

## Following pandemic struggles, VIA Rail bargaining to re-start with virtual meetings VIA Rail Bargaining Update #5

Unifor Local 100 and Council 4000 are set to re-start negotiations with VIA Rail following months of crisis management throughout the first and now second waves of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Local 100 virtual bargaining is scheduled for next week, from October 14-16 and October 19-23. Unifor Council 4000 is in talks with VIA on scheduling a return to the bargaining table at the end of October and/or beginning of November.

Previously scheduled dates this spring were cancelled as the pandemic took hold of our communities and workplaces, then in-person dates were postponed once again in September as cases of COVID-19 rose once again.

The priority of the union continues to be both the immediate health and safety, and income protection of members, as well as the long-term fight for a fair contract that better serves all members.

Bargaining will not be delayed again. All currently scheduled dates will be hosted virtually, to ensure participation without unnecessary risk.

Unifor will update all members on the status of negotiations following, or during these rounds. This newsletter and the website are your best source for up to date information.

The union does not bargain in public, but we will use these tools to update you as often as possible. We would ask all members to not listen to the Employer for updates, or entertain rumours that may come up during the bargaining process. Please reach out to your local union representatives for additional information or with questions.

We would like to thank the membership for their continuing show of support.

Visit www.unifor.org/viarail to read and share this update online.

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