

June 29, 2009

**BY E-MAIL: pm@pm.gc.ca**

Prime Minister Stephen Harper  
80 Wellington Street  
OTTAWA, ON  
K1A 0A2

Dear Prime Minister Harper:

**Re: Coup d'état in Honduras**

The Canadian Union of Public Employees joins with other Canadians in condemning the coup d'état in Honduras and demands the immediate and unconditional return of President Jose Manuel Zelaya Rosales to his constitutional duties.

We strongly urge the Canadian government to support the resolution of the Permanent Council of the Organization of American States passed on Sunday, June 28, 2009. We note, that although Foreign Minister Kent condemned the institutional crisis in democracy and called for the restoration of the rule of law in Honduras, he did not mention President Zelaya's name nor explicitly state that Canada wants him reinstated unconditionally and immediately as did the OAS resolution.

CUPE implores the Canadian government to take responsible action to ensure that this element of the Honduran military does not entrench itself in power, that democratic control is restored, and that opportunity for sincere dialogue is pursued.

Honduras and too many other Latin American countries have been subjected to repressive military dictatorships and anti-democratic retaliations in the last century and it would be a great tragedy for Hondurans and their neighbours to be subjected to further human rights and democratic violations of this kind. CUPE supports the citizens of Honduras, who insist that their voices be heard and that they be the ultimate decision-makers regarding the political future of their country, not military factions or individual politicians.

Yours truly,



PAUL MOIST  
National President

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cc: Peter Kent, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs (Americas); Graeme C. Clark, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Canada to the Organization of American States (OAS); Embassy of Canada to Costa Rica, Nicaragua and Honduras; Office of the Canadian Embassy in Honduras