



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

Dec 14, 2016

Greetings Brothers and Sisters,

The end of the year is fast approaching and it is time to reflect back on 2016. We have accomplished a lot but there is still much to do. There is so much great work being done by so many different people in the Union and I would like to thank them all. Keeping this Union strong and vibrant is not easy and the work is never complete.

I'm proud to say that the **ILWU** is doing a great deal in the community and the broader Union movement. We are well respected for the work we do and looked to for leadership. We must strive everyday to maintain these ideals and our strength of purpose.

Keep safe during this busy holiday season.

In this issue:

- 1) Huