



June 11, 2003

Professor Jack Quarter
Ontario Institute for Studies in Education
University of Toronto
252 Bloor Street West
Toronto, ON
M5S 1V6

Dear Professor Quarter:

I am writing to express the support of the Canadian Labour Congress for the pension investment research project for which you have sought support from the New Economy Initiative of the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council.

The Canadian Labour Congress (CLC) is a federation of approximately sixty-five unions with 2.5 million members in virtually all sectors and occupations in all parts of Canada. The CLC represents its member unions in the political arena both nationally and internationally, and it provides common services to members of affiliated unions, particularly in the field of education.

Trade union membership is the strongest positive social or economic characteristic that predicts participation in a workplace pension plan. Thus the CLC has a very active pension committee with a keen interest in pension investment issues. The CLC has been working with affiliated unions to develop an approach to pension fund investing that reinforces a broader trade union agenda. The CLC has also been looking to expand the educational opportunities for pension plan trustees to learn about alternative approaches to pension fund investing. The research project you have submitted for funding will make a very useful contribution to our understanding of pension investment issues.

All of the sub-projects that have been identified are of interest to the CLC and I would hope that with the participation of members of the CLC Pension Committee, we could make a contribution to all of them. That having been said, let me identify a few of them that are of particular interest: corporate engagement; economically targeted investment; global standards; potential role conflicts of trustees; education development project; and, evaluation of trustee education program.

.../2



The CLC would like to support this project in several ways: through direct CLC staff involvement in the project; by facilitating wider trade union involvement in the project; by facilitating access of the project to the trade union movement; and, by assisting in the dissemination of research results.

Bob Baldwin, the CLC's Director of Social and Economic Policy, will be the CLC's lead contact person for the project. He can be reached at the mailing address on the letterhead and at: bbaldwin@clc-ctc.ca, and (613) 726-0553.

I wish you and your collaborators all the best in the project and I look forward to the final results of your work.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'K. Georgetti', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Kenneth V. Georgetti
President