



Providing information by email to our members and fellow unionists

ILWU Canada **Waterfront eNews**

Official e-newsletter publication of the International Longshore & Warehouse Union Canada

Mar 27 , 2017

Greetings Brothers and Sisters,

Every week there are stories of victories and defeats in the labour movement. It reminds us that the struggle is real and that we can never become complacent. The ever increase pace of change is leaving some people behind and forcing others into acts of desperation.

Our Union is not only leading the fight on the labour front but in the community with our work with local charities. We all have a part to play. Be active in your communities and show that the ILWU cares. Every act of kindness goes a long way.

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In solidarity

Bob Dhaliwal

Secretary Treasurer

ILWU Canada

Precarious work's harsh realities; New poll suggests insecure jobs are harmful to mental health

Sara Mojtehdzadeh Work and Wealth Reporter

It's a well-known trope that millennials are permanently attached to their phones. But for 20-somethings such as Briea Beausoleil, the pastime isn't an exercise in vanity; it's a taxing feature of the precarious workplace.

For Beausoleil, the habit crept in after graduation. Her wages as an early childhood educator were too low to make a living, so she got a job as temporary, part-time employee at a Windsor-area factory, where erratic schedules meant much-needed shifts could crop up at any moment. "You were constantly by that phone, looking at it, just waiting for it to ring," Beausoleil, now 24, said. Stress, unhappiness and an unhealthy home life are the biggest consequences of unstable employment, according to a new survey of more than 4,000 workers by the Ontario Federation of Labour (OFL).

While financial insecurity was flagged as a cause for concern, respondents identified anxiety as the single most important repercussion of precarious jobs. "I'm not surprised because it's been happening for so long here in this province," OFL president Chris Buckley said. "My heart aches for people who are in this situation, because you can't plan your day-to-day life.

You can't plan your future. You can't plan anything." Some 31 per cent of survey respondents singled out their emotional health as the most significant casualty of precarious work.

An unreliable income made up the next biggest share of answers at 28 per cent. A further 22 per cent said precarious work compromised their inability to plan ahead. Respondents said other negative side-effects included lack of benefits, low wages and debt. "It was just stressful, because you didn't know when your money was coming in. You didn't

know what you were going to do next," Beausoleil said of her time as a temp.

Some **52 per cent** of workers in the GTA now experience some form of insecurity in their jobs. Half of the respondents to the OFL's survey of its members said they had been precariously employed in the past, and more than a quarter said they defined their current job as precarious.

Existing research conducted by United Way and McMaster University shows precarious workers are twice as likely as those in stable employment to report having mental-health problems. Indeed, low-income workers in stable jobs were found to report better mental health than higher-earning individuals in precarious jobs.

A 2012 University of Michigan study showed precarious workers in that state were five times more likely than those in secure jobs to be at risk of major or minor depression and three times more likely to report having an anxiety attack in the past month.

Research from Sweden suggests precarious work has a "scarring effect" on young people's long-term mental health. Yogendra Shakya, an assistant professor at the University of Toronto and senior researcher at Access Alliance Multicultural Health and Community Services, said his organization has "documented how precarious work conditions can disrupt family communication, substantially reduce the time family members spend with each other, increase marital conflicts and even result in breakdown of families.

"In absence of proactive policy actions to reverse the rise of precarious work, the increase in mental health issues and family health issues will result in profound social, economic and health care costs," he said. The Ontario government is currently reviewing its employment and labour laws with an eye to providing better protection for vulnerable workers. "Right off the hop, workers should have their schedule at least two weeks in advance.

They should be able to plan their lives at least two weeks out instead of sitting by the phone. The number of temporary jobs in Ontario has grown by 45 per cent since the year 2000," Buckley said. "I think the government has a real opportunity to make changes here, and I just hope that they're listening to people." Beausoleil says her break came when she landed a permanent position with Chrysler's Windsor assembly plant.

She's used the opportunity to get involved with the labour movement's Make It Fair campaign, which seeks to raise job standards for union and non-union members alike. "It's great for me, because not only can I help as someone who was in precarious work, but I can also help my friends who are going to school and working part-time jobs," she said. "There's a need to consider the whole picture instead of

the employers' bottom line," Buckley added. "This is about the well-being of workers, the health of workers."



