



Angelo.

MAR 01 2012

Mr. Ken Lewenza  
President  
CAW-Canada  
205 Placer Court  
Toronto, Ontario  
M2H 3H9

Dear Mr. Lewenza:

Thank you for your correspondence of January 30, 2012, requesting to meet with me to discuss the implementation of optimum scheduling at Canadian Coast Guard (CCG) Marine Communications and Traffic Services (MCTS) centres. Unfortunately, I regret that I am unable to accept your kind offer to meet.

Optimum scheduling, formerly known as "minimum staffing," has been in place for over 10 years in the Quebec Region and for a number of years at the Victoria MCTS centre, without any impact on the level of safety services. Prior to deciding to expand the optimum scheduling to other centres, CCG carefully studied the MCTS workload, and completed a risk assessment that engaged employees and union representatives throughout the process.

The risk assessment concluded that optimum scheduling, with appropriate mitigating measures, provides the same level of services and does not impact public safety or the health of CCG employees. Throughout the study and planning phases of optimum scheduling, Canadian Auto Workers members contributed important information, engaged in workshop discussions, and fully participated in the risk assessment and management process.

No employees will lose their job as a result of the changes in scheduling procedures. This is an overtime management best practice that allows CCG to maximize efficiency while protecting the safety of mariners. MCTS centres will continue to provide the same level of service and support rescue coordination during periods of optimum scheduling.

.../2

CCG recognizes the importance of these safety services to Canadians. As such, I would like to reaffirm that maritime safety is, and will continue to be, the number one priority of CCG.

Thank you for taking the time to write.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Keith Ashfield". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "K".

Keith Ashfield