



TEAMSTERS CANADA RAIL CONFERENCE DIVISION 320



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December 1, 2009

Subject: Back to Work Legislation, Bill C-61 and Process

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Appended is a bulletin from RunningTrades.Com regarding the proposed legislation to force our Brothers & Sisters back to work on the CN. If you are interested, a copy of the bill, and the legislative process is available in PDF, and is attached to the circular e-mail with this document.

In Solidarity,

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The Government of Canada has drafted Bill C61 "An Act to provide for the resumption and continuation of railway operations". The act provides for the return to work of striking locomotive engineers at CN Rail, the continuation of existing collective agreements and the appointment of an arbitrator to settle outstanding issues and report to the minister within 90 days. The bill has yet to be debated in Parliament.

It is notable that the arbitration set by the minister, if passed, is of the *interest arbitration* type, as opposed to the *final offer selection* imposed after the 2007 strike. The union and company are free to continue negotiations and to settle all matters within the timetable of arbitration. Failing a successful resolve of outstanding matters, the arbitrator's decision will be final and binding.

With the continuation of existing collective agreements, CN Rail's unilateral change to mileage regulations, along with the modest 1.5% wage increase will be nullified.

The governing Conservatives, with the support of the opposition Liberals, is expected to hurry the legislation through Parliament this week by limiting debate and waiving normal procedures for review and amendment. The NDP and BQ are opposed to fast tracking the bill.