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Dear O.L.I.T.A. Members:

After taking some time to reflect, your executive met recently in Vancouver to discuss the implications of our certification vote.

The results of the vote clearly show that the overwhelming majority of O.L.I. tutors do not favour certification. Despite our best efforts, only 33% voted for certification.

There are many reasons for our failure. The Institute's "passive resistance" helped the result. Their decision to abandon paid joint ABE, CTV and University workshops which we could use as a forum for organization hurt us, as did their refusal to provide current tutor lists. The geographic dispersal of tutors made our task of organization difficult, and the divergent interests of individual tutors made our appeal less than universal. If there is a lesson in all this it is that most tutors do not share our belief that collective action is the only way to improve the situation of tutors.

This means that O.L.I.T.A. stands at an important crossroads. It is the opinion of your executive that there are only two options available to us:

- A. We can pay the expenses incurred to date, refund the balance to those who contributed and dissolve O.L.I.T.A.
- B. We can form a society under the B. C. Societies Act and continue as an organization.

Option A must be considered because many tutors joined O.L.I.T.A. and contributed their \$29.00 on the understanding it would become a certified bargaining unit. Option B would allow us to become a legal entity in order to open a bank account and manage our affairs. However, the executive feels compelled to point out that Option B is unlikely to have a beneficial impact on the Institute as far as tutors are concerned. If the last few years have shown us anything, it is that the Institute is completely unwilling to make any voluntary concessions to benefit tutors. Realistically we must admit the continuation of O.L.I.T.A. as a society will only serve a social function (if workshops are not discontinued altogether) and perhaps as a springboard for another certification drive in three or four years. Even this is unlikely to succeed unless people agree to become actively involved in sharing the necessary work.

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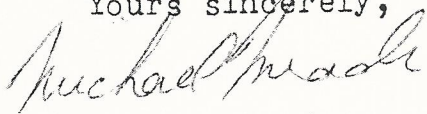
These are decisions the executive cannot make. Our mandate is limited to the attempt to seek certification as decided at our Annual General Meeting last summer. Our dilemma is compounded by the fact that the Institute is not going to call a joint tutor workshop which we can use for our Annual General Meeting this year.

We therefore ask O.L.I.T.A. members to vote for either Option A or B using the enclosed ballot. If at least 50% of the members do not vote for Option B and volunteer to do some work by September 15th the executive will take this as insufficient interest and proceed to implement Option A.

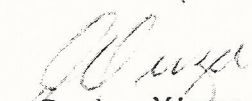
The 1982-83 executive is unable to serve again, although we are willing to help out occasionally. We therefore need volunteers to fill the positions of President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer. Since we are not proceeding toward the goal of certification we are not bound by the cumbersome and expensive mailed ballot procedure in our constitution. We therefore propose to select a new executive slate from the list of volunteers who indicate their willingness to serve. If we do not get enough volunteers to fill the four executive positions we will proceed with Option A for lack of interest by the membership.

The executive has worked hard on your behalf in 1982-83. It is now up to the members to decide the future.

Yours sincerely,



Michael Meade  
President



Rocky Mirza  
Vice-President



Judy Dillion  
Secretary