



January 25, 2006

The Honourable Jack Layton
Leader of the New Democratic Party of Canada
Room 639-C
House of Commons
Ottawa, Ontario, K0A 1L0

Dear Brother ~~Layton~~ *Jack*:

Congratulations on a major victory and a great election campaign. You have a great caucus for support and I believe the NDP will play a major role over the next couple of years as it did in the last Parliament.

A combination of a campaign that focused on issues of importance to Canadian workers and the CLC efforts in Better Choice 2006 contributed, not only to putting the NDP and Labour's issues in the agenda but, to electing many new members.

I think you can be justly proud that 8 of the 11 new members of Caucus are women. Also, that you have increased the representation of union members in the Caucus.

I have also written the other party leaders and emphasized to them that they must pay attention to our issues:

- protecting health care from those interested in private profits and expanding medicare to cover home care and provide catastrophic drug protection;
- ensuring workers have their pensions protected from bankruptcy and that employers pay the pension earned;
- making economic equality for women a reality;
- standing up for workers' rights and anti-scab legislation;
- providing education and training for working families; and
- creating new jobs and protecting existing jobs with decent wages and benefits.

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I look forward to sitting down with you soon to discuss moving forward on the issues and in what ways the Canadian Labour Congress can continue to support you and the NDP.

I am also looking forward to meeting the entire NDP Caucus at a reception during an upcoming meeting of the CLC Executive Council.

Congratulations to both Olivia and you Jack, and let's keep up the good work.

In solidarity,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'K. Georgetti', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Kenneth V. Georgetti
President

cc: Executive Council