

B.C. FEDERATION OF LABOUR (CLC) 200 – 5118 Joyce Street Vancouver, BC V5R 4H1

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## TO: BCFL AFFILIATED RANKING OFFICERS

Dear Ranking Officer:

## RE: BC FEDERATION OF RETIRED UNION MEMBERS (BCFORUM)

I am again writing to you with a very important message about the B.C. Federation of Retired Union Members (BCFORUM), an organization vital to our success as a labour movement.

Soon seniors will constitute 25 percent of the voting public, and it is and should be the goal of the BC Federation of Labor and its affiliates to support and advocate on behalf of Union members as they go into retirement. Our ability to reach seniors with our message is critical to achieving electoral success and the kind of government we need.

The BCFORUM Executive and its Directors have been working hard to make union affiliates and seniors aware of the work that BCFORUM is doing for labour and of the benefits available to union retirees if they become members.

Over the past three years BCFORUM has been holding Affiliate Liaisons meetings with BCFED Affiliate appointed members. The meetings report on what BCFORUM is doing and to encourage Affiliates to do whatever they can do within their own organization to grow BCFORUM.

For those Unions that have appointed a liaison person and attended the meetings, I thank you. Those unions have been enthusiastic about supporting BCFORUM and have put into place ways to make their own members aware of advantages of joining BCFORUM, not only for themselves but for the labor movement as a whole. However we need more affiliates to appoint and send a liaison person from their union to their next scheduled meeting. The BCFORUM Executive members and Directors are retired Union activists who volunteer their time to continue to work for the Labour movement. They deserve all of your support.

The BCFORUM **NEEDS** a significant amount of dedicated assistance from affiliates. If you have not appointed a liaison from your Union, please do so. By itself, BCFORUM is simply unable to contact and enroll enough retired, or soon to be retired, union members to maintain its membership in the long-term.

## RE: BC FEDERATION OF RETIRED UNION MEMBERS

The BCFORUM will be holding a meeting in late October or November with Affiliate Liaisons and the BCFORUM Executive. In this meeting, plans will be developed to proceed with BCFORUM member recruitment initiatives and activities.

Today, I am requesting that you please e-mail the name and contact information for your liaison person to the BCFORUM e-mail address: <u>bcforum@bcfed.ca</u>.

There are over 100,000 union retirees in British Columbia who could be organized to become a powerful force. However, before this can happen, the commitment of the unions of today is required to find ways to encourage their retired or soon to be retired members to be part of BCFORUM.

Thank you in advance for your concerted effort in making the BCFORUM a successful and effective organization.

In solidarity,

JIM SINCLAIR President

0500-14let-JS-BCFORUM letter to Ranking Officers

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