public good nor necessary policy objective. I believe, in fact, that these bills were designed as a direct attack on unions, meant to diminish and weaken the labour movement in our country.

It is for these reasons that the Liberal Caucus, voted against both C-377 and C-525 in the House of Commons. Should the Liberal Party of Canada form the next government, we are committed to repealing both bills.

Liberals fundamentally believe that unions have, and continue to play an integral role in the growth and perpetuation of the middle class in this country. It is my strong desire to continue work in partnership with labour unions across Canada to ensure that every Canadian has a real and fair chance at success.

Should you have any further questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact my office at Justin.Trudeau@parl.gc.ca, or Liberal Labour Critic, Rodger Cuzner at Rodger.Cuzner@parl.gc.ca.

Sincerely,

Justin P.J. Trudeau
Member of Parliament for Papineau

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