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May 18, 2018

BY E-MAIL ONLY
justin.trudeau@parl.gc.ca

The Right Honourable Justin Trudeau
Prime Minister of Canada
Office of the Prime Minister
House of Commons
OTTAWA, ONTARIO K1A 0A6

Dear Prime Minister Trudeau:

On behalf of the Canadian Union of Public Employees (CUPE), we are writing you to express our concern about recent revelations regarding the role of the Canadian Government in the extradition of Dr. Hassan Diab. Dr. Diab was a CUPE member who spent 3 years in near solidarity confinement in a French prison, after years of surveillance and detention in Canada without charges ever being laid. We call on your government to conduct a full, independent and public inquiry into this case.

We are troubled by information that has revealed that an official in the Justice Department assisted the French government to make the case for extradition, and allegedly misled the court regarding communications with the French government, which led to lengthy adjournments. Government officials also allegedly withheld important, exculpatory fingerprint evidence from the court and Dr. Diab's defense lawyers.

CUPE has raised on several occasions questions about due process and the seemingly unjust procedures that led to Dr. Diab's extradition. These latest revelations compound a deeply flawed process, and the human rights issues experienced by Dr. Diab during this ordeal.

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MARK HANCOCK

National President/Président national

CHARLES FLEURY

National Secretary-Treasurer/Secrétaire-trésorier national

DENIS BOLDUC, FRED HAHN, JUDY HENLEY, DANIEL LÉGÈRE, MARLE ROBERTS

General Vice-Presidents/Vice-présidences générales

We endorse the call of Dr. Diab and his family for the Canadian Government to quickly appoint an independent commissioner to conduct a thorough and public inquiry into this case. We further echo the calls of the BC Civil Liberties Monitoring Group (BCCLMG), Amnesty International (AI) and other civil society organizations, who are requesting that the inquiry include any possible reforms to the Extradition Act; consider whether Canadian officials acted quickly enough as concerns emerged about Dr. Diab's lengthy period of detention without charge in France; and ensure appropriate redress to Dr. Diab and his family, including an official apology and appropriate compensation for actions or inaction of Canadian officials that may have contributed to the human rights violations and miscarriage of justice he experienced.

We were pleased to learn that members of the government have expressed concern about these revelations and expressed commitment for an inquiry. We trust you will follow through on this commitment and urge you once again to ensure any inquiry is independent and public.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'MH' followed by a stylized flourish.

MARK HANCOCK
National President

:cc/cope 491

cc: MP Jody Wilson-Raybould, Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada;
MP Chrystia Freeland, Minister of Foreign Affairs; Hassan Diab Support Committee