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November 6, 2014

Dear Brother Riggs and Brother Neumann:

As President of the Coalition of Black Trade Unionists' Canadian Chapter, I am proud to hear that the Telecommunications Workers Union and the United Steelworkers have reached a tentative merger agreement. The continued support of the strong activists in the USW and TWU have benefitted our Chapter for many years. It is our sincere hope that, during this voting period, your members realise what a positive potential impact a merger would have on the workers you represent as well as the labour movement on a whole.

The CBTU was also pleased to see the recognition given to our labour association in your tentative merger document. To quote Martin Luther King Jr: *"The labor movement was the principal force that transformed misery and despair into hope and progress. Out of its bold struggles, economic and social reform gave birth to unemployment insurance, old-age pensions, government relief for the destitute and, above all, new wage levels that meant not mere survival but a tolerable life."*

We look forward to continued partnerships and engagement from your members, and wish you great success on your campaign to unite as one.

In Solidarity



President