



B.C. Federation of Retired Union Members

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July 13th 2017

Beth Miller
CUPE 1816 – President
c/o CUPE BC

#510-4940 Canada Way
Burnaby, BC
V5G 4T3

Dear Sister Miller:

On behalf of the BC Federation of Retired Union Members (BC FORUM), I am writing to express our solidarity and support for your labour dispute with Pacific Blue Cross.

BC FORUM supports your struggle and finds it unconscionable that Pacific Blue Cross has locked out its workers.

BC FORUM applauds CUPE for fighting against Pacific Blue Cross's targeting of retiree benefits and for their failure to bargain a fair collective agreement.

BC FORUM members understand the importance of retiree benefits. We know, on a first hand basis that post-retirement benefits are vital for maintaining the health and dignity of retirees. We are surprised and saddened that an organization such as Pacific Blue Cross is trying to weaken retiree benefits.

Pacific Blue Cross has had historically strong ties to the labour movement. This is something that our members regularly mention to us. However, locking out workers is a way to diminish these ties. This is something which CUPE 1816 members clearly understand.

BC FORUM is thankful that your members are standing strong and defending retiree benefits. Once again we are sending you a strong message of solidarity and support.

Don't hesitate to contact us.

In Solidarity,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "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. Paul Faoro, President CUPE BC

President New Westminster & District Labour Council