



Mounted Police Professional Association of Canada
Association Canadienne de la Police Montée Professionnelle

Member Communication

This is the ninth in a series of communications from MPPAC, the Mounted Police Professional Association of Canada. Visit [our website](#) for more information on how you can [become a member](#), and to access our [previous messages](#).

DEAR COLLEAGUES

We write to share with you how last week's Supreme Court ruling in *Fraser v. Attorney General of Ontario* ("Fraser") will affect you, our pursuit of an independent association for all members, and the on-going changes to labour relations within the RCMP.

THE FRASER DECISION

The Supreme Court of Canada's decision in *Fraser* is the first time, since their groundbreaking 2007 ruling in *Health Services Bargaining Association v. British Columbia* ("BC Health Services"), that the court has had the opportunity to address collective bargaining as part of the constitutional freedom of association.

In *BC Health Services*, the Supreme Court held that collective bargaining was indeed part of the constitutional freedom of association and their decision in *Fraser* maintained that position.

The *Fraser* case considered whether or not the legislation governing labour relations for agricultural workers was sufficient to cover their needs. The court found that the existing legislation could be interpreted in a way that was consistent with the right to engage in a process of collective bargaining.

The *Fraser* decision is important to our association because the Court of Appeal granted the government a stay of the order in our case, but the stay will expire 30 days after the *Fraser* decision was released — on 29 May 2011.

Over the next few weeks, we shall see how the government responds and whether it will seek to extend the stay, continuing to challenge the Ontario Superior Court of Justice's decision (rendered by Justice McDonnell).

WHAT THIS MEANS FOR YOUR INDEPENDENT ASSOCIATION

The Mounted Police Professional Association of Canada is pleased that the *Fraser* decision has finally been released — and, that it endorses both the previous decision in the *BC Health Services* case and the right to engage in collective bargaining.

We are eager to start that process as soon as the stay is lifted, and we are prepared to do so regardless of whether the government decides to legislate a labour relations framework (as was attempted with Bill C-43, *The RCMP Modernization Act*, during the last government).

WHAT THIS MEANS FOR YOU

The *Fraser* ruling represents another in a series of transitions within an on-going change to labour relations in the RCMP. It does not endorse the status quo.

We believe that members want an independent association to engage in good faith negotiations and to produce collective agreements — through collective bargaining — with our employer.

We believe this is the future of employee relations and we will proceed in this way on behalf of our growing membership.

Join us: help set our agenda and grow our independent organization into a positive force for change in the lives of all members of the force.

THERE'S STILL TIME!

Our nationwide membership drive extends into May!

Simply visit [our website to register online or download the form](#). It's fast and simple!

It's your RCMP, it's your future, you can make a difference!