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The following is the draft text of a resolution before the 24th Annual Convention of the B.C. Federation of Labour.

WHEREAS the trials of 18 persons including affiliate members arrested when the RCMP broke up the AUCE Local 2 picket line at Simon Fraser University are scheduled this fall, and  
WHEREAS the police actions, the charges, and one conviction already obtained are an attack on the right to strike and the entire labour movement, and  
WHEREAS the B.C. Federation and many affiliates have called for dropping all charges,  
BE IT RESOLVED THAT the B.C. Federation of Labour demonstrate its support for the SFU 18; such measures to include:

1. Telegram the Attorney General of B.C. demanding that all charges against the SFU 18 be withdrawn;
2. Hold a press conference upon any conviction against the SFU 18;
3. Print and distribute to all affiliate locals a leaflet on the defence campaign and the issues involved; and
4. Financially support the SFU 18 defence and urge all affiliates to do the same.

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# DEFEND THE SFU 18



# DEFEND THE PICKET LINE

## **Another Attack on All Unions**

Eighteen picketers were arrested when the RCMP attacked the AUCE 2 picket line at SFU last March. They were charged with "obstructing the police". One month later, the charge of "blocking a highway" was added. The arrests occurred after several hours of mass picketing. Without a court order or any warning to the picketers that they were breaking the law, the RCMP violently broke up the AUCE 2 legal picket line.

## **Harassment & Criminal Convictions**

Costly individual trials were imposed by the Crown against the "SFU 18". In July, [REDACTED] was acquitted of the original charge but convicted and fined \$250 for blocking a highway. The Crown's only evidence consisted of police surveillance photos of Armistage on the picket line two hours before the arrests occurred and no evidence showed him blocking traffic. A costly appeal begins in January.

Pressured by union and public attention, the Crown instituted stays of proceedings on both charges against four of the SFU 18. Stays mean that these charges can be reactivated any time within a year. The charge against [REDACTED] the second of the SFU 18 to be tried, was dropped in mid-trial when the Crown prosecutor admitted in court that videotape evi-

dence being called by the defence would contradict police testimony. As of mid-November, twelve trials remain. The next defendant, [REDACTED], will be tried on [REDACTED] in Burnaby Courthouse. Three other SFU 18 trials are also scheduled throughout that week.

## **Strike Breaking Methods**

These cases are a serious precedent in the means through which strike breaking can occur, a means reminiscent of early struggles of workers for the most basic rights. Picketers faced deliberate intimidation by camera surveillance and excessive force ordered by senior RCMP officers who are members of the RCMP Labour Liaison Committee. Police intervention, criminal charges, and the courts are increasingly being used by employers and the government to harass, fine, and imprison workers struggling to assert our trade union rights. [REDACTED] has been convicted and sent to jail. Adams Lab workers striking for their first contract face months in jail.

## **A Key Strike for Women Workers**

The AUCE 2 strike followed ten months of negotiations which produced a final offer from the University of 6% over two years. SFU was proposing that AUCE 2 accept conditional binding arbitration which would tie AUCE 2

wages with those of the unorganized office workers in the private sector.

As most of the AUCE 2 members (like most clerical employees) are women, the Union saw this scheme as another means of keeping women's wages below those of men, and maintaining the oppression of women. AUCE saw this as an attempt to reverse the gains made in its first contract in 1974, by lowering wages in the organized sector to the level of those in the unorganized sector. The AUCE 2 members demanded equal pay for work of equal value, not just comparability with women workers in job ghettos.

SFU obtained an injunction limiting picketers to 10. An Industrial Inquiry Commission's binding settlement endorsed the University's position on the wage issue.

## **Students Supported the Strike**

Many students joined the picket line not only as a means of supporting trade unionists but also as a means of supporting the fight against cut-backs in the University budget. The student supporters realized that an attack against one sector of the University was part of an overall erosion of the quality of education offered in B.C.

Students arrested were almost all also members of trade unions, including the IWA, USWA, BCGEU, CUPE Labourers, Hotel Restaurant, CPU, SORWUC, HEU and AUCE.

## **Support the Defence Campaign**

The SFU 18 Defence Committee was established to raise funds for the considerable legal costs of the defence, and to publicize widely the issues of the arrest and charges. The B.C. Federation of Labour has already sent two telegrams to the Attorney General of B.C. strongly requesting that all charges against the SFU 18 be dropped, as have many affiliates.

The B.C. NDP Convention also endorsed this defence campaign.

More funds are needed to meet our legal expenses.

The defence of the SFU 18 is, quite simply, the defence of our right to strike.

## **Correspondence / Donations:**

SFU 18 Defence Committee,  
c/o AUCE, 901 - 207 W. Hastings St.,  
Vancouver, B.C. Tel: 684-2457

Cheques payable to:  
SFU 18 Defence Fund.

## **Information / Speakers:**

SFU 18 Defence Committee, or  
[REDACTED]

# OPPOSE POLICE INTERVENTION AGAINST THE LABOUR MOVEMENT



# **DEFEND THE RIGHT TO STRIKE**

## **Organizations donating to the SFU 18 Defence Fund include:**

Association of University and College Employees, Provincial ■ A.U.C.E., Local 2 ■ B.C. Government Employees Union, Executive ■ Simon Fraser Student Society ■ Vancouver Municipal and Regional Employees' Union ■ A.U.C.E., Local 1 ■ Pulp, Paper, and Woodworkers of Canada, Local 2 ■ Canadian Union of Public Employees, National Board ■ P.P.W.C., Local 8 ■ United Fishermen and Allied Workers' Union, Local 1 ■ British Columbia Ferry and Marine Workers' Union ■ United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America, Local 1928 ■ Ad Hoc Musical Collective ■ Vancouver and District Labour Council ■ British Columbia Provincial Council of Carpenters ■ International Woodworkers of America, Local 1-85 ■ Hotel, Restaurant and Culinary and Bartenders' Union, Local 40 ■ Retail, Wholesale and Department Store Union, Local 580 ■ P.P.W.C., Executive Board ■ Brewery and Soft Drink Workers, Local 300 ■ International Brotherhood of Painters and Allied Trades, Local 138 ■ C.U.P.E., Local 606 ■ Prince Rupert and District Labour Council ■ British Columbia Federation of Students ■ International Longshoremen's and Warehousemen's Union,

Canadian Area ■ I.W.A., Local 1-118 ■ Press Gang Publishers Limited ■ Canadian Union of Postal Workers, Vancouver Local ■ Letter Carriers' Union of Canada, Local 12 ■ I.W.A., Local 1-217 ■ United Steelworkers of America, Local 3495 ■ Oil, Chemical and Atomic Workers' International Union, Local 9-601 ■ Canadian Paperworkers' Union, Local 686 ■ United Transportation Union, Local 422 ■ University of Lethbridge Students' Union ■ C.U.P.E., Local 401 ■ C.P.U., Local 76 ■ Prince Rupert Amalgamated Shoreworkers and Clerks' Union, Local 1674 ■ Canadian Association of Industrial, Mechanical and Allied Workers, Local 14 ■ Kamloops and District Labour Council ■ C.U.P.E., Local 900 ■ Trotskyist League ■ International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers, Canadian Airways Lodge No. 764 ■ C.A.I.M.A.W., Local 4 ■ I.W.A., Local 1-367 ■ Canadian Brotherhood of Railway, Transport and General Workers' Union, Local 326 ■ Concerned Citizens for Choice on Abortion ■ United Electrical, Radio, and Machine Workers of America, Locals 504 and 550 ■ B.C.G.E.U., Local 604 ■

## **Organizations and individuals who have called for all charges against the SFU 18 to be dropped, further to the above include:**

B.C. Federation of Labour ■ B.C. New Democratic Party ■ A.U.C.E., Local 6 ■ New Westminster and District Labour Council ■ Victoria and District Labour Council ■ Nanaimo, Duncan and District Labour Council ■ Okanagan Labour Council ■ Campbell River, Courtenay and District Labour Council ■ Port Alberni and District Labour Council ■ Hamilton and District Labour Council ■ C.U.P.W., National Board ■ C.U.P.W., Edmonton Local ■ I.W.A., Local 1-357 ■ Construction and General Labourers' Union, Local 1070 ■ International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, Local 213 ■ Hospital Employees' Union ■ International Union of Elevator Constructors, Local 82 ■ Service, Office, and Retail Workers' Union of Canada, Local 1 ■ Bakery and Confectionery Workers' International Union, Local 475 ■ Amalgamated Transit Union, Division 101-134 ■ C.A.I.M.A.W., Regional Executive ■ Social Services Employees' Union, Local 2 ■ Trade Union Research Bureau ■ Euphonius Feminists ■ Inmates of the B.C. Penitentiary ■ Marxist-Leninist Organization of Canada, In Struggle ■ Open Road Collective ■ Revolutionary Workers' League ■ Socialist Organizing Committee ■ Workers' Communist Party ■ Farm Workers' Organizing Committee ■ N.D.P. Women's Rights Committee ■ British Columbia Federation of Women ■ Vancouver Status of Women ■ Working Women Unite ■ Gay Alliance Toward Equality ■ National Union of Students ■ Syndicat des Charges de Cours de L'Universite de Quebec ■ John Fryer, General Secretary, B.C.G.E.U. ■ Margaret Mitchell, M.P., Vancouver East ■ Art Gruntman, Regional Vice-President, C.P.U. ■ Pauline Jewett, M.P., Coquitlam ■ Sid Thompson, President, I.W.A., Local 1-217 ■ Ernie Hall, M.L.A., Surrey ■ Ed Broadbent, Federal N.D.P. Leader ■ Joy Langan, International Typographical Union ■ Ron Johnson, N.D.P. ■ Svend Robinson, M.P., Burnaby ■ Colin Gablemann, M.L.A., North

Island ■ Art Kube, Canadian Labour Congress ■ Grace MacInnis, N.D.P. ■ David Rice, B.C. Federation of Labour ■ Gerry Stoney, President, I.W.A., Local 1-357 ■ Tom Constable, Mayor, Burnaby ■ Rosemary Brown, M.L.A., Burnaby-Edmonds ■ Bob Donnelly, President, Telecommunications Workers' Union ■ Jack Phillips, Communist Party of Canada ■ Jack Munro, Regional President, I.W.A. ■ [REDACTED] ■ Bob Peebles, President, I.L.W.U., Canadian Area ■ Don Garcia, I.L.W.U. ■ Roy Gautier, B.C. and Yukon Building and Construction Trades Council ■ Peter Cameron, C.A.I.M.A.W. ■ Lloyd Ingram, C.U.P.W. ■ David Reiter, Cariboo College Faculty Association ■ G. Yawrenko, T.W.U. ■ Ed Langelier, C.U.P.W., Western District ■ Bruce McRae, C.A.S.A.W. ■ Sharon Husberg, T.W.U., Local 28 ■ John Devlin, Federation of Alberta Students ■ Veyda Shabur, Graduate Student Association, U. of Alberta ■ Al Ashton, A.T.U. ■ Muriel Overgaard, C.U.P.E. ■ John Shields, Victoria and District and Labour Council (B.C.G.E.U.) ■ Bill Zander, B.C. Provincial Council of Carpenters ■ Jean Swanson, N.D.P. ■ Mike Kramer, C.U.P.E. ■ Angus MacPhee, President, P.P.W.C. ■ Donna Mottershead, B.C.G.E.U., Local 1201 ■ Thomas Rose, Bakery and Confectionery Workers' International Union ■ Fred A. Trotter, President, O.T.E.U., Local 378 ■ William R. Hyde, T.W.U., Local 3 ■ A. E. Carle, I.W.A., Local 1-118 ■ D. E. Bremner, T.W.U. ■ Lloyd Eliason, Carpenters Local 1251 ■ John Shibli, Vancouver Island Building and Construction Trades Council ■ Muriel Reid, Bakery Workers' Local 475 ■ Reg Ford, C.U.P.E., Local 402 ■ John Langley, Brewery Workers' Local 300 ■ W. E. Hawkes, I.W.A., Local 1-85 ■ Gordon Stoutenburg, Okanagan Labour Council ■ Theresa North, T.W.U. ■ Gay Hoon, Dept. of English, S.F.U. ■ Mike Lebowitz, Dept. of Economics, S.F.U. ■ John E. Ball, U.E., Hamilton ■

**SFU 18 Defence Committee  
Nov. 15, 1979**

***We thank you for your continuing support.***