



Nova Scotia  
Federation of Labour, CLC

October 3, 2008

## **Federal Election '08 - Get Involved!**

**This election is about our jobs, our pay cheques, our families and our futures**

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

The debates are over and the October 14<sup>th</sup> Federal Election is rapidly closing in on us. We traditionally consider an election to be an important event for workers and for our province, however this Federal election is quite likely one of, if not the most important election we have faced.

Federal election rules limit many of our normal activities and involvement in the campaign and what we can do in terms of political donations, but our real strength has always been our voice and our numbers.

The Canadian Labour Congress is very active in this campaign across the country delivering crucial and uniform messaging on the issues that are important to workers and their families, messaging we clearly support and embrace.

We are also aware and very pleased that many or most of our affiliates are making direct contact to their members in Nova Scotia and across the country and we are very encouraged with the feedback being heard.

All this activity is clearly a reflection of just how important this election is to our futures.

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For working people, there's a lot at stake in this election. The October 14<sup>th</sup> election will shape the state of public services and indeed our country for years to come.

Our jobs – the prospects for our communities, the quality of life of our families – should be top of mind for every political party and every politician.

This election is about more than voting for a party or candidate of choice; it is more about voting for the kind of Canada we want.

We need a federal government that cares about our jobs and our pay cheques, not the profit-margins of the already rich. We need a federal government that cares about the prospects for our communities and the quality of life of our families. We need a federal parliament that works for working Canadians.

We need a federal government that puts Canadian workers first, with Made-in-Canada procurement policies, like they do in the United States. We need a federal government committed to investing in municipal and public transportation infrastructure. We need a government that puts the safety of the public first with government inspectors and safety officers, and not industry regulating itself.

Sisters and brothers, we need to elect a federal government with a vision – a vision to help our vital sectors save and create jobs. A vision that will develop new jobs – good-paying green jobs and make Canada a global leader in environmental technologies – and to help workers and their communities adjust to changes in the economy.

We need a federal government willing to address the inequities in the Employment Insurance program and to use its massive surplus to make it easier for women to access benefits, to help workers who want to relocate and to provide support to those who need retraining or want to train for new jobs.

We need a federal government that cares.

We know that many of you are already involved in the election campaign, in one form or another, and we are greatly appreciative; however, if we truly want to make a difference in this election we must find ways to increase worker involvement.

Talk up the election at work and with your families and encourage others to do the same.

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If you are looking for additional information you can contact your respective Union and/or the CLC and we welcome you to visit our website where you will find more information under the 'News' section or links to the CLC and affiliates.

Our website is: [www.nsf.ns.ca](http://www.nsf.ns.ca) and under the 'News' section there is a 'For members only' section. You will need a username and password:

username - federation

password - labour

Good luck and thank you in advance for your efforts.

In solidarity,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rick Clarke". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

**RICK CLARKE**

President

RC/jw/CAW Local 4005