



TEAMSTERS CANADA RAIL CONFERENCE DIVISION 320



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December 2, 2009

Subject: TCRC – CN Reach agreement

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Appended are two bulletins from the TCRC National website, forwarded for your information.

In Solidarity,

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CN Rail strike settled as two sides reach agreement

Published: December 2nd 2009

Source: Canadian Press

OTTAWA — Canadian National Railway Co. and the Teamsters union have reached a deal to end a strike by locomotive engineers which began Saturday. No details of Wednesday's agreement were immediately available.

Teamsters Canada president Daniel Shewchuk said the engineers will get back to work as quickly as possible, but didn't provide a timeline.

The agreement came after the federal government introduced legislation Monday to end the strike, which was to have been debated Wednesday evening.

Labour Minister Rona Ambrose credited the back-to-work bill — which would have referred all outstanding issues to arbitration — for the deal.

"Back-to-work legislation applied very real pressure on the parties," she said.

CN Rail is the country's largest railway and the government cited worries about the weak economy to justify the strike-ending legislation.

"Continuing the strike for any further amount of time would have had grave consequences for our economy," Ambrose said. Managers have been running the trains since the walkout began.

The 1,700 engineers, members of the Teamsters Canadian Rail Conference, have been without a contract for



almost a year. One of the main bones of contention between the two sides was hours of work. The railway wanted to extend the number of kilometres an engineer could cover in a month.

The union claimed this could cost jobs and leave some people working seven days a week. The company denied that.

TCRC and CNR sign agreement to end strike

Published: December 2nd 2009

Source: TCRC

Early Wednesday afternoon Teamsters Canada Rail Conference and Canadian National Railway signed an agreement to end the five day old strike by locomotive engineers.

The agreement provides for the parties to continue negotiations for a defined period of time in an effort to resolve the outstanding issues with a process that would require mutual agreement between the parties to submit any of the outstanding issues to arbitration. Wages and benefits, if unresolved, will be submitted to arbitration.

"The most contentious issue of having the mileage cap raised to 4300 miles per month was resolved at the last minute." stated TCRC President Daniel J Shewchuk, "Despite the threat of impending back to work legislation, it was made clear that any increase to the mileage cap would not result in an agreement" he added.

The agreement was a culmination of a very difficult round of negotiations and the Teamsters Canada Rail Conference would like to thank all their members for their support during this arduous process.

www.teamstersrail.ca