



Customs and Immigration Union
Syndicat des Douanes et de l'Immigration

(The French version of this letter was sent to Mr. Portelance)

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BY E-MAIL: luc.portelance@cbsa-asfc.gc.ca
(Original by mail)

Mr. Luc Portelance
President
Canada Border Services Agency
191 Laurier Avenue West
Ottawa, ON K1A 0L8

Re: Suspension of Border Services Officers in Emerson, Manitoba

Dear Sir,

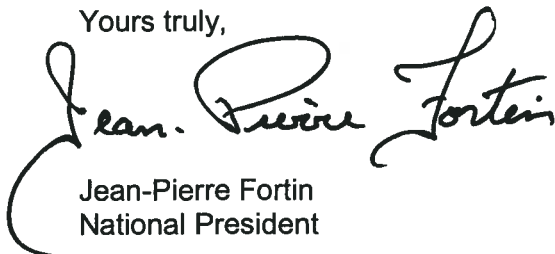
As you know, the above-noted subject has attracted considerable attention and we are publicly committed to helping the suspended officers through the grievance process should that be necessary. Given the issues involved, I would like to suggest an alternative strategy.

Clearly, the revised 2010 CBSA policy regarding assistance to law enforcement agencies is flawed. Matters such as the increased number of fully qualified armed officers at ports of entry and the associated legal questions with respect to s. 129(b) of the Criminal Code must be addressed.

In light of the foregoing I respectfully suggest that CBSA reverse its decision to suspend the officers and reinstate them to duty with full back pay. I also propose that CBSA and CIU immediately strike a Joint Working Committee to review these matters.

It is my sincere hope that you will consider these suggestions and that we can work together to find a solution.

Yours truly,



Jean-Pierre Fortin
National President