



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

July 8, 2016

Hi All,

Union membership in the private sector has been dropping steadily over the last few decades. One of the ways we can help reverse this trend is by making a conscious effort to buy union made goods and shop at unionized stores. Even simple acts like not using the automated check out at the grocery store can help promote workers in your community. Shopping at local shops instead of those big box anti-union megastores is also good way to support your community and neighborhoods. Look for products that have the **Fairtrade** logo. It means that the workers in other countries are getting a decent price for the products they produce. Everyday small acts, if done by many like-minded individual can have great effect. Support your union brothers and sisters.

Information regarding unionized goods and services in your community and related news can be found at **shopunion.ca**

Simply type in the name of the item you want to buy. The key word search tells you the name of the company that makes it, its location, its web site and its union affiliation.



Information on Fairtrade can be found at the following link.



Bob Dhaliwal

Secretary Treasurer
ILWU Canada

Landmark agreement brings an end to Rotterdam labour dispute

A breakthrough has finally been made between Rotterdam's container companies and Dutch trade unions to safeguard the short-term future of up to 800 employees and bring an end to the potential threat of further [strike action](#) at Europe's largest port.

With the opening of the Maasvlakte2 development, unions FNV Havens and CNV Vakmensen had long raised concerns over potential job losses within the container sector, given the increased levels of automation at the new site and at Maasvlakte 1.

The unions claimed the new fully-automated facility could result in as many as 800 redundancies among the approximate 4,000 dockers currently employed at Rotterdam's container terminals.

Following 18 months of negotiations, acting mediators, the Port of Rotterdam Authority, said the six companies involved - namely European Container Terminals, APM Terminals, Rotterdam World Gateway, Matrans, International Lashing Services and Unilash - have reached an agreement with the unions that will minimise these losses.

Perhaps the most significant news is that the respective companies have agreed to offer a job security guarantee through to July 1, 2020 for employees who already had an employment contract in place by January 1, 2015, accounting for nearly 3,700 workers at the port.

These terms were originally rejected by the unions in November of last year, as they were pushing for job guarantees through to 2025. However, given the current plight of the industry, it would appear the unions have deemed the offer fair in retrospect.

An agreement has also been reached regarding the terms of the Port Senior Fit Scheme, which will now apply to union members born between 1952 and 1956. As a result, those over the age of 60 will be able to work 60% of full-time, accruing a 95% salary and full pension. This will allow for a substantial reduction of working capacity, with employees obliged to retire at the age of 65.

Furthermore, it has also been agreed that the 120 employees of ailing Rotterdam Port Services will also be offered a customised solution.

RPS, responsible for undertaking agency work on behalf of the container companies, is heading for bankruptcy and is therefore unable to provide job guarantees.

The Rotterdam Port Authority said the trade unions insisted they too were included in any agreement related to job security despite not being employed by the container companies directly.

The Port of Rotterdam Authority and the shareholder of RPS will make the funds available to provide this customised solution, which is expected to be between €20m (\$22.16m) and €30m.

It is anticipated that FNV Havens and CNV Vakmensen will present the outcome of the negotiations to their members with favourable advice.

However, the port authority said that it does not expect the member consultations to be completed until the second half of next month in respect of the holiday period.

FIGHT FOR \$15 Minimum Wage



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

At \$10.25/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!

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



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 ILWU Canada President Rob Ashton and the other through the ILWU Affiliate in Saskatchewan the Grain Services Union General Secretary Hugh Wagner.

[Click here for the weekly information package we receive from Westac, with links to many interesting articles that relate to transportation.](#)

WESTAC Info Service
June 25 to 30, 2016

Bulk Products

Oakland bans coal shipments in a blow to planned export facility

Economics and Trade

'Three Amigos' should focus on better trade infrastructure, says Canadian Chamber of Commerce - Financial Post

Energy

Western provinces could benefit from hydro power - Winnipeg Free Press (Canada)
Canadian oil patch welcomes 'level playing field' from North American energy, climate change agreement

First successful ship-to-shore drone delivery takes place in New Jersey - DB Schenker is trying to close the digital divide in its freight business

Marine

Rolls Royce reveals remote controlled 'roboships' will take to the sea by 2020: Single operator can oversee ships from a holographic control room

Rail

CP offers assurances for 2016-17 grain handle

74 runaway CN Rail cars rolled 5 kms out of GTA yard

CN appoints Mike Cory as chief operating officer and Ghislain Houle as chief financial officer

Dutch plan 'driverless' freight train trial - International Railway Journal

CP track worker layoffs pose derailment risks: union - CBC

Transportation General

Court overturns Northern Gateway pipeline approval

Trucking

Canadian truckers wary of new border measure; Conflict over U.S. tax laws feared
OTA's Bradley reflects back on 30 years in trucking

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.



[President Rob Ashton](#)

[First Vice President Shawn Nolan](#)

[Second Vice President Steve Nasby](#)

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