Lay off of Local 100 members continue at CN Rail

CN Rail advised the Local Union leadership on May 4, 2016 that due to the continuing down turn in traffic and with 450 locomotives now in storage, CN would be laying off additional members in the coming week. We have been told that there will be 12 Diesel Engine Mechanics (DEM) and 8 Electricians laid off in Winnipeg's Symington Diesel shop and 8 DEM's will be laid off at the Prince George Wheel Shop.

All received their 4 day notice on Friday May 6, 2016.

This all comes on the heels of earlier layoffs in Montreal (5), Windsor (3) and 38 Apprentices in Winnipeg's Transcona Shop. CN has taken other actions as well which have had an impact on the Local workforce and work load;

- In additional to halting the replacement of head count due to attrition, CN has also paused the hiring of 100 employees above attrition which they had committed to in the last round of negotiations.
- Transcona's capital program budget has been cut by 40%.
- Toronto Wheel Shop has been temporarily closed and all of our members have been moved to the Diesel Shop.

As we write this RailLine, Local 100 will have 74 of its members on lay off status across the system. Adding attrition to those numbers means that Local 100 membership will have been reduced by nearly 200 members over the past 12 months.

While we acknowledge there is a downturn in traffic, we must remain vigilant in protecting our work and your Local 100 leadership is asking that its members report to the Location Chair any situations where they see the railway contracting out our work or Supervisors working the tools. Please include as much detail as possible.

In Solidarity,
Ken Hiatt - Local 100 President
Jacques Ouimet - Regional Vice-President, Atlantic/St. Lawrence
Ashok Venkataraman - Regional Vice-President, Great Lakes
Terry McKimm - Regional Vice-President, Prairie Region
Zoltan Czippel - Regional Vice-President, Mountain Region
Chris Garrod - Legislative Co-ordinator
Marcel Rondeau - National Representative
Brian Stevens - National Rail Director
Bob Orr - Assistant to the National Secretary-Treasurer