Cool Video of a new ship being launched.

Layoffs likely as Saskatchewan rolls back wages 3.5 per cent: labour law prof;

Jennifer Graham, The Canadian Press

REGINA - A labour law expert says the Saskatchewan government seems to be taking a hands-off approach when it comes to how wage cuts are rolled out across the province. Premier Brad Wall announced last week the government is cutting compensation costs for the public sector by 3.5 per cent in the coming fiscal year.

Wall said he expects savings to come through negotiations with unions, and that the government won't prescribe any specific measures such as forcing workers to take unpaid days off. "The government is, I think, trying to keep its hands clean a bit here for many of the sort of difficult decisions that may be ahead," said Keir Vallance, an assistant professor at the University of Saskatchewan. "They're sort of leaving it to the public employers to sort out what that 3.5 per cent is going to look

like."Vallance says employers could get labour costs down by rolling back wages, having workers take unpaid days off, limiting overtime or through layoffs.

But the professor adds 3.5 per cent is a sizable cut that might not be reached by managing hours."It's likely that there's going to have to be some cuts, somewhere, I would suggest."Vallance says it's possible unions and employers could negotiate limits on who is affected.For example, in 1993, Bob Rae's NDP government in Ontario attempted to tackle a \$12-billion deficit by imposing wage concessions on public-sector workers, including 12 unpaid days off a year.But Rae's plan excluded workers who made less than \$30,000.

Wall says his government won't set a threshold."Maybe at the collective bargaining table we can achieve something that's a little better for the lower-income public servants than the higher-income public servants.

But I can't negotiate here, I can't start stipulating and I shouldn't. It wouldn't be respectful to collective bargaining," said Wall."We want to make sure the fundamental services are provided and we want to be as fair as we possibly can, but we have to find some savings.

"Wall has said that all MLAs and cabinet ministers will take a 3.5 per cent salary cut, too. Staff in the premier's office, as well as ministers' offices, will take nine unpaid days off a year to reduce their pay by about 3.5 per cent.

Members of the legislative assembly currently make about \$96,000 a year.

Cabinet ministers and the premier make extra - Wall takes home another \$70,000 more as premier.

Seven Missing after Turkish Ship Sinks off Libya



At least seven seafarers are missing after their vessel, the Turkey-flagged cargo ship Tinaztepe S, sank off the coast of Libya due to inclement weather conditions, [local media](#) reported.

