



December 14, 2010

Madame Hélène Laurendeau  
Assistant Deputy Minister  
Compensation and Labour Relations  
Treasury Board of Canada  
400 Cooper Street  
Ottawa, Ontario  
K1A 0R5

Dear Madame Laurendeau;

Earlier this fall, the Canadian Association of Professional Employees (CAPE) was invited, as were all other bargaining agents, to exploratory talks with a view to reopening the collective agreement of its EC group. The agreement is up for renewal in June 2011.

At that time, Claude Danik, our Chief Negotiator, agreed with his counterpart from the Treasury Board to meet at the bargaining table in January 2011. Our presence at the bargaining table was conditional to the decision of CAPE's EC Collective Bargaining Committee.

The EC Collective Bargaining Committee met last week to consider the current context of the membership, the content of the Collective Agreements ratified as a result of "expedited bargaining", but most importantly, input from CAPE members: CAPE asked members of the EC Bargaining Unit to provide input for the bargaining table in the context of what was happening at other tables.

The message from our members is quite clear: the situation of ECs in the Federal Public Service is very different from that of their colleagues of other Bargaining Units, and any offer from their employer at the bargaining table should reflect that difference. CAPE members are now aware of the offers made to their colleagues of other Bargaining Units. CAPE members have informed their Bargaining Committee that they are in no way interested in these terms, nor are they interested in going to the bargaining table prematurely to negotiate similar terms.

In conclusion, we are advising you that CAPE is no longer interested by exploratory talks. CAPE looks forward to sitting down with Employer representatives according to the regular bargaining schedule in 2011 for the EC Bargaining Unit.

Regards,

The EC Collective Bargaining Committee

Claude Poirier  
National President

Gabriel Breton

Marcy Holyk

Barbara Townsend-Batten

Michael Zinck