



NATIONAL DISTRIBUTION UNION

20 October 2006

NZ Professional Firefighters Union
Derek Best
Secretary
PO Box 38-213
Petone
WELLINGTON

Dear Derek

**LOCKED OUT PROGRESSIVE DISTRIBUTION CENTRE WORKERS -
AUCKLAND, PALMERSTON NORTH & CHRISTCHURCH**

I am writing to express our gratitude for your Union's support of the unions and workers involved in the dispute with Woolworths Australia's New Zealand subsidiary Progressive Enterprises.

I am enormously proud of the strength our members, unions and the wider community mustered in the face of the most aggressive corporate attack that we have experienced in our recent history.

When our members reclaimed their workplace they were proud that they had achieved their goal of equal pay for equal work at the company's three New Zealand distribution centres, a goal that the company had steadfastly refused to consider until 4 weeks into the lock out. But they were aware that much more than the industrial outcomes they had held fast to had been achieved. The dispute generated an outpouring of support from local workers and communities, an extraordinary level of practical solidarity among unions under the leadership of the NZCTU, and a connection between the workers and the international movement.

Thank you again.

Yours in unity

Laila Harré
NATIONAL SECRETARY

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