

L.I.U.N.A. Ontario Provincial District Council

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LiUNA!

September 17, 2025

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ONTARIO LABOUR RELATIONS BOARD 505 University Avenue, 2nd Floor Toronto, Ontario M5G 2P1

Attention: Ms. Catherine Gilbert, Director/Registrar

Dear Ms. Gilbert:

Re: Ontario Association of Demolition Contractors Inc., (Applicant)
v. The Labourers' International Union of North America, Ontario

Provincial District Counsel and its affiliated Local Unions 183, 493, 506, 527, 607, 625, 837, 1036, 1059 and 1089, (Responding

Party)

OLRB File No. 1323-25-R (Accreditation)

We are counsel for the responding party, the Labourers' International Union of North America, Ontario Provincial District Council and its affiliated Locals ("LIUNA").

LIUNA supports the Ontario Association of Demolition Contractors' ("OADC") request that the Board deny the request by the International Union of Operating Engineers, Local 793 ("Local 793") for standing to intervene in this accreditation application.

For all of the reasons identified by the OADC, Local 793 has no direct legal interest in this matter. Its intervention constitutes an abuse of the Board's process, brought solely for collateral and improper purposes.

Local 793's submission manufactures a controversy that does not exist, even by its own account. The central basis for its request for standing is found at paragraph 5 of Schedule A of its intervention (emphasis added):

The parties to this accreditation application, <u>as we understand it</u>, take the position that the bargaining rights held by the Labourers in respect of its demolition contractors and the scope of the provincial collective agreement between the Labourers Union and the Ontario Demolition





Contractors Association <u>covers</u>, *inter alia*, operating engineers in the ICI sector of the construction industry. This is the collective agreement that would become the accredited collective agreement should the Board grant accreditation in this proceeding.

To be clear, no party to this application has asserted that the LIUNA Demolition Agreement includes bargaining rights for the *trade* of operating engineers in the ICI sector. Nor does Local 793 claim that LIUNA holds such bargaining rights. Further, no one claims there is an overlap between the two trades' respective designations in the ICI sector.

As the OADC has previously noted, the proposed bargaining unit is limited to employers of employees for whom LIUNA holds bargaining rights engaged in demolition work. An accreditation application does not expand nor alter the bargaining rights themselves, only the manner in which such bargaining rights are organized.

Instead, Local 793 merely "understands" that the parties may interpret the Demolition Agreement as "covering" operating engineers. In other words, Local 793 seeks standing based on its belief that parties to a collective agreement to which it is a stranger might interpret that agreement differently than it does. It seeks to insert itself into these proceedings to compel the Board or the parties to explicitly declare an interpretation that aligns with its own, despite the fact that this interpretative issue does not naturally arise in this application and is completely unnecessary to its disposition.

Moreover, Local 793's use of the term "covers" is a textbook example of equivocation— a logical fallacy in which a term with multiple meanings is used ambiguously to support a flawed argument. The phrase "covers operating engineers" could mean either that the bargaining unit includes the trade of operating engineers in the ICI sector, or that the agreement covers the work of operating equipment. As the Board has repeatedly emphasized, there is a "critical difference" between bargaining rights and work jurisdiction, and these concepts must remain distinct (see *PCL Constructors Canada Inc.*, 2014 CanLII 10697 (ON LRB) at paras. 47–52, https://canlii.ca/t/g645m).

Local 793's intervention deliberately blurs this distinction in an attempt to secure standing. Its true objective is to elicit an explicit exclusion from the Board that it can later use to bolster its work jurisdictional claims. This intervention wastes the Board's time and resources on a non-existent issue, and is plainly intended to gain an improper strategic advantage in future proceedings.

For these reasons, LIUNA respectfully requests that the Board reject Local 793's request for standing in this matter.

Sincerely,

Yu-Sung Soh Senior Legal Counsel

YS:dds

c: **LiUNA, OPDC,** Attention: Jack Oliveira, Paul Hickey, Michael Mancinelli, Saranjit Singh Cheema and Shaun Rae

LiUNA, Local 183, Attention: Jack Oliveira, Graham Williamson and Legal Department

LiUNA, Local 493, Attention: Mike Ryan

LiUNA, Local 506, Attention: Carmen Principato and Ryan Ehrenworth

LiUNA, Local 527, Attention: Luigi Carrozzi and Andree Maltais

LiUNA, Local 607, Attention: Terry Varga

LiUNA, Local 625, Attention: Robert Petroni

LiUNA, Local 837, Attention: Riccardo Persi

LiUNA, Local 1036, Attention: Wayne Scott

LiUNA, Local 1059, Attention: Brandon MacKinnon and Lauren Donohue

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