



April 27, 2010

File: 20202-S05

**TO: Members of the CLC Executive Council and
Ranking Officers of Affiliated Organizations**

Greetings:

The United Steelworkers, over the signature of the National Director for Canada, Ken Neumann, has requested that the Canadian Labour Congress undertake a national consumer boycott against Sears Canada.

On April 1, 2010, Sears Canada locked-out 500 members at a Sears warehouse and distribution centre in Vaughan, Ontario. This came after the Company sought rollbacks in pension, health-care benefits, vacation entitlements and other standard provisions during negotiations in late March. The Company walked away from the bargaining table and refused to return.

As you are aware, the Congress has an established policy on the implementation of national consumer boycotts. Item (B) of the policy states:

“Immediately upon receipt of a request from the Ranking Officer of an affiliated union for a National Consumer Boycott, the Congress shall notify all of its affiliates. Affiliates with contracts in force with the same employer shall be given an opportunity to state their support or objections to a National Consumer Boycott before Executive Council action is taken.”

I would appreciate an immediate response with respect to your position on this matter to ensure that the Congress may take effective action as soon as possible. Attached is a copy of Ken Neumann's request outlining all the relevant facts. Would you please send us your reply by email at executive-director@clc-ctc.ca or by fax at 613-521-4655 by **Tuesday, May 5, 2010**.

Looking forward to your cooperation in this matter, I remain,

In solidarity,

Kenneth V. Georgetti
President

cc: CLC Officers and Executive Assistants
Headquarters and Regional Staff

KVG:jdj*cope-225
Attachment

