

Unions and Associations of Employees and Retirees Determined To Win Their Pension Appeal Case

OTTAWA, January 29, 2008 – In conjunction with the Armed Forces Pensioners'/Annuitants' Association of Canada, the *Association des membres de la Police Montée du Québec*, the B.C. Mounted Police Professional Association and the Mounted Police Association of Ontario, eighteen bargaining agents representing all federal public service employees reached unanimous agreement at a meeting with legal counsel on January 23 to staunchly pursue their appeal of Mr. Justice de Lotbinière Panet's decision in the pension surplus case.

They showed unequivocal determination in taking their pension surplus appropriation case to the Court of Appeal for Ontario.

The stakeholders are firmly resolved to win this case even if it means taking it to the Supreme Court of Canada if necessary not only to rectify a flagrant injustice committed in 1999 by the government of the day, but also to prevent the Government of Canada and/or any other employer from abusing its authority so shamelessly ever again.

In a decision delivered on November 20, 2007, Ontario Superior Court Justice de Lotbinière Panet had dismissed the court challenge of the federal public service pension surplus dispute.

The eighteen bargaining agents, employees' associations and retirees' groups that together represent more than 300,000 members undertook this legal challenge in 1999, following passage of Bill C-78, the *Public Sector Pension Investment Board Act* that enabled the federal government to appropriate some 30.2 billion dollars from Public Service, RCMP and Canadian Forces pension funds.

The stakeholders are the following organizations:

Armed Forces Pensioners' / Annuitants' Association of Canada
Association des membres de la Police Montée du Québec
Association of Canadian Financial Officers (formerly known as the Association of Public Service Financial Administrators)
Association of Justice Counsel
B.C. Mounted Police Professional Association
Canadian Air Traffic Control Association, CAW Local 5454
Canadian Association of Professional Employees
Canadian Association of Professional Radio Operators CAW-TCA Local 2182
Canadian Federal Pilots Association
Canadian Merchant Service Guild
Canadian Military Colleges Faculty Association
Communications, Energy and Paperworkers Union of Canada Local 588-G
Federal Government Dockyard Chargehands Association

Federal Government Dockyard Trades and Labour Council (East)
Federal Government Dockyard Trades and Labour Council (West)
International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, Local 2228
Mounted Police Association of Ontario
Professional Association of Foreign Service Officers
Professional Institute of the Public Service of Canada
Public Service Alliance of Canada
Research Council Employees' Association
Union of Canadian Correctional Officers (UCCO-SACC-CSN).

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