

Mickey V. Kinakin
S.S. #1, Site #10, Comp #1
Castlegar, B.C.
January 3, 1979

A.U.C.E. Provincial
901-207 W. Hastings St.
Vancouver, B.C.
V6B 1H7

Attn: S. Perret

Sister Perret,

We wish to apologize for the slow response to your letter of December 6, 1978. Our local is extremely busy at this time, as we are sure you can realize. We wish also to thank your Union for its moral and financial support of our membership. At a time of Labour/Management disruption, all and any support is greatly appreciated by our Local.

One of the chief reasons for our strike is the correction of the disparity in wages between men and women who perform work of equal value to our institution. This goal we do not expect to be easily attained; its attainment calls for the alteration of social attitudes which divide people along meaningless lines. We are determined to continue our just struggle either outside or inside of our workplace.

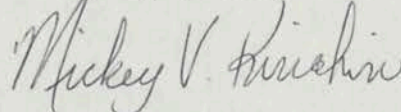
We are sure that you have learned that our local is forced back to work through the passage of Bill 46. We deplore this action on the part of the government for it is a violation of the negotiation process and as far as the Social Credit Party is concerned is a foil to introduce Right to Work Legislation. The reading of Hansard will point this out clearly to you.

We are now because of Bill 46 under the gun of binding arbitration and essential service legislation. The situation at our work place resembles an armed camp. In the last two weeks we have had one charge before the mediator, two charges before the Labour Board, eight grievances and innumerable heated discussions between the Union and the employer. This we view as a "return to normal" by our anti-Union administration. Most of the people in management are stated or closet supporters of the Right to Work Movement and thus use their position to carry out the goals of their ridiculous philosophy. Our local is changing its manner of operation from negotiations as the primary method to alter the workplace to one of negotiations through the grievance and arbitration process.

In closing, we wish to congratulate your Union on the organization of teaching assistants at S.F.U. This action of yours confirms your Union's place at the forefront of the labour movement for education workers.

Please keep in contact with our local as it has become imperative for all education workers to unite against oppressive legislation perpetrated by right wing sentiment within our province.

Fratunally yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Mickey V. Kinakin". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the typed name.

Mickey V. Kinakin
President Local 1341