



NEGOTIATIONS 2013 NÉGOCIATIONS



Dorchester
Penitentiary,
June 21, 2013

JULY



We will finish this fight

UCCO-SACC-CSN begins to elevate pressure tactics in response to federal attacks

The ramp-up in mobilization efforts in the weeks following the insulting June 4 negotiation meeting with Treasury Board continues, despite a flooding-related setback in Calgary during the Canada Day long weekend.

Members of UCCO-SACC-CSN should be proud of their 94% participation rate across the country in the hat tactic June 21. Coast to coast, our members stepped up and demonstrated the meaning of solidarity in the face of the Conservative government efforts to weaken our working conditions and to compromise the safety of correctional officers and the public.

Thousands of members donned their white "Securing Our Future" caps at exactly the same time across Canada, defying orders to remove it until our point had been made. Our members have made it clear that this round of negotiations must secure our working conditions, our safety, and the security of the institutions we work in.

This was a spectacularly successful mobilization activity, and UCCO-SACC-CSN will continue to need the support and participation of every member if our union is to achieve its goals in the face of the implacably anti-union government that currently rules in Ottawa.

In Atlantic region, members are ensuring that the Conservative Party is hearing the message, with two successful mobilization events outside MP Scott Armstrong's offices in Truro and Amherst, Nova Scotia, on June 24 and July 10.

Other tactics are less visible. On June 14, the union sent letters to Conservative Party of Canada supporters who contributed large donations (\$500 or more) to government MPs who sit on the Parliamentary committee overseeing Treasury Board.

In it, we talked about the secondary effects of recent

crime legislation, institutional overcrowding and cuts to rehabilitation programming for inmates. We respectfully recognized the donors' desires for "safer streets and safer communities," which we share. But we pointed out that the government's actions would achieve exactly the opposite result: creating tougher criminals, more dangerous institutions and greater threats for the public once inmates are released into the community.

Finally, we called on these donors to question their MPs on this vital piece of the government agenda before they consider donating any more of their hard-earned income to a party that has lost touch with the public good. We are confident that several government MPs, not to mention the President of the Treasury Board of Canada, have received calls from influential party supporters about this letter.

In addition, members will have already noticed three stickers intended to highlight the attacks on correctional officers by Treasury Board negotiators, and in particular, of Treasury Board President Tony Clement.

While not aimed at CSC, the union feels it is important to remind members of the growing threat we are facing from the federal government and to leave a constant reminder of the crucial need for solidarity from all our members at this time.

We have seen the membership respond to the call. You have shown Treasury Board that federal correctional officers will do what it takes to defend their negotiating demands. The government is taking notice. Last week, Treasury Board scheduled a new negotiating session with the union for July 22, before the hearings at the Public Interest Commission take place July 31 and August 1.



June 24: Atlantic region demonstration at Conservative MP Scott Armstrong's office (photo: Truro Daily News)