

THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

2075 WESBROOK MALL

VANCOUVER, B.C., CANADA

V6T 1W5

DEPARTMENT OF MECHANICAL ENGINEERING

February 8, 1977

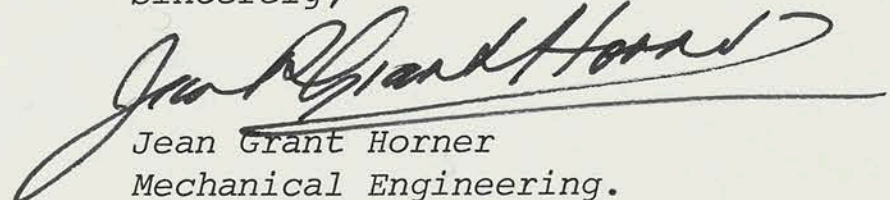
Dear Elizabeth:

I am so glad that you wrote your letter of February 6. The information package was certainly received in our area as being practically an incitement to break the law. I feel that it was out of line since it is not the role of any union executive to engage in this sort of thing although I am, as we all are, fully aware that unions in general are becoming involved in political jousting with the government - an ailment of troubled economic times. As an individual union member I personally would never permit my union to interfere in a matter which, rather than between employee and employer, is a matter between individuals and government of the country. Whilst proclaiming a democratic union we mustn't lose sight of the fact that our country has a democratic government, and our representatives are elected to govern and if the country is facing difficult times then we must accept uncomfortable laws.

I would like to make one other point. In the early days of negotiation last year discussion took place concerning the fact that we could accept the offer prior to implementation of the Wage and Price Control law, or take a chance on not being covered by it and continue to negotiate for what we wanted. The membership voted to take that gamble. When you gamble you accept the possibility of losing. You do not cry "foul" if you do lose.

In closing I would also like to say that your closing point is one with which I completely agree. I have not liked statements being made through the UBYSSEY, and I would like to see us mature into a serious group. The conduct of the previous negotiations with all the statements in the UBYSSEY, the Up-Chuck buttons, made me feel somewhat ashamed of my group. We have to be serious, how else can we possibly expect to be taken seriously, by anyone?

Sincerely,



Jean Grant Horner  
Mechanical Engineering.