

URGENT NOTICE

Date: November 10, 2008

To: All CUPE Locals Participating in MEPP

From: Peter Tartsch, National Representative

Re: MEPP Commission's Recommendation to Government

Dear Brothers and Sisters:

CUPE has learned that the Municipal Employees Pension Plan (MEPP) has distributed letters to all of the members of the Plan. Within this letter is a brief explanation of MEPP including the current and future status of the plan. CUPE and members of the affiliated Trade Unions that are also involved with MEPP were in attendance at a presentation held May 26, 2008. Following the MEPP presentation a letter was received by my office to reply to a number of questions (some of the same ones you are asked to answer).

As some of you may already know, based on a legal opinion commissioned by CUPE, CUPE is involved in legal action against MEPP with respect to MEPP allowing contribution holidays to the employers within the plan. Simply put, the employer has been allowed to offset their contribution costs as a result of past surpluses in the fund without appropriate notice. Surplus that could have been used for much needed improvement to retirees pensions.

In our letter of response to MEPP to their questions, we responded as follows:

"At this particular time with the pending litigation ongoing, the union finds that it would be inappropriate to respond to your questions"

further the union stated:

"The union is prepared to state that it does not favour any benefit reduction or any contribution rate increases for its' membership"

As a result of MEPP's questions going directly to the members of the plan, CUPE sought legal advice on what a member's response to the questions may be.

Please place in Additional Comments area the following:

"I demand the immediate return of all funds taken in the illegal contribution holidays. I do not support an increase in member contributions or a reduction in benefits."

The writer requests that the Local inform its members immediately in order for this to be done as soon as possible. The deadline to return the cards to PEBA is December 1 so we must act swiftly to get this information to the membership.

Should you have any questions or concerns regarding the above please call me directly at 1-306-382-8262.

In Solidarity,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Peter Tartsch', written over a horizontal line.

Peter Tartsch
National Representative

PT:hldd/cope491

cc Nancy Parker (CUPE National)
Nancy Rosenberg (CUPE National)
All Trade Union Contacts in MEPP
All National Servicing Reps in SK
Melanie Medicott
Crystal Norbeck
Koskie Minsky c/o Clio Godkevitsch