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**Wesley Gajda**  
Regional Representative

Barry Kennedy  
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Heather Grant  
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March 1, 2014

## **Attention: CNTL Vancouver Owner Operators – Unifor Members Update on Port Metro Vancouver Dispute**

We have been working with CN and CNTL in concern of what is transpiring at the ports in the Greater Vancouver area.

CN and CNTL (the Company) acknowledge our concerns and have said that they will work with us in taking steps to protect our members (CNTL Owner Operators) in the event of threats, intimidation or vandalism stemming from the dispute between Port Metro Vancouver and the United Truckers Association (UTA).

The Company has retained the services of a private security firm to monitor the three parking areas where our members park their trucks. Additionally, the Company will provide CN Police escorts when CNTL drivers are dispatched to the ports. CN says they are only going to move perishable items. They have told us that should a member express concern for personal safety or potential damage to their truck if dispatched to a port, they will bypass that driver and go to the next driver. But if everyone was to refuse a dispatch to the ports, the Company will start the process over and would contemplate disciplinary action against our members for refusing dispatch based on refusal being a breach to the standard contract.

On February 28, 2014, Port Metro Vancouver obtained a federal injunction that prevents the UTA from protesting or disrupting port operations. Port Metro Vancouver states that any individuals caught intimidating, making threats or vandalizing property will have their port licenses terminated. A copy of the injunction is available on our website; [www.unifor4000.com](http://www.unifor4000.com)

## **Unifor-Vancouver Container Truckers' Association (VCTA) Strike Vote**

Today, members of Unifor-Vancouver Container Truckers' Association (VCTA) voted overwhelmingly in favour of strike action. Unifor-VCTA President Paul Johal cited a lack of progress at the bargaining table for taking the strike vote.

Unifor-VCTA's collective agreement expired in June 2012. During that time, the Union has been raising concerns that long line-ups and wait times at the port are costing their members money. Unifor-VCTA is demanding increased rates of pay at the bargaining table and wants the rates standardized and enforced across the sector to put an end to under-cutting.

Unifor is also calling on the federal and provincial governments and the Ports to appoint Mediator Vince Ready to review the situation and make recommendations to solve the long-standing issues.

Unifor National Council 4000 President Barry Kennedy has said that Council 4000, which represents 4,500 Unifor members across all 10 Canadian provinces, including 800 CNTL Owner Operators, supports the Unifor-VCTA membership. "We will address with CN and CNTL that our Union will respect any picket lines at any of the ports should there be strike action in the coming days and would expect that the Company will work with us in making alternative arrangements to alleviate the need of our Unifor Council 4000/Local 4001 membership having to enter the ports at a time when other Unifor members are on a legal strike.

It is important for our membership to understand that despite the unanimous strike vote by the Unifor-VCTA membership, they cannot initiate strike action until such time they issue the required 72-hours' notice as required under the Canada Labour Code.

We will continue to keep our membership abreast of any information as it becomes available.

In Solidarity,

Wesley Gajda  
Regional Representative  
Unifor National Council 4000

Cc: Barry Kennedy - President, Unifor National Council 4000  
John Dowell - President, Unifor Local 4001  
Unifor CNTL Chief Shop Stewards / Local Chairpersons  
Bob Fitzgerald - National Representative, Unifor