

SEPTEMBER 2015

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A crucial vote

Dear UCCO-SACC-CSN members,

Over the last year and a half, we have carried out an information campaign denouncing Conservative policies. This government has made every effort to complicate our work. We know that Stephen Harper has compromised the health and safety of correctional officers by limiting our ability to refuse dangerous work. Meanwhile, we are faced with an increase in violence, higher levels of double bunking and closures of key institutions. The Harper government has slashed \$688 million from Public Safety budgets which includes \$355 million from CSC alone. Furthermore the Harper government has relentlessly attacked unions and workers' associations. As Election Day fast approaches and UCCO-SACC-CSN resumes negotiations, we believe the time has come for employer negotiators to receive their mandate from a new government.

In order to make an informed decision at the polls on October 19, we remind you that we asked the various political parties to answer four questions. These questions dealt with important issues affecting correctional officers. In light of the responses we received, the choice is clear.

POST-TRAUMATIC STRESS DISORDER (PTSD)

New Democratic Party (NDP) leader Thomas Mulcair stated that, if elected, his party would quickly put a program in place to help those suffering from this disorder.

For his part, Liberal Party of Canada (LPC) leader Justin Trudeau also promised to implement a mental health strategy for PTSD victims.

The Conservative Party refused to answer.

BLOOD SAMPLES ACT

Liberal leader Justin Trudeau agreed with the principle that a correctional officer attacked by an inmate should be immediately informed if that inmate carries a transmissible disease.

As for the New Democrats, Mr. Mulcair seemed to sympathize with correctional officers and committed to studying measures that could help improve the situation.

The Conservative Party refused to answer.

HEALTH AND SAFETY (C-4)

The NDP and Liberals are committed to getting rid of the Conservative's Bill C-4, which just changed the concept of "potential danger" to "imminent danger," making our work a lot more dangerous.

The Conservative Party refused to answer.

SICK LEAVE (C-59)

Thomas Mulcair formally committed to repeal Bill C-59, which imposes working conditions if we fail to find common ground on the issue with the government. The Conservatives are counting on this bill to gut our sick leave program. The NDP believes in a contract negotiated in good faith.

Justin Trudeau believes that the right to negotiate cannot be violated. He would not impose working conditions on us, but he did not commit to preserving our sick leave program in its current form.

The Conservative Party refused to answer.

SUPPORT OF OUR NEGOTIATIONS

A BBQ will take place on October 16 at every federal institution across the country. This BBQ will provide a forum for our members to discuss the pending election, and will highlight the fact that our negotiating team will be back at the table on October 20th. We ask all members to support our negotiations team and we hope that we will soon be facing a new government that is more open to negotiation.

Unity is the key!

RESPONSES TO UCCO-SACC-CSN QUESTIONNAIRE

	Blood samples	PTSD	Health & Safety	Sick Leave
	Agree	National action plan on PTSD	Repeal C-4	Respect of collective bargaining process
	Study the full range of possible improvements	Mental health support	Repeal C-4	Repeal provision of C-59
	Against blood samples act	Reduce PTSD by improving working condition	Repeal C-4	Respect of sick leave provisions
	No answer			
	No answer			