



NORDIC IN

Oslo and Stockholm, 16 March 2006

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## LOCKOUT AT PORT HAWKESBURY IN CANADA

*Dear Mr Härmälä,*

The International Chemical, Energy and Mineworkers' Federation (ICEM) and our affiliates Svenska Pappers and Paperiliitto have informed us of the of the lockout that your company has imposed on the workers of the Port Hawkesbury Mill in Nova Scotia who are members of the Communications, Energy and Paperworkers' (CEP) Union of Canada.

We find it appalling that after going 20 months without a collective agreement, your company has locked out these 600 workers in efforts to deviate from the pattern labour agreement in Eastern Canada that has already been negotiated with all other paper companies doing business there. It is ironic that the Canadian workers who are used to relatively civilized labour-management relations, should face such harsh tactics from a Scandinavian company, at the same time as the Nordic model of social partnership is being used as an example all over Europe as the way forward.

On behalf of Nordic IN's 23 affiliated unions representing 1.2 million workers in metal, chemical, paper and textile industries in the five Scandinavian countries, we urge you, Mr Härmälä, to use your influence to immediately resume negotiations with the union and to negotiate a fair and just agreement that meets the pattern for the pulp and paper sector in Eastern Canada.

*Yours Sincerely,*

Nordic IN

Kjell Bjørndalen  
President

Jyrki Raina  
General Secretary

cc *Mr Ron Beaton, President, CEP Local 972, Port Hawkesbury  
Mr Brian Payne, President, CEP, Canada  
Mr Fred Higgs, General Secretary, ICEM  
Nordic IN's affiliated unions*