June 5, 2017

The Right Honourable Justin Trudeau Prime Minister of Canada Langevin Building 80 Wellington Street Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0A2

Dear Prime Minister,

I am writing to express my disappointment at the excessive delays by Treasury Board of Canada Secretariat in signing the ratified collective agreements for the PA, EB, TC and SV bargaining groups.

These agreements cover the working conditions of over 85,000 federal employees and have taken over two and a half years to reach. Throughout this process, not only were public servants under threat of having most of their paid sick days revoked by federal legislation, they have endured uncertainty and often financial crisis due to the numerous errors in pay caused by the Phoenix pay system.

Our bargaining teams have worked tirelessly to reach a fair deal and to have it ratified by members as quickly as possible. The ratification process took place within a matter of weeks through the course of dozens of meetings with members from coast to coast to coast. It is unfair that public service employees should be made to wait for months- on a few representatives at Treasury Board - to make arrangements for the signing of the agreements. Federal employees covered by these agreements have now been without a contract for almost three years, a delay that only grows longer while they wait for the signing of these agreements.

I believe that your promise to treat public servants with respect must be demonstrated beyond simple words. Federal employees have waited long enough for their contract and our bargaining teams are ready to sign the ratified agreements now. I urge you to compel Treasury Board of Canada Secretariat to set a fixed date for the signing of all the ratified agreements within the coming weeks.

Let us ensure that on the eve of National Public Service Week we recognize the excellence of the public service by giving its members their contracts.

Sincerely,

Robyn Benson
National President

LMC/jag