

MAR 30 2016

Minister of
Innovation, Science and
Economic Development



Ministre de
l'Innovation, des Sciences et du
Développement économique

Ottawa, Canada K1A 0H5

MAR 18 2016

His Worship Fred Eisenberger
Mayor of the City of Hamilton
71 Main Street West, 2nd Floor
Hamilton, Ontario L8P 4Y5

Dear Mr. Mayor:

On December 16, 2015, the Prime Minister's Office forwarded to me a copy of your letter regarding the security of employee pensions and health benefits in the *Companies' Creditors Arrangement Act* (CCAA) proceedings of U.S. Steel Canada (USSC). I regret the delay in replying to you.

The Government of Canada recognizes the importance of a strong and viable steel industry to the Canadian economy, and in particular to the City of Hamilton. For more than a century, steelmakers in Hamilton and other Canadian cities have greatly contributed to the development of Canadian industry and manufacturing. The Government also understands the importance of secure pensions and retirement benefits. Please be assured that we are engaged with these issues and understand the challenges USSC's ongoing CCAA proceedings present for its current and former employees, pensioners, suppliers and other stakeholders. The Government will continue to monitor the situation closely, with the hope of a successful restructuring that is fair to all USSC stakeholders and their communities.

As Minister of Innovation, Science and Economic Development, I have been mandated by the Prime Minister to help Canadian businesses grow, innovate and export so that they can create good-quality jobs and wealth for Canadians. I am committed to working with provinces, territories and municipalities to develop strategies that will support economic growth and help Canadian firms compete successfully in export markets. Our government will deliver on these commitments to improve economic opportunity and security for the City of Hamilton and all Canadians.

Thank you for taking the time to write on this important matter, and please accept my best wishes.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "N. Bains".

The Honourable Navdeep Bains, P.C., M.P.

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