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*Unity • Justice • Democracy*

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## **STATEMENT IN SOLIDARITY WITH LOCKED-OUT LONGSHORE WORKERS IN MONTREAL**

The leadership of the Longshore Workers' Coalition—a membership organization within the International Longshoremen's Association (ILA)—sends this message of solidarity and support to our 850 locked-out longshore brothers and sisters of the Canadian Union of Public Employees (CUPE) Local 375 in the Port of Montreal, Canada.

We echo the statement from the International Transport Workers' Federation which calls this lockout “a needless overreaction.”

CUPE Local 375 has bargained in good faith with the Maritime Employers Association (MEA). The union's overtime ban and strike vote are legitimate bargaining tools, especially as they were decided collectively in response to the MEA's unilateral changes to the working conditions for 169 members of the local.

Furthermore, other longshore workers in the Port of Montreal, such as the members of ILA Local 1657, are also effectively locked out and deprived of their livelihood.

The MEA is holding all port workers hostage; that is not a sign of bargaining in good faith and we request that the MEA terminate the lockout and resume negotiations with CUPE Local 375.

The Longshore Workers' Coalition is committed to building support within the ILA—which represents longshore workers on the East and Gulf Coast of the United States—for the locked-out port workers in Montreal. We will also organize and prepare in case ships are diverted from Montreal to ports where we have members.

We believe firmly that “an injury to one is an injury to all!”

In solidarity, LWC Steering Committee Leadership

*The LWC is a movement of ILA members and retirees organizing to build a stronger and more democratic longshore union.*

*We are crane operators and car drivers, checkers and baggage handlers, lashers, hustler drivers, break bulk handlers, tugboat operators and warehouse workers. We are Black, brown and white workers, women and men, immigrants and native born. We have members in ports up and down the East and Gulf Coasts: Hampton Roads, NY/NJ, Charleston, Savannah, Wilmington, Philadelphia, Baltimore, Boston, Jacksonville, Mobile, Fort Lauderdale, Tampa, Miami, Lake Charles, Houston, Beaumont, New Orleans, Canada, Puerto Rico and more.*