

CN RAIL BARGAINING UPDATE

Yesterday, December 18, 2014 the Master Bargaining Committees for Local 100 and National Council 4000 in consultation with Unifor National President Jerry Dias and Assistant to Unifor President Bob Orr, adjourned contract negotiations with CN Rail over the holiday season.

Unifor opened negotiations with CN on September 19, 2014 where CN indicated they were fully prepared to work towards a settlement prior to the expiry of the agreements on December 31, 2014. Following months of negotiations and long hours, this week at the bargaining table it became clear that several stumbling blocks on non-economic issues would prevent the talks from moving forward and reaching a tentative collective agreement at this time.

Unifor had four CN bargaining tables meeting concurrently since Monday morning in Montreal, involving Local 100 Shopcraft, National Council 4000 Intermodal, Owner Operators, Excavator operators along with Savage Alberta Railway.

“There is frustration on the part of all of the bargaining committees that CN has refused to address the issues necessary that would help move discussions along,” said Unifor President Jerry Dias, who has been participating in the negotiations this week.

CN and Unifor have spoken with the assigned Federal Conciliation officers who have been overseeing all bargaining tables, and will be scheduling meetings in January for the resumption of negotiations. We remind our members that contract negotiations are always challenging and often involve complex issues, however your elected bargaining committees remain committed to reaching fair and equitable settlements for all Unifor represented members at CN Rail. We will continue to provide updates as the information becomes available but once again, it is critical that our members support their committees.

We urge our members not to listen to rumours or innuendoes and should questions arise, members should contact their National Union Representative, Local President or respective Vice-President.

In solidarity,
Local 100 Master Bargaining Committee
National Council 4000 Master Bargaining Committees