



December 19, 2012

SENT BY EMAIL AND REGULAR MAIL

The Honourable Tony Clement, PC, MP  
President of the Treasury Board  
House of Commons  
131 Queen Street,  
Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0A6

Dear Minister Clement,

Re: Signing of Collective Agreement

The Association of Justice Counsel (AJC), for which I serve as President, was pleased to have participated in meaningful negotiations with Treasury Board and that we were able to reach a reasonable agreement for a deserving membership. We believe that this dialogue, along with the fact that 91.5% of our members approved the proposed agreement, shows a maturation in the relationship between the Treasury Board and the AJC, restores good faith between the parties, and goes a long way in improving morale amongst federal lawyers demoralized by the *Expenditure Restraint Act* and by the recent waves of layoffs.

With our membership in mind, the AJC would like to maintain this positive tone in our relationship and I ask that the Collective Agreement be finalized as soon as possible. I am writing to request that you instruct your officials to place the approval of the Collective Agreement between the Treasury Board and the Association of Justice Counsel on the agenda for the next scheduled meeting. The agreement was reached on June 25<sup>th</sup>, 2012, presented to our members and was approved in early October. At the time, Treasury Board officials informed us that the agreement would be finalized by the fall. Unfortunately, this has not occurred and our membership is becoming increasingly concerned.

I would also like to request that the Departments be instructed to implement the provisions "as soon as possible" after the signing of the Collective Agreement, and not extend that period to the full 120 days provided in the Collective Agreement.

I look forward to hearing from you and hope to have an opportunity to meet in person in 2013.

Best regards,

Lisa Blais  
President  
Association of Justice Counsel

cc: Tony Clement, MP, Constituency office