



Peterborough and District Labour Council  
Box 1928, Peterborough, Ontario, K9J 7X7  
1-833-862-3279

Chartered by the Canadian Labour Congress  
Affiliated with the Ontario Federation of Labour

February 18, 2022

For the past few weeks, national attention has been riveted on Ottawa and the Ambassador bridge as vehicular rallies shut down movement and commerce. [The Canadian Labour Congress](#), [Ontario Federation of Labour](#), and [Ottawa & District Labour Council](#) have all issued statements assessing the purposes, conduct, and effects of these actions and these statements all lead to the same conclusion. Deliberately inflicting harm on one's fellow citizens is criminal behaviour, not political speech. Done collectively, as has been the case in Ottawa and Windsor, the result is not a protest, but an occupation - an occupation that is proving itself reliant on American dollars, hostile to our democratic processes, and supportive of white supremacy and other toxic ideologies.

Now, we learn of calls for a "slow roll" convoy to make its way through Peterborough over the weekend. On behalf of a community that once sent thousands to fight fascism abroad, we oppose any effort to bring anti-democratic insurrection or any of the trappings of white supremacy to Peterborough. Let us not be taken in by these anti-social expressions of pandemic fatigue. COVID Road Rage is not about fixing things that are broken, it is about breaking things that the rest of us have been working to fix.

Fortunately, in pulling together to protect the most vulnerable and exposed among us, our community hasn't just been vaccinating against COVID-19. With every courtesy we've shown to keep those around us healthy and safe, we have also been immunizing ourselves against rage, hate and despair. We invite those taking a drive through our town on Saturday to take a peek out your side windows. If you're lucky, maybe you will catch a glimpse of kindness in its natural habitat.

From the Peterborough & District Labour Council Executive