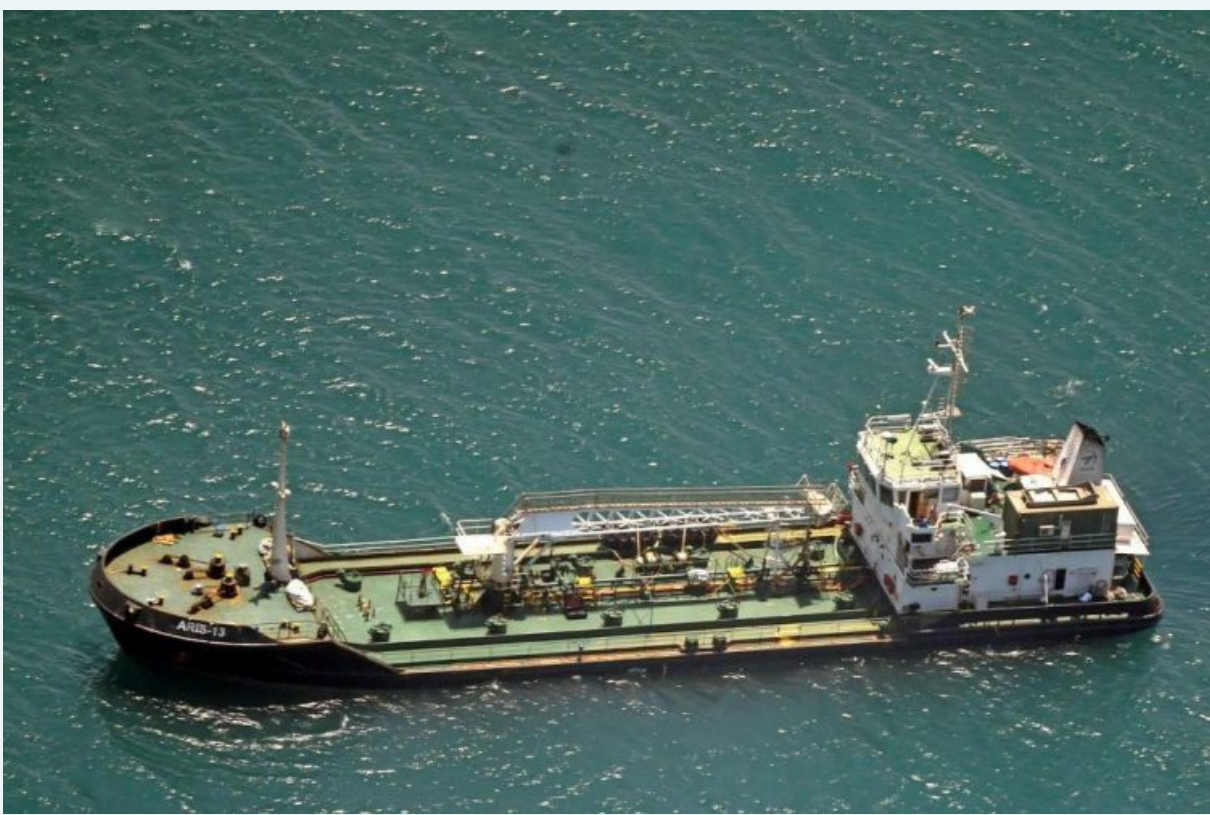
Libyan naval forces rescued six of the 1979-built ship's crewmembers following the incident, which occurred on March 16.

The vessel sank some 2 nautical miles off the coast of Misrata, local media cited a navy spokesperson.

The authorities launched a search and rescue operation for the missing crew, however, rough weather at the site is reportedly hampering the rescue efforts.

According to AIS data provided by MarineTraffic, the 3,200 dwt cargo ship arrived at the Misrata anchorage on March 13.

Somali Pirates Release Aris 13 and Its Crew



The Somali pirates have freed the Comoros-flagged bunkering tanker Aris 13 and its crew, according to Oceans Beyond Piracy (OBP).

The vessel was released on March 16 following negotiations between the Puntland Maritime Police Force (PMPF), local Somali authorities, clan elders in the Xabo region, and the pirates to free the ship and its crew.

Prior to the release, in the morning hours the same day, Somali authorities [exchanged gunfire](#) with the pirates, who were in the midst of resupplying themselves aboard the tanker in the country's anchorage off the north coast of Puntland, close to Alula.

OBP said that the 1990-built tanker is currently on its way to Somalia's port of Bossaso under the care of the PMPF, and that the entire crew is reported unharmed.

EU Naval Force earlier informed that the Somali pirates initially demanded a [ransom](#) for the ship's release, however, the amount of the ransom was not unveiled.

The vessel, which was the first commercial ship kidnapped by Somali pirates since 2012, was [hijacked](#) some 18 km off the northern tip of Somalia on March 13.

At the time of the incident the ship was en route to Mogadishu from Djibouti.

Spanish Congress Dismisses Port Reform Plan

The Spanish Congress has rejected the royal decree on the port system reform which was presented by the country's government earlier this year.

This decision follows the infringement procedure opened by the European Commission and the consequential European Court of Justice's judgment which ruled that the current stevedoring system in Spain violates the Article 49 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (TFEU).

However, the proposed reform "suppressed" the current stevedoring regime, the Spanish Congress said in a statement.

Proposed earlier this year, [the new law](#) was supposed to enable ports to hire non-unionized dockworkers instead of the unionized ones. This was expected to result in massive layoffs in the future.

Announcing strikes, a number of unions in Spain have expressed their dissatisfaction about the proposed reform. International dockworkers unions from neighboring countries [said](#) they would join the industrial action in support of their colleagues.

The country's unions postponed the strikes several times, hoping that the Spanish Ministry of Public Works would engage in negotiations with workers to solve the conflict.

