Unifor opens Negotiations with CP Rail and CN & CNTL

Sisters and brothers,

The national collective agreements for CP (Local 101R) and CN & CNTL (Local 100 and Council 4000) expire on December 31, 2014. On September 17th, 2014 we opened negotiations with CP Rail in Calgary and on September 19th, 2014 we opened negotiations with CN & CNTL in Montreal.

Unifor National President Jerry Dias and Assistant to President Bob Orr joined the CP and CN & CNTL Unifor Bargaining Committees and National Staff at each of their respective negotiations in Calgary and Montreal.

Although this is the official opening, the committees raised numerous issues that are affecting the membership in each of their respective railways including wages, pensions, benefits, job security, contracting out and working conditions. Within the exchange of proposals, both corporations have proposed significant changes and concessions to work rules and other matters, such as benefits and length of the agreement.

CP and CN & CNTL have made significant gains in the past decade and both railways have excelled in revenue growth, productivity and in their profits. President Dias commented to both companies "We are well aware that the railways continue to experience major gains in its bottom line and productivity that's a direct result of the hard work and dedication of our Unifor members. We intend to achieve a bargained agreement that recognizes our members' contribution to the company's success."

RailLine will be used as a critical tool in order to fully update our membership and leadership on the status of negotiations as we move forward. The bargaining committees of CN & CNTL, Local 100 and Council 4000 and CP Rail, Local 101R are working together in unison, as it is important to have full solidarity as we move through what is expected to be a difficult round of negotiations.

In solidarity,

CN Master Bargaining Committees, Local 100
CN & CNTL Master Bargaining Committees, Council 4000
CP Rail Master Bargaining Committee, Local 101R

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