



B.C. Government and Service Employees' Union
A component of NUPGE (CLC)

October 31, 2012

*Via email only
original will not be mailed*

Mr. Bert Phipps
Assistant Deputy Minister
Box 9404, Stn Prov Govt
Victoria, BC V8W 9V1

Dear Mr. Phipps

Re: Ratification of the 16th Master Agreement

This will confirm our discussion on October 30th regarding news of the Professional Employees' Association [PEA] settlement pertaining to reimbursement of professional fees which has severely complicated our ratification of the Master Agreement. This has occurred because we were misled about reimbursement of professional fees. This was a priority issue for us for nine months, on the table until the last day when we settled. We were told that we could not obtain the 2011 fee schedule for reimbursement for several reasons, including:

- (1) it was too much money;
- (2) it would flow onto other tables;
- (3) PSEC was opposed to it; and
- (4) the Finance Minister was opposed.

It is now apparent that we were misled because the PEA were given the very item we sought, and more.

Additionally, we are considering an LRB application alleging bargaining in bad faith. Furthermore, we are trying to defuse many angry members, working alongside PEA members; this is a hot issue.

Our proposal to amend the tentative agreement is to provide full reimbursement of professional fees using the 2011 and 2012 fee schedules.

I regret this turn of events but the situation requires an immediate response to correct this. Our members believe they were lied to. We cannot abide this turn of events.

Yours truly

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "David Vipond".

David Vipond
Director

cc Master Bargaining Committee - via email

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