



**COMMUNICATIONS, ENERGY AND PAPERWORKERS UNION OF CANADA  
SYNDICAT CANADIEN DES COMMUNICATIONS, DE L'ÉNERGIE ET DU PAPIER**

**DAVE COLES**

President / président

January 26, 2012

To all CEP Local Unions

Greetings,

I want to inform you of a very important decision by the CEP National Executive Board which met this week in Ottawa. The Executive Board voted unanimously to approve a joint protocol with the Canadian Autoworkers Union (CAW) to discuss the possibility of a new Canadian union. The CAW Executive Board last week also unanimously adopted the protocol. The protocol and a background discussion paper are now posted on [www.cep.ca](http://www.cep.ca).

The goal of the process is to make a report to the respective conventions of each union later in 2012. Our Executive Board emphasized that this process must be based on transparency, democratic debate and respect for the constitutional authorities of each union. Throughout the process there will be updates posted on the CEP web site and reports made to membership meetings and conferences in all parts of the country.

This will be an exciting time for Canadian trade unionists to discuss and envision a new and stronger labour movement. I look forward to hearing from you in the coming months.

As I emphasized in my year end message to CEP locals and members, this process will not affect CEP representation of our members or our campaigns. CEP remains strong and united and ready for action in 2012!

In solidarity,

Dave Coles,  
President  
FW/nb

c.c. CEP Executive Board  
CEP Officers  
CEP National Representatives

