



LOCAL 1518

UNITED FOOD AND COMMERCIAL WORKERS UNION OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

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January 16, 2003

**ALL MEMBERS FORMERLY EMPLOYED AT
LOMAN WAREHOUSE**

Dear Brother:

As you know, from the letter we sent dated December 18, 2002, the Labour Relations Board (LRB) has dismissed all of our applications regarding Overwatea Food Group (OFG), EV Logistics, and Loman Warehousing.

The impact of these decisions has been devastating to all of us. Since receiving the LRB's decisions on December 17, 2002, the Union has completed a review of all options available to pursue the rights of the warehouse membership.

Based on this review, we are able to advise that we will be pursuing appeals of the three LRB cases through the courts. It is important that each member understand such appeals are not only a lengthy process, but very difficult to win, and that none of us should count on a successful outcome to these appeals. Warehouse members, if they have not already, should turn their attention to job searches and job training. Where possible, we will attempt to connect warehouse members with prospective employers. While the leafleting campaign has come to an end, computer course training and resume writing assistance continues to be available at the UFCW Centre in Surrey.

Loman's declaration of bankruptcy in late November has resulted in their failure to make contributions to benefits plans. The effect of this has been that benefits did not continue for as long as they could have and Pension Plan amounts have not yet been finalized. The Pension Plan administrator has been instructed to send out detailed calculations of all reserves, including the impact of making a transfer. This information should be sent in the next few weeks to all members.

(Accompanying this letter is an opinion from the Union's legal counsel regarding how the disbursement of Loman's assets by the appointed Bankruptcy Trustee should take place under the law.)

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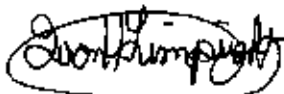
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This situation has been very difficult for all of us, and the LRB's decision to dismiss our cases was extremely disappointing. Based on all of the above, the decision was made to discontinue the leafleting campaign. At some point, the decision was going to have to be made to move forward, and although we did have some ongoing support for the leafleting campaign, it is quite clear that OFG is not prepared to offer any settlement. We know that the impact of our leafleting campaign on OFG's business and market share was significant. Even though we leafleted throughout the last months of 2002, which is always the most profitable time of year for the company, OFG refused to recognize the legitimate claims of our warehouse members for some measure of honourable treatment and justice.

We are very frustrated that we were not able to achieve more, but we have also concluded that it would not be responsible to encourage or hold out false hope that a more satisfying resolution to this situation is going to come about. Our ability to impact the retail operation of OFG in such a way that they would finally come up with some sort of meaningful resolve for the warehouse membership has all but evaporated. The leaflet campaign had already ceased for over three weeks, and the decision has been made that it is now appropriate to bring the leafleting program to a close.

We will continue with the legal proceedings as already described. We ask that the focus of all warehouse members turn to job searches and job training if it has not already. If any warehouse members need assistance, they can contact Union Representative Don Wilson at 604-434-3101 or 1-800-661-3708.

In solidarity,



Ivan Limpricht
Secretary Treasurer

ILW (USWA 2952)

Enclosure