To All CFL General Managers & Coaches,

The Canadian Football League Players Association is writing today to inform you of two issues currently in front of us all.

First, the players in this league want nothing more than to find a settlement with the CFL Players Relations Committee and that remains at the forefront of every discussion we have.

Secondly, we are prepared as an Association to take the necessary steps required to ensure this settlement is fair and respectable while addressing specific needs and concerns that our membership have voiced for many years. Having said that, we have notified the CFL that 97% of our members voted to not start Training Camp without a new agreement in place. If our talks with the League fail, job action will happen on the 18th of May, prior to the opening training camp. We think it makes sense that all teams would not start training camp if that happens, however the league sees it differently and will allow a situation to occur that could possibly give some teams a significant competitive advantage.

As you are aware, this means that teams in Alberta and Ontario will be allowed to participate in both practice and meetings sessions ahead of the other four teams. We have brought this timing issue to the attention of the CFL and stated that in our opinion, it would cause an extremely unfair advantage to certain clubs as they prepare for the 2019 season. We argue that it would be in everyone's best interest to have all clubs follow the same guidelines until a solution to an impasse has been found. The CFL has declined that request and we are prepared to move forward as described above.

Our players are as passionate about our game as everyone of you are and we felt that it was important to share the players perspective directly with the people who spend the day to day time with our members. Our hope remains for a strong sustainable CFL today, tomorrow and into the future.

Best regards,

Brian

Brian Ramsay

Executive Director | CFL Players' Association

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