



B.C. Federation of Retired Union Members

200 - 5118 Joyce Street, Vancouver, B.C. V5R 4H1 • 604 688-4565 • 1-800-896-5678

Fax: 604 430-5917 • bcforum@bcfed.ca • www.bcforum.ca • facebook.com/BCRetiredUnionMembersForum

July 13th 2017

Board of Directors

Pacific Blue Cross
4250 Canada Way,
Burnaby, BC
V5G 4W6

Dear Directors:

On behalf of the BC Federation of Retired Union members (BC FORUM), we are writing to you to express our frustration and strong disappointment that Pacific Blue Cross has locked out the members of CUPE 1816 who work at Pacific Blue Cross.

We are urging you to immediately lift the lock out and return to the bargaining table. We are also very insistent that Pacific Blue Cross remove any rollbacks to the benefits of current and retired employees.

BC FORUM is particularly upset that Pacific Blue Cross is attacking retiree benefits. As an organization that includes many retired trade unionists, we know on a first hand basis the absolute importance of retirement benefits. These benefits are crucial in the lives of retirees, their families and communities.

Retirees need secure benefits to ensure they remain healthy. It is shocking to us that an organization which understands this basic concept is attacking retirement benefits.

BC FORUM members regularly comment to us on the strong ties between the labour movement and Pacific Blue Cross. Many of our members are aware of a long history between the trade union movement and Pacific Blue Cross. A number of our members either are or were covered by Pacific Blue Cross Plans.

This is why BC FORUM is appalled that Pacific Blue Cross has locked out its workers. We find this action mean spirited and shameful.

BC FORUM supports the CUPE workers in this dispute and is asking all Pacific Blue Cross Board members to ensure that this dispute is fairly resolved and that retiree benefits are maintained.

BC FORUM is awaiting a reply to this letter.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Diane L. Wood". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Diane L. Wood

President

BC Federation of Retired Union members (BC FORUM)

C. President CUPE 1816

President CUPE BC

Jan K. Grude, CEO, Pacific Blue Cross