

CAW TCA CANADA

BASIL 'Buzz' HARGROVE
National President
Président national

LUC DESNOYERS
Quebec Director
Directeur québécois

JIM O'NEIL
National Secretary-Treasurer
Secrétaire-trésorier national

205 PLACER COURT, TORONTO, ONTARIO M2H 3H9
PHONE (416) 497-4110 FAX (416) 495-6559
www.caw.ca

November 23, 2006

Sent by fax: 613-235-9123

Maria Teresa Garcia Segovia
Ambassador of Mexico to Canada
Embassy of Mexico in Canada
45 O'Connor, Suite 1000
Ottawa, ON K1P 1A4

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Dear Ambassador,

On behalf of the 265,000 members of the Canadian Autoworkers Union, I am shocked by your government's repeated use of intimidation, illegal arrests, and deadly violence in dealings with the Sindicato Nacional de Trabajadores Mineros, Metalurgicos y Similares de la Republica Mexicana (SNTMMSRM).

As you know, Napoleon Gomez Urrutia, the democratically elected general secretary of the National Miners' and Metalworkers' Union (SNTMMMSRM) was forcefully removed from his position in March, 2006 after speaking out against gross government and company negligence regarding the health and safety of the Pasta de Conchos mine, that left 65 miners dead after an explosion. Mexico's own National Human Rights Commission that investigated the accident in the weeks to follow has confirmed this negligence.

The IMF has launched a complaint with the International Labour Organization against the Mexican government citing violations of ILO Convention 87.

The Canadian Autoworkers Union is committed to supporting the SNTMMMSRM as they fight to protect their union autonomy and oppose government interference of any kind in union affairs.

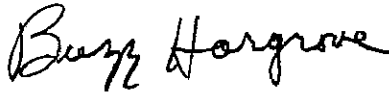
As metalworkers, unionists and people who believe that social and economic justice are not just words, but ideals to live and fight for, we ask that you use your considerable influence with the Mexican Labour Ministry and Mexican government and encourage them to reinstate Napoleon as the democratically elected leader of the SNTMMMSRM as he so rightfully is. We ask that the Mexican government allow for Mexican unions to

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work within their structures to decide what is best for their membership and the workers of Mexico.

Sincerely,



BASIL 'Buzz' Hargrove
National President
BH:MS:dbcope343

cc: **SNTMMSRM**
International Metalworkers' Federation
ILO Committee on Freedom of Association
U.S. Congressional Hispanic Caucus