In a recently issued statement, the Spanish social partners have requested the government to engage in tripartite negotiations. However, the government [has not yet responded](#) to this request which makes it unclear what strategy the government will pursue.

Commenting on the rejection of the Spanish Congress to validate the reform plan, Terje Samuelsen, Chair of the European Transport Workers' Federation (ETF Dockers), said: "From the beginning of the dispute the Spanish unions have pleaded a negotiated reform, but the government arrogantly decided not to go for dialogue."

"By marking the first defeat of this conservative government, dockers have confirmed their position at the forefront of the struggle for fair transport and for a more social Europe," Eduardo Chagas, ETF Secretary General, pointed out after the vote.

1000th Neopanamax Transits Expanded Panama Canal



Less than nine months after the inauguration of the Expanded Panama Canal, the waterway has welcomed the 1,000th transit of a Neopanamax vessel.

MSC Anzu, a 8,800 TEU containership owned by Swiss Mediterranean Shipping Company (MSC), made the 1,000th transit on March 19, heading northbound from the Atlantic to the Pacific Ocean.

Built by China's New Times Shipbuilding in 2015, the Panama-flagged boxship has a length of 300 meters and a width of 48.2 meters.

During the transit, the ship called at Panamanian port terminals on the Pacific and Atlantic to discharge and load cargo destined for its final destinations. MSC Anzu is part of the SAWC-USA-NWC service between Europe, the United States and the South America West Coast that was consolidated last year to take advantage of the expanded waterway.

The Expanded Panama Canal is experiencing a steady flow of traffic - including containerships, liquid petroleum gas (LPG) vessels, and liquefied natural gas (LNG) vessels. Other types of ships such as dry bulk carriers, vehicle carriers, and crude product tankers have also

transited through the canal.

The container segment accounts for nearly half the transits through the Expanded Canal and represents its principal source of traffic. As of March 2017, the average number of Neopanamax vessels transiting the new lane per day is 5.9.

Lactalis/Parmalat lift lockout as Australian workers win important victory.



Lactalis/Parmalat have lifted their 61 day lockout and withdrawn proceedings to terminate the existing enterprise bargaining agreement after the Australian Manufacturing Workers Union and the Electrical Trades Union struck a new agreement with the company which strengthens protection against precarious work.

The company was seeking more flexible provisions to hire agency workers but direct hire employment will now apply to all workers including casual workers. The engagement of maintenance contractors will remain subject to consultation with the union in line with previous practices.

Union rights have been protected and extended in the new collective bargaining agreement.

The three year agreement provides for annual wage rises at or above the rate of inflation and a 'sign on' bonus which will assist in compensating workers for the time they were locked out.

The IUF affiliated AMWU expresses its heartfelt thanks for the international solidarity and practical support received through the long days of a difficult lockout.

United Way funds programs to fight hunger and build community in the Lower Mainland



Housing, hydro, healthy food: it seems like the cost of everything is skyrocketing in the Lower Mainland. And when budgets are tight, people often forgo fresh produce and protein, choosing instead cheap, unhealthy food. According to a [report conducted by the BC Provincial Health Services Authority](#), over one in 10 BC households are 'food insecure'; families unable to afford nutritious and safe food. The situation is worse for vulnerable people-refugees and single parents, for example-who face barriers such as lack of awareness of community resources, language and cultural differences, and even uncertainty around how to make a healthy meal.

Shaelyn knows this all too well. Six years ago, she found herself hungry and nearly homeless, with a newborn baby, when she moved into [Aunt Leah's Place](#), an organization that provides housing and support for young mothers. While living at Aunt Leah's, one of the most valuable things Shaelyn learned was how to cook. When she moved out on her own, she continued attending workshops at Aunt Leah's and was always sent home with bags of nutritious groceries to feed her two young sons.



"Aunt Leah's food program gave me the support I need to get back on my feet," says Shaelyn, who now works as an administrative coordinator for the Federation of BC Youth Care Networks. "I always had high aspirations of giving back to the community and I just need a little bit of support at that time to alleviate some costs and take some of the burden off so I could reach where I was heading."

