



FEB 09 2011



Mr. Ron Moran
National President
Customs and Immigration Union
1741 Woodward Drive
Ottawa, ON K2C 0P9

Dear Mr. Moran:

Subject: Selection of participants for firearm training

Thank you for your letter dated January 25, 2011 in which you raise questions in regards to appendices F and G of the Collective Agreement for the Border Services (FB) Group.

I have had the opportunity to review both Appendices, as well as, to consult with my colleagues from the Treasury Board Secretariat. Appendix F of the Agreement provides for the selection of participants for firearm training, as well as the placement of volunteer employees hired without firearm certification as a condition of employment who do not qualify on firearm training. It is our view that the Agreement concluded by the parties clearly states that the provisions of Appendix F ceases to apply after February 1, 2011. Consequently, the provisions of this appendix are in our view no longer in effect.

As for Appendix G of the agreement, it provides for the establishment of a joint consultation committee to discuss the strategy (post February 1, 2011) for the selection of firearm training participants and the placement of employees hired without firearm certification as a condition of employment, who are unsuccessful on the firearm training. This appendix states that the parties will meet within one hundred and twenty (120) days of the completion of the BFOR review. The BFOR review was completed November 10, 2010. Accordingly, I would like to take this opportunity to extend an invitation to you and your representatives to meet and begin discussions on the establishment of this joint committee. I would encourage you to contact my office at 613-948-3180 to discuss availabilities and confirm meeting dates.

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I wish to thank you again for your letter and I look forward to meeting with you and your representatives in regards to the creation of a joint consultation committee and to commence discussions on this very important matter.

Sincerely,



Camille Therriault-Power
Vice-President
Human Resources Branch