



CANADIAN
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OF NURSES
UNIONS

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February 10, 2023

Bea Bruske
President
Canadian Labour Congress
2841 Riverside Drive
Ottawa, ON K1V 8X7
By email: bbruske@clctc.ca

Dear Sister Bruske,

I am writing today about the Canadian Federation of Nurses Unions' (CFNU) participation at the upcoming Canadian Labour Congress (CLC) Convention, May 8-12 in Montreal.

I am disappointed to be writing, that given the uncertainty facing CFNU and our relationship with the CLC, our National Executive Board has decided that we will only be sending a small delegation to the Convention. CFNU Board members and key staff will be our only delegates to the upcoming CLC Convention. Normally hundreds of our key activists and members from across the country would attend. Considering current tensions with other affiliates we would not want to put rank and file nurses in a situation where they may feel disrespected and unwelcome in the broader labour movement.

CFNU is proud to have recently welcomed the BC Nurses' Union (BCNU) into the Federation. The leadership of BCNU is now a member of our Board and will be in attendance at the CLC Convention. Having a larger stronger national voice for Canada's nurses is critical given the challenges our members are up against. In addition, our work continues with Quebec Nurses represented by the Fédération interprofessionnelle de la santé du Québec (FIQ).

The pandemic has been devastating for health care workers and we are facing an acute crisis within the nursing community. The nursing shortages across the country have meant our members are tired, overworked and frankly fed up. Uniting nurses across the country to amplify our voice to key federal and provincial decision makers has never been more important.

Nurses are proud to be members of the broader labour movement and are active across the country supporting fellow unions, federations of labours and advocating for workers rights and human rights. We very much want to remain part of the labour family.

I will be communicating our decision regarding CLC Convention attendance to our members through our provincial organizations shortly.

In Solidarity,

Linda Silas, CFNU President

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