

April 22, 2008

Honourable Brad Wall
Premier
Legislative Buildings
Regina, Sask.
S4S 0B3

Dear Premier Wall:

**Re: Bills 5 & 6
Consultations with SFL**

It is with deep concern that I write this letter to you. In your letter of April 16th to Dale Lindemann of the Regina Labour Council you misrepresent your government's consultations with our organization. Was this deliberate or have you been given faulty information?

In your letter you state "Minister Norris has met twice with Saskatchewan Federation of Labour President Larry Hubich to discuss the legislation". This is just not true! While we have requested meetings I have met only once with Minister Norris to discuss Bills 5 & 6 and this was on February 6th when we presented him with our prepared brief on the legislation.

I did meet with the Minister shortly after his appointment and well before Bills 5 & 6 were introduced. This was a half hour meet and greet, with coffee, and had nothing to do with Bills 5 & 6.

You also state that "Government MLA's met with 17 representatives of the Saskatchewan Federation of labour on February 6, 2008 to receive further feed back on Bills 5 & 6." This statement is misleading.

The meeting took place on February 26, 2008 and came about as a result of our request to meet with you, your cabinet and caucus. Instead of meeting with us yourself you passed us off to your standing Policy Committee on Human Services. While Bills 5 & 6 were mentioned we also raised a number of other matters including Workers Compensation and Occupational Health & Safety to name just two. The meeting lasted one hour, your MLA's had few questions and at the end of the meeting stated they were unknowledgeable of the changes to labour legislation.

Your letter to Dale Lindemann clearly leaves the impression that your government has consulted with labour on Bills 5 & 6 in a meaningful fashion. This is just not the case. There is no doubt you have consulted widely with "business, and other affected groups such as universities and technical institutes to gather input" but you have not consulted with labour in the same fashion.

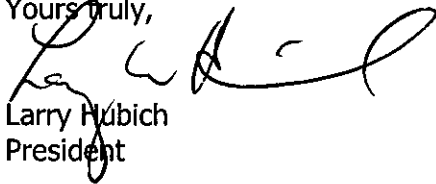
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Your letter is misleading in that it leaves the false impression that your government has gone out of its way to meet with labour. This is far from the truth and we would expect better from the Premier of our province.

We know for a fact that your government has been invited to debate Bills 5 & 6 at public meetings in Yorkton, Humboldt, Saskatoon, Regina and Prince Albert. While it seems you will defend your legislation at public meetings of business people you are not prepared to do so with workers who are most affected by this legislation. Why is your government so cowardly? What are you afraid of?

As Premier you should show respect for all citizens. It is apparent, even this early in your term of government, that such respect does not apply to working people and their democratic organizations.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Larry Hübich', written over the typed name.

Larry Hübich
President

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