



November 24, 2008

## **PRESS RELEASE** from the N.S. Federation of Labour

### **Labour Federation Executive will join Striking Canada Post workers on picket line on Tuesday**

**Halifax, N.S.** - Members of the Nova Scotia Federation of Labour (NSFL) Executive Council are holding meetings today and tomorrow and the top item on their agenda is support for the strike by Public Service Alliance of Canada (PSAC)/Union of Postal Communication Employees (UPCE) members at Canada Post. They will join workers on the picket line at 3:30 pm on Tuesday, November 25<sup>th</sup> at the sidewalk in front of the Canada Post office on Almon St.

Federation President Rick Clarke says one of the most disturbing aspects of what Canada Post is doing is trying to impose a new short term disability plan on the members, which would drastically reduce members' current protections and an outright attack on the Employment Insurance Program.

"Canada Post wants to offload its financial obligations to Employment Insurance (EI).

"Canada Post is into concessionary bargaining and is attempting to take away a hard-won gain by this group of workers. Canada Post wants employees to give up their sick leave provisions and instead rely on the EI system if they are ill, Clarke said. "This will have detrimental effect on the Employment Insurance system for workers as well as small business in all sectors across Canada," he added.

"Further, while on the one hand they have proposed concessions to working Canadians, Canada Post has also applied for an increase on retail postage rates to take effect in the near future.

"The Nova Scotia Federation of Labour supports the struggle of PSAC members. Their fight is our fight and we will be with them as they try to advance the cause of working people and their families," Clarke said in conclusion.

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For more information, please contact Rick Clarke at 454.6735 (office) or 434.5612 (home)

The Nova Scotia Federation of Labour is the provincial voice of the Labour Movement, representing 70,000 members in over 400 union locals.

CAW Local 4005