Today, Shaelyn can cook a full turkey dinner and enjoys getting creative in the kitchen with her growing boys, now five and six. "When I was younger, I always feared that I would never know how to cook for myself," she says. "My kids are going to grow up with healthy habits and I'm hoping that they'll pass those on to the next generation."

Aunt Leah's Life [Skills, Food Security and Health program](#) is one of more than 20 initiatives funded by the [United Way of the Lower Mainland](#) through Food for All grants. These programs do more than just fill bellies, they also educate participants about healthy eating, build community and help people access other valuable social services and resources, such as affordable childcare and housing.



"By giving to United Way, you do more than just help people access food, you help change the system at the neighbourhood level and at the provincial level," says Yves Trudel, community impact planner with the United Way of the Lower Mainland. "You go beyond just making sure people are food secure for a short period of time, you help improve our whole society's response to this."

For people working on the frontlines, the programs funded by the United Way are critically important. When the children pour into [Kiwassa Neighbourhood House](#) for afterschool programs, they're often drained, says children's program coordinator Sarah Kamdar. But after having a healthy snack, they perk up and enjoy their activities.

"The importance of food can't be highlighted enough in my opinion, especially for children in the middle years," says Kamdar. "You see restlessness, anger, fatigue and physical aches, such as headaches and stomachaches, due to the lack of healthy food."



Kiwassa serves Vancouver's Hastings-Sunrise neighbourhood, where one in three children live in poverty, according to the 2014 census data. Without food programs, some children might not be eating. "Children have a right to an education, they have a right to play, they have the right to be safe and they also have the right to eat good, healthy food," says Kamdar. "I think food underpins all of that. Without access to healthy food, they can't excel in their education, they can't excel in play, and it also puts them in a vulnerable state."

Thanks in part to support from the United Way, the number of vulnerable children in Hastings-Sunrise has been reduced. In 2011, 48 percent of children were vulnerable in one or more of the five core areas of early child development measured by the [Early Development Instrument](#). That number was reduced to 37 percent in 2016.

Last year, 1.5 million meals or snacks were served to kids, families and seniors through United Way community service providers. Every Thursday night in Vancouver's West End, people from the LGBTQ community get together for the [Rainbow Soup Social at Gordon Neighbourhood House](#) and cook up vats of tasty vegan soup to serve to their fellow community members the next day.

"We know that people in the LGBTQ and two-spirited community face more barriers to food access, predominately because a lot of the spaces in the community where there is access to food may not feel safe," says Chantille Viaud, director of community food initiatives at Gordon Neighbourhood House. "People really enjoy being able to get together in a safe space."

The volunteers usually whip up between 250 to 300 bowls of soup, which are enjoyed in the community food hub, where people can also access the food bank. Viaud says the social aspect of sitting down for a meal with neighbours helps alleviate the anxiety of

accessing the food bank.

"Food evokes really powerful emotions and has this power to bring people together," says Viaud. "I think in a city where people are facing social isolation, creating spaces for these connections to happen is really important and prevents a lot of the other health issues. It's a way for people to get to know each other, have their voice heard and feel connected to their community."

Western Transportation Advisory Council



WESTAC is a non-profit society of major transportation organizations in Western Canada represented by business, labour, and government decision-makers. The ILWU is a founding member and holds two positions on the Executive Board, one is Local 333 Grain Workers President Gerry Gault and the other through the ILWU Affiliate in Saskatchewan the Grain Services Union General Secretary Hugh Wagner.

March 24

Bulk Products

2 results

[Our country's agri-food sector is growing, but supply-managed sectors are lagging behind](#)

The Globe and Mail

March 23rd, 2017

Senior fellow at the Conference Board of Canada Which Canadian sectors will lead economic growth in 2017? It is tempting to identify advanced technologies or highend services as leaders, but some ...

[Canadian field crop outlook released](#)

Central Plains Herald-Leader

March 23rd, 2017

Agriculture & Agri-Food Canada (AAFC) released its Canadian field crop outlook last Friday. In 2016-17, total exports for all principal field crops are expected to represent about 45 per cent of total supply. Exports are ...

