
BRITISH COLUMBIA COUNCIL OF FILM UNIONS

IATSE 891

TEAMSTERS 155

ICG 669

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Dear Members,

The BC Council of Film Unions (BCCFU) has applied to the Labour Relations Board (LRB), for a declaration the Board imposed mandatory Safe Harbour Agreements breach the freedoms of association and expression guaranteed by the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms and are, therefore, null and void.

The BCCFU believes this agreement has impacted meaningful collective bargaining, effectively removing our lawful right for labour action. We have heard the concerns of the BCCFU's members who have questioned why they are subject to a process which does not exist in any other film jurisdiction. We have acted so that members can enjoy the same rights as those of other film locals, who are not bound by such an agreement.

The application at the LRB is not meant to signal any upcoming challenges anticipated during negotiations. However, due to questions raised with regards to the legality of mandatory Safe Harbour Arrangements, the BCCFU feels it necessary to obtain a ruling from the LRB with regards to what is permissible by law prior to the next round of negotiations.

This application requires that the BC Labour Relations Board must consider all of the current facts that engage the BCCFU's protections under the Charter.

Updates will be provided on the status of the application at a later date.

In Solidarity,
The BC Council of Film Unions