

FMA Email April 23, 2021 to Labour Minister

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To: filomena.tassi@hrsdc-rhdcc.gc.ca

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Subject: Port of Montreal strike

To the Hon. Filomena Tassi:

This is a follow up to our letter of April 13, 2021 addressed to the Right Honourable Justin Trudeau, Prime Minister.

The parties have been negotiating for over 30 months, much of it with the help of the Labour Canada mediation service and despite the efforts of the mediation service, today the union has announced a general strike, effective 7:00 a.m. EDT, Monday, April 26. With the previously announced weekend strikes, this means that the work stoppage will actually commence tomorrow morning.

It is no longer adequate for you and your cabinet colleagues to state that you expect the parties to come to a negotiated settlement. It is the role of government to protect the broader public interest when private interests are causing wide-spread damage to the economy.

The Freight Management Association of Canada (FMA) and its member companies, are asking you and your cabinet colleagues to enact back-to-work legislation, impose binding arbitration on the parties, and consider longer-term action to prevent future labour disputes from damaging vital supply chains.

FMA continues to be available to discuss this dire situation with you and your officials.

Regards,

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