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JAN 13 2010

Ms. Diane A. Urquhart
Independent Financial Analyst
1486 Marshwood Place
Mississauga, Ontario
L5J 4J6

Dear Ms. Urquhart:

Thank you for your most recent e-mails concerning employee rights and the termination of Nortel employees. I appreciate your comments and continuing concern regarding this important issue.

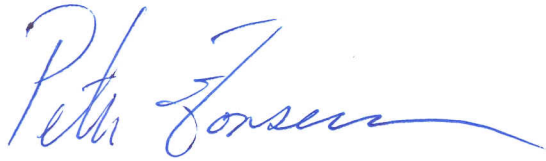
The McGuinty government recognizes the anxiety of workers and their families when their employer goes bankrupt and seeks protection under the federal *Companies Creditors Arrangement Act*. You may be interested to know that Premier Dalton McGuinty and the Honourable Dwight Duncan, Minister of Finance, have called on the federal government to begin a national discussion on these issues, including a national summit on pension reform. Minister Duncan has also asked for an actuarial study of the Pension Benefits Guarantee Fund.

As you know, the federal government has recently introduced the Wage Earner Protection Program (WEPP), which provides employees whose employers became bankrupt or are subject to a receivership with payment of up to \$3,250 for unpaid wages, vacation pay, termination pay, and severance pay. I have personally written to the federal Minister of Labour requesting that the cap per individual be increased and that the eligibility date be moved to July 7, 2008 to capture workers caught in the recent economic downturn. I continue to request that the federal *Bankruptcy and Insolvency Act (BIA)* be amended to extend secured creditor status to workers who are owed termination and severance pay, and that the Employment Insurance fund be revised to bring parity to benefits paid to Ontario's unemployed workers.

I note your comments on amendments to the *BIA* respecting credit default swap contracts. While you correctly note that the *BIA* falls under federal jurisdiction, I have forwarded a copy of your correspondence to Minister Duncan so he is also aware of your concerns. I am sure Minister Duncan will be interested in your views as discussions with his federal counterpart on pension reform and other related matters proceed.

Thank you again for writing.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Peter Fonseca". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping underline.

Peter Fonseca
Minister

c: The Honourable Dwight Duncan, Minister of Finance