

House of Commons

Room 265, Wellington Building
Ottawa, ON K1A 0A6
Tel.: (613) 992-2919
Fax: (613) 995-0747

**Chambre des communes**

Piece 265, Édifice Wellington
Ottawa, ON K1A 0A6
Tél. : (613) 992-2919
Télec. : (613) 995-0747

Charlie Angus

Member of Parliament for Timmins - James Bay
Député de Timmins - baie James

Timmins

202-60 Wilson Avenue
Timmins, ON P4N 2S7
Tel.: (705) 268-6464
Fax: (705) 268-6460

Kirkland Lake

103A-30 Second Street
Kirkland Lake, ON P2N 3H7
Tel.: (705) 567-2747
Fax: (705) 567-5232

Mr. Mark Machin
CEO, CPPIB
1 Queen St E, Suite 2500
Toronto, ON M5C 2W5

July 4, 2019

Re: Investments in US detention facilities and private prisons

Dear Mr. Machin,

I am writing as a follow-up to our discussion last October on the decision by Canada Pension Plan to purchase \$5.9 million worth of stock in the US companies Geo Group and Core Civic, two companies deeply involved in the incarceration of migrant families in the United States.

At the time, the CPPIB and its responsible minister, the Hon. Bill Morneau, defended these investments. A spokesman from CPPIB noted that the Board's mission is to seek a maximum return without undue risk, and that it does not divest from individual firms as a matter of policy. Mr. Morneau stated in the House of Commons that the decision to invest in these detention facilities represented the "highest standards of ethics."

There was a considerable outpouring of public anger, which resulted in an impressive public awareness campaign for change.

Given the horrifying evidence of abuse in these privatized detention centres I think we can agree that the position taken by the CPPIB and the Liberal government required serious reconsideration.

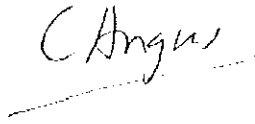
Recent CPPIB Securities and Exchange Commissions filings from May no longer list CoreCivic and Geo Group among its investments. This is a welcome change, and I am extremely pleased to see that Canadian pension dollars are no longer supporting these cruel, unethical companies, and by extension, the policies that keep their shareholders rich.

With that said, I would welcome an explanation of why CPPIB no longer owns shares in these companies – was this a deliberate decision, or an automatic function of the passive investment program?

Is CPPIB making a clear commitment that the pension savings of Canadians will no longer be used to support the privatized detention system in the United States? Canadians have great faith in the work of CPPIB and assurances in this area would go along way to maintaining this confidence.

I look forward to your reply.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "C Angus". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above a horizontal line.

Charlie Angus, MP
Timmins—James Bay