Newfoundland and Labrador
Federation of Labour

Mary Shortall, President
Jessica McCormick, First Vice-President
Bert Blundon, Secretary-Treasurer
Arlene Sedlickas, General Vice-President

September 14th, 2017

Dennis Davies, Hotel General Manager
Sheraton Hotel NL
115 Cavendish Square
St. John's, NL
A1C 3K2

Dear Mr. Davies,

As President of the Newfoundland and Labrador Federation of Labour (NLFL), I attended a demonstration outside your hotel yesterday, along with the President of NAPE. The demonstration, was hosted by unionized workers in the federal government, represented by their union the Public Service Alliance of Canada (PSAC), whose members have not received their proper pay in over a year. This is a national issue, and they were there because their employer, and Prime Minister, was attending meetings in your hotel.

Although this was a peaceful, rallying request for their issue to be resolved, one which is recognized and permitted under our laws, you immediately asked them to leave your property. In fact, I understand from one of the participants at the meeting, that this was a decision by you, and not the Liberal Cabinet and their group.

We understand the importance of public safety, and public access, and the PSAC were respectful of this at their rally. We have held rallies there in the past, and have never had problems.

I would like to remind you, that the labour movement in this province has supported your hotel for many years - our Federation of Labour hosts its conferences, conventions and meetings there; as do many of our member unions like NAPE, and others.

We are very disappointed, even though the unions in Newfoundland & Labrador are extremely loyal customers of your hotel, you nonetheless chose to disregard all that, and not honour workers' right to peacefully protest.

I would respectfully ask that in future, in a similar situation, you might consider our contribution to your bottom line before you act so quickly.

Sincerely,

Mary Shortall
President, Newfoundland & Labrador Federation of Labour

CC.   Colleen Coffey, Regional Executive VP Atlantic, PSAC
      Corina Harding, Regional Representative, PSAC
      Jerry Earle, President NAPE

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