

Dear Mayor Savage,

I am a resident of the Halifax Regional Municipality and a voter in our municipal elections.

On June 25, after a 6 week lockout by Halifax Water and Wastewater, CUPE Locals 227 and 1431 made a very balanced proposal that would benefit both ratepayers and future retirees.

Their proposal will save ratepayers \$1.8 million over 15 years, while protecting 98% of the workers' pension plan benefits.

Saving money while helping pensioners? That's something I expect my mayor to support!

Just last week, CBC News reported that seniors are going bankrupt in record numbers. And this week it was reported in the Globe and Mail that seniors are being forced to retire earlier, and are having trouble making ends meet.

Union retirees at Halifax Water and Wastewater will receive a modest \$22,000 on average when they retire. Senior management retirees can receive more than \$84,000. Yet Halifax Water is demanding further concessions that favour managers over workers.

On November 23, 2010, you said in the House of Commons, "One of the biggest issues facing Canadians today is the security of senior citizens. If they have gone past working age, what are they going to live on? It is an increasing problem. Among the saddest meetings we have as members of Parliament, certainly in my case, are with people who tell me they are retired or were planning to retire very soon but it has all gone up in smoke."

You have an opportunity to make things better for our hardworking water and wastewater employees. Please tell Halifax Water to get back to the bargaining table and accept the union's proposal.

Yours truly,

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Signature

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Name

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Address

cc Members of HRM Council