

## B.C. Government and Service Employees' Union A Component of NUPGE (CLC)

December 17, 2020

VIA EMAIL: Blain.Lawson@bcldb.com

R. Blain Lawson General Manager and Chief Executive Officer B.C. Liquor Distribution Branch Ministry of Attorney General 2283 Gilmore Way Burnaby, B.C. V5G 4S1

Dear R. Blain Lawson,

## Re Essential pay for all BCLDB workers

I'm writing to thank you for your response (September 14<sup>th</sup>) to our union's request that the BCLDB provide pandemic pay for all BC Liquor Distribution Branch workers and for meeting with us (December 2<sup>nd</sup>) to discuss our members' ongoing concerns about recognition and support for essential workers during the pandemic.

I'm also writing to make you aware of two opportunities.

As you know, our members are advancing their efforts to secure financial recognition and support by launching their "Essential Pay for Essential Work" campaign as of December 1<sup>st</sup>. The campaign is an opportunity for our members to show their solidarity and commitment to their collective goal by wearing buttons that display the BCGEU insignia and the phrase "Essential Pay for Essential Work" during their shifts at all BCLDB retail and warehouse worksites. The campaign plan also includes a media and social media component. Our members have appreciated your support for their efforts to date and, on their behalf, I invite you to take part in their campaign by wearing a button that we have mailed to you as a demonstration of your ongoing support. Additionally, you could support the campaign by taking a selfie wearing the button and emailing it to <a href="mailto:communications@bcgeu.ca">communications@bcgeu.ca</a> for use in our social media.

I would also like to take immediate steps to arrange the meeting between you and our frontline members that we agreed to at our meeting on December  $2^{nd}$ . As we discussed, that meeting would involve a select group of BCGEU members who work in the BCLDB and would give you the opportunity to hear first-hand what they have experienced as essential workers on the frontlines during the pandemic. Please advise my office of your availability in early January as soon as possible.



Again, thank you for your support for our members, whose labour has allowed the BCLDB to remain profitable while many other government services and economic sectors have suffered significant losses due to the pandemic. I look forward to your support for their campaign and to our next meeting.

With best wishes for a healthy and safe holiday season.

Sincerely,

Stephanie Smith

President

JW/gg MoveUP

cc: Kusam Doal, Component 5 Vice President, Kusam.Doal@bcgeu.ca