#### International Brotherhood of

# **BOILERMAKERS • IRON SHIP BUILDERS**

753 State Avenue

NEWTON B. JONES INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT SUITE 570 913-371-2640 FAX: 913-281-8101



February 12, 2021

# **BLACKSMITHS • FORGERS & HELPERS**

Kansas City, Kansas 66101-2511

WILLIAM T. CREEDEN INTERNATIONAL SECRETARY-TREASURER SUITE 565 913-371-2640 FAX: 913-281-8102

File: L-146-20-2

### Sent via Email and U.S. First Class Mail

Amanda Hawkins
CEO, Canerector Inc.
1 Sparks Avenue
North York, Ontario M2H 2W1
Canada
ahawkins@canerector.com

Re: International Brotherhood of Boilermakers stands with our Brothers in Edmonton

Dear Ms. Hawkins:

I am writing regarding your company's decision to lock out Edmonton unionized Local 146 Boilermakers at Canerector Inc's subsidiary, CESSCO, since June 2020.

As the CEO of CESSCO's parent company, Canerector, you are ultimately responsible for this unconscionable decision. The Boilermakers you have chosen to lock out rather than continue negotiating with are people who, in many cases, have dedicated decades to Canerector's profits through CESSCO. They've honed their skills as craftsmen to make CESSCO products the highest quality possible. They've taken care of CESSCO's machinery, equipment and facilities. They've put their pride into producing quality work for CESSCO and, most importantly, for CESSCO's *customers* and end users.

And by all reports, they counted your father and your grandfather as professional allies who respected and valued them as hard-working *people* as much as for their role in contributing to CESSCO's success.

I want to make it very clear to you that the full power of the International Brotherhood of Boilermakers is firmly behind our Brothers at Local 146.

It seems to be with complete disregard for basic human decency and the invaluable contributions of your dedicated workforce you have determined that bussing in "replacement workers" — of demonstrably less skill and arguably less vested interest in your company's quality or future success — is a better path for CESSCO/Canerector's success than is bringing the Boilermakers back to work under their old contract while continuing to negotiate in good faith, as they've requested throughout the lockout.

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Not only is it reprehensible that you would endorse keeping these working Edmonton families locked out for such a long period of time (and during a pandemic, no less), but it is simply

unfathomable that your current course of action could be good for CESSCO and Canerector in the long term.

The International Brotherhood of Boilermakers stands with our membership and our locked out Brothers in astonishment that you would support such drastic measures against CESSCO's loyal and highly skilled workers, when what they had asked for from the very beginning — in over 2.5 years of contract negotiations — was simply not to have their wages, pension contributions and seniority language gutted. Surely, there is room to continue that discussion rather than continuing this radical approach that harms families during a pandemic and time of heightened economic insecurity *and* causes harm to CESSCO and Canerector's quality and reputation.

Recognizing this, coupled with your continued conspicuous inaction and failure to respond to our requests to meet, one can only infer that you have already written the future of CESSCO's closure. The International Brotherhood of Boilermakers calls on you to use your position as CEO of Canerector to end the lockout immediately, return with Boilermakers to the bargaining table, re-open discussions to address workers' fully-justified demands and secure your company's future.

Sincerely,

Newton B. Jones

**International President** 

#### NBJ:krs

cc: Arnie Stadnick, IBB IVP-Canada

Hugh MacDonald, BM-ST, Local 146

Dave Hummel, President, CESSCO

Jeff Major, Legal Counsel, Canerector

Jeff Myrfield, VP, Canerector

Andrea Baillie, Editor-in-Chief, The Canadian Press

Lorne Motley, VP Editorial, Postmedia; Editor-in-Chief, Edmonton Journal and Sun

Wayne Parrish, SVP Editorial, Toronto Star

Irene Gentle, Editor, Toronto Star

David Walmsley, Editor-in-Chief, Globe and Mail

Robyn Doolittle, Reporter, Globe and Mail