Economy/Trade

3 results

[Five questions with Wally Schumann, Northwest Territories' Minister of Industry; Late last year, Ottawa imposed a moratorium on Arctic ...](#)

theglobeandmail.com

March 17th, 2017

The Northwest Territories has long dreamed of energy riches, but the dreams have frequently been dashed as markets shifted before multibillion-dollar projects could get started. The Mackenzie Gas Project is on hold indefinitely, the ...

[How to be sure right voices are heard; Working together helps protect First Nations interests, says Joseph Bevan](#)

Vancouver Sun

March 22nd, 2017

When I was elected chief councillor of the Kitselas First Nation, located near Terrace, it was part of my mandate to move forward on economic development for our community while also balancing environmental protection. While Kitselas has been ...

[Trade Tariff on China Threatens Supply Chain | Small Firms Chash Poor](#)
www.industryweek.com

[Permalink](#)

March 20th, 2017

Thousands of small- and medium-sized factories in China, makers of clothes, toys and household goods that fuel the \$462.8 billion annual flow of exports to the U.S., aren't cash-rich, making it harder for them to take the proposed tariff punch.

Energy

1 result

[What the building of Keystone XL pipeline will mean for Canada and the Canadian energy industry](#)

Financial Post

March 24th, 2017

The U.S. State Department's approval of the Keystone XL pipeline on Friday concludes a bitter political battle that stretched on for more than eight years. Calgary-based TransCanada Corp. first filed its application to build the project ...

Environment

2 results

[UN targets require 40-per-cent drop in oil demand: IEA report; The joint report conveys the effort that is required to limit the increase ...](#)

theglobeandmail.com

March 20th, 2017

Globe crude demand will have to decline by 40 per cent over the next 25 years if the world is going to succeed in keeping average temperatures from increasing by more than two degrees C above preindustrial levels, the International Energy Agency ...

[New Conference Board Report Describes How Canada's Future Carbon Economy Could Look](#)

Daily Oil Bulletin

March 21st, 2017

Canadians seem increasingly ready to accept and vote for low-carbon change that does not severely constrain quality of life or lifestyles, says a newly-released Conference Board of Canada report. However, adds the report, ...

Infrastructure

5 results

[Business leaders talk Canada's global brand and how to use it; Dislike of current U.S. government offers opportunity: former foreign ...](#)

Vancouver Sun

March 20th, 2017

Canada may have a positive reputation on the world stage, but it suffers from confused branding that is hindering its competitiveness, according to foreign business leaders. As U.S. foreign and trade policy turns inward, ...

[Will China's 'One Belt, One Road' Initiative Deliver? - Knowledge@Wharton](#)

knowledge.wharton.upenn.edu

[Permalink](#)

March 22nd, 2017

As advertised by Beijing, the "One Belt, One Road" (OBOR) initiative, China's grand scheme for knitting a network of roads, ports, railways and other links from East China through Southeast and South and Central Asia all the way to Europe ...

[The right kind of infrastructure borrowing - and the wrong kind](#)

ipolitics.ca

[Permalink](#)

March 21st, 2017

Strategic infrastructure investments that unlock private sector investment and drive productivity are essential to raising Canada's long-term potential growth. We need infrastructure to get our exports to foreign markets, to facilitate movement ...

[Why big pension funds love Australian ports | Benefits Canada](#)

www.benefitscanada.com

[Permalink](#)

March 21st, 2017

Canadian pension plans' love affair with foreign ports, particularly those in Australia but extending also to the United Kingdom and the Persian Gulf region, shows no signs of abating, with only an overheated market and a potential shortage of ...

[Canada moves to join China-backed Asian infrastructure bank](#)

The Globe and Mail

March 24th, 2017

The Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank has made Canada a prospective member, welcoming Ottawa into an institution that marks one of China's leading efforts to take a place of global leadership. The Canadian federal budget ...

Innovation & Technology

2 results

[J.B. Hunt Transport Services, Inc., U of A Collaborating to Create Unique Supply Chain Innovation Center](#)

Targeted News Service

March 22nd, 2017

J.B. Hunt Transport Services issued the following news release: J.B. Hunt Transport Services, Inc.

(NASDAQ: JBHT) is making a \$2.75 million investment in the University of Arkansas to create the J.B. Hunt Innovation Center of ...

