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Subject: Willie Adams President of SF Port-eNews
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Providing information by email to our members and fellow unionists

ILWU Canada Waterfront eNews

Official e-newsletter publication of the International Longshore & Warehouse Union Canada

Jan 29, 2016

Willie Adams, President of Port of San Francisco



**ILWU Secretary
Treasurer**

Commissioner Willie Adams was appointed to the Port Commission by Mayor Edwin M. Lee and confirmed by the Board of Supervisors in July 2012. Prior to his appointment, Mr. Adams served on the San Francisco Film Commission beginning 2009. He served as Vice President of the Port Commission in 2014 and 2015. He is the current President of the Port Commission.



Mr. Adams is the International Secretary-Treasurer of the International Longshore & Warehouse Union (ILWU) in San Francisco where he has resided since 2003. He has a long and proud history with the ILWU. A native of Kansas City, Missouri, Mr. Adams moved to Tacoma, Washington in 1978 where he worked on the docks as a longshoreman for 24 years. In 1998 he was elected by co-workers to serve on their local union Executive Board, and then chosen in 2000 to serve on the union's International Executive Board. Mr. Adams was also elected to serve as one of three Trustees who oversee the ILWU's finances.

In addition to his fiscal and legislative responsibilities, Mr. Adams has been a passionate cultural advocate. He produced the "Celebrations of Black History and Labor" programs in Tacoma in 1991, 1992 and 1993, and again in 2001, 2002, 2003 and 2005. The events featured leading cultural and political figures including Danny Glover, Paul Robeson, Jr., Yolanda King (Martin Luther King Jr.'s daughter), hip-hop icon Chuck D, and Betty Shabazz (daughter of Malcolm X). The programs received national attention and critical acclaim.

Mr. Adams is also executive producer of several documentary films, including one exploring the life of African American writer Langston Hughes, "Hughes' Dream Harlem," and "The Black Composers," which tells the story of African American film score composers. Mr. Adams is currently involved with a full-length dramatic film exploring the life of labor leader Harry Bridges.

In 2003, ILWU members elected Mr. Adams to serve as their International Secretary-Treasurer at the union headquarters in San Francisco, where he has responsibility for the organization's finances, oversees the union's political action work, and represents the union at international functions. Mr. Adams has represented the ILWU during visits with workers in South Africa, Australia, Spain, Cuba, Vietnam and China. In addition to his union duties, he

serves on the Board of TransAfrica, where he works closely with Board Chairman Danny Glover and Board member Harry Belafonte.

Commissioner Adams' term expires in May 2018.

Good sense prevails: Government moves to repeal C-377 and C-525



REPEALED!

C-377

Thursday, January 28, 2016

Canadian unions are pleased that the federal government has tabled legislation to repeal controversial bills C-377 and C-525.

These bills were designed to weaken unions by forcing redundant and unreasonable financial reporting, and by making it more difficult for Canadians in federally-regulated workplaces to join a union, respectively.

"This proves what we've been saying all along: that these bills were nothing more than an attempt to undermine unions' ability to do important work like protecting jobs, promoting health and safety in the workplace, and advocating on behalf of all Canadian workers," said CLC president Hassan Yussuff.

"We are pleased that this new government recognizes the importance of fair labour relations, and supports the role of unions in the workplace," he said.

Bill C-377 was pushed through Parliament by the last government in June of last year despite loud opposition from many different groups, including the NHL Players Association, Conservative and Liberal senators, constitutional experts, Canada's privacy commissioner, the Canadian Bar Association and the insurance and mutual fund industry.

"We commend Minister Mihychuk for her leadership in repealing this legislation and restoring a balanced labour relations framework for federal workers," he said.

Letter to Minister from CLC President on the Trans Pacific Partnership



January 27, 2016

The Honourable Chrystia Freeland Minister of International Trade

Dear Minister, Hassan Yussuff President, Barbara Byers Secretary-Treasurer, Marie Clarke Walker Executive Vice-President, Donald Lafleur Executive Vice-President.

I write to you in sincere appreciation of your willingness, and that of your government, to sustain an open and frank dialogue with the labour movement regarding the Trans-Pacific Partnership Agreement (TPP) negotiated under the previous administration. As your government will face very shortly the decision whether or not to sign this agreement, we would like to share some of our concerns.

[Click to read full letter to the Minister of International Trade](#)

BC Federation of Retired Union Members



[Click here to read the latest edition of the BC Forum Advocate.](#)

Waterfront News

Reminder

The Waterfront News is the newsletter produced by ILWU Canada and mailed to members several times per year. The Dispatcher is the newsletter produced by our International Union and is also mailed to members several times per year. ILWU Canada keeps an address database for both of these, but we only receive addresses from the Locals or the Members directly.



[Copies of past editions of the Waterfront News are available here:](#)

[Copies of past editions of the Dispatcher are available here:](#)

If you are a Member of the ILWU in Canada, or on the A or B boards in any of the Longshore Locals you are entitled to receive one or both of these. If you are not receiving it now you should contact your Local to make sure they have your current address.

You can also send us an e-mail at communicate@ilwu.ca or phone us at 604-254-8141 to update us.



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