



TEAMSTERS CANADA RAIL CONFERENCE DIVISION 320



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Subject: CP and Vancouver 2010 Olympics

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

The appended article was posted on the TCRC National website, originally posted in the Vancouver Sun. Most interesting are the comments regarding what freight will be like during the Olympics. Can anyone spell AV during the Olympics?

In Solidarity,

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Greater industrial security expected at 2010 Games

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Source: By Scott Simpson, VANCOUVER SUN

It's going to be business as usual, or something close to it, during the 2010 Olympic Games for many large-scale industries operating in the general vicinity of Games venues.

Operators who routinely transport hazardous goods, such as CP Rail and Burnaby's Chevron refinery, are stepping up security measures for the Winter Games next February in Vancouver.

But along with Port Metro Vancouver and the RCMP-led Integrated Security Unit, they said in interviews that the primary focus for regular users of the port is to minimize the impact of Olympic security upon their customers.

"We are dealing with an area that's very diverse in terms of its means of transportation," said Cpl. Bert Paquet, a spokesman for the Integrated Security Unit (ISU).

"If we were in the middle of the continent, or somewhere on the Prairies, you'd have to worry about two means of transportation.

"But here, with air, marine, rail and roads and a dense population right in the middle of the Olympics, as well as a domain in Whistler that is more remote and with less access, it brings all kinds of different challenges that we have to take into consideration in our planning."

CP Rail, which has a major downtown rail yard, faces some of the most direct effects: about

five per cent of its cargo is classified as dangerous goods, including radioactive and explosive materials.

Security restrictions announced last month include a ban from Jan. 26 to March 4 on transport of those materials in the downtown core.

CP spokesman Mike LoVecchio said in an interview that the railway and its customers were given sufficient advance notice of the restrictions to work out alternative delivery options.

"I can tell you there have been significant, detailed discussions on security," LoVecchio said.

"There is broad agreement that this is the right approach, and you have everybody working together.

"The impact to us is negligible. We will face a bigger impact [to movement of freight traffic] from the increased West Coast Express [commuter rail] service."

Graham Kee, Port of Vancouver vice-president for Olympic operations, is "very confident" that impact on the port's customers will be minimal.

"We do have a restriction on certain dangerous goods that are going to be in place at Centerm and Vanterm [in Burrard Inlet]. It's only a couple hundred containers during that period of time that we won't be processing through those two terminals."

The precautions are not in expectation of a terrorist threat, he noted, but rather as a matter of enhancing public safety concerns about hazardous material transport, "because those goods would require quite a large response and we want to mitigate any potential extra strain on response agencies."

Ray Lord, manager of public and government affairs for Chevron, said the Burnaby refinery has been "very engaged with the port authority [and] with the various other security agencies."

The refinery is well outside restricted transportation zones, but will nonetheless "ramp up" an already security and safety-conscious operation while maintaining a focus on getting products to market, either by ship through Burrard Inlet or by tanker truck to Chevron's Lower Mainland gas stations.

"There will be some changes to schedules and frequency [of deliveries] and so on, but our plan is to maintain normal operations within those changes that will be taking place during the period of the games," Lord said.

"We've got materials coming into the plant, we've got vessels transporting finished products out of the refinery and that will continue."

A spokesman for Calgary-based Canexus, which manufactures chlorine at a plant near the North Vancouver waterfront east of the second narrows bridge, said "no one" from the Olympic security force or other federal agency is pressing the company to halt operations during the Games.

"We have been audited, we have been checked, we have been in close contact with the powers that be around the Olympics, so we are in good shape, we feel," said Andy Lacara, vice-president of manufacturing for Canexus.

Susan Danard, BC Hydro media relations manager, said the Crown corporation is ramping up operations to minimize the risk of a blackout during the games. Hydro is also intensifying security procedures, just as it did for the APEC summit in 1997, Expo 86 and the Commonwealth Games in 1994. "We are obliged to provide security for the public, our assets, and our employees whenever there is a large-scale event that attracts global attention. This is bigger than those [previous] events, obviously, but along the same lines.