Clean technology gets \$1-billion boost in federal budget

thestar.com

March 22nd, 2017

Technology leaders are applauding "real steps" in Wednesday's federal budget, including new cash for innovation clusters, student co-op placement and artificial intelligence research they say will help Canada hone the skills and ...

Workforce

1 result

CN workers reach tentative agreement with union, railway says

CBC.CA News

March 20th, 2017

The union representing CN signal and communication workers has reached a tentative agreement with the railway to renew the labour contract for some 700 employees in Canada. The announcement, made in a press release Monday, ...

Marine

3 results

40 jobs estimated for new agricultural port operation

The Northern View

March 20th, 2017

The port authority estimates 40 new job positions to operate a containerized cargo facility being added to Ridley Island this fall. The port authority estimates 40 new job positions to operate a containerized cargo facility being added to Ridley ...

Thunder Bay port officials expect early start to 2017 shipping season - Thunder Bay - CBC News

www.cbc.ca

[*Permalink*](#)

March 24th, 2017

Port officials in Thunder Bay, Ont. are set to welcome the first vessel of the 2017 shipping season Friday, and the group's CEO says this year could be a record-breaker.

Port CEO warns against privatization | Transportation | Business in Vancouver

www.biv.com

[*Permalink*](#)

March 18th, 2017

The solid trade year comes as the federal government may be eyeing changes to the port's Crown ownership and operations. Late last year, the Canada Development Investment Corp. contracted investment bank Morgan Stanley Canada to prepare a report ...

Rail

2 results

[Are shortline railway companies moving agriculture in the right direction?](#)

www.country-guide.ca

[Permalink](#)

March 21st, 2017

Today there are 50-plus shortlines in the country and, according to the Railway Association of Canada, they ship over \$20 billion worth of freight at a cost of about three cents per kilometre for one tonne of goods.

[Churchill receives vital resupply](#)

Winnipeg Free Press

March 22nd, 2017

A freight train carrying much needed supplies arrived in the town of Churchill on Monday afternoon - the first to arrive there in almost three weeks. Trains could not pass over snow-packed tracks since March 1, when two ...

Transportation General

1 result

[CTA lauds freight investment in federal budget - Canadian Shipper](#)

www.canadianshipper.com

[Permalink](#)

March 24th, 2017

Budget 2017 provided some much-needed attention to freight transportation planning in Canada, including a new National Trade Corridors Fund to help address capacity constraints and freight bottlenecks at major ports of entry as well as improve ...

FIGHT FOR \$15 Minimum Wage

It is time to increase the minimum wage and address income inequality in BC.



At \$10.85/hr BC's minimum wage is one of the lowest in Canada. As the cost of living continues to go up, workers earning minimum wage cannot make ends meet.

BC's minimum wage leaves full-time workers living below the poverty line.

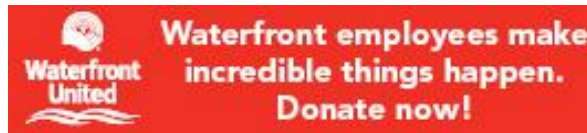
The BC Federation of Labour believes that work should lift you out of poverty. It's time for the BC government to increase the minimum wage so that nobody is left behind.

Help us fight for \$15/hr. It's only fair!

[Sign the petition!](#)

[Click the image below to visit the Fight For \\$15 website.](#)

FIGHT FOR 15



Waterfront News

Reminder

The Waterfront News is the newsletter produced by ILWU Canada and mailed to members several times per year. The Dispatcher is the newsletter produced by our International Union and is also mailed to members several times per year. ILWU Canada keeps an address database for both of these, but we only receive addresses from the Locals or the Members directly.



[Copies of past editions of the Waterfront News are available here:](#)

[Copies of past editions of the Dispatcher are available here:](#)

If you are a Member of the ILWU in Canada, or on the A or B boards in any of the Longshore Locals you are entitled to receive one or both of these. If you are not receiving it now you should contact your Local to make sure they have your current address.

You can also send us an e-mail at communicate@ilwu.ca or phone us at 604-254-8141 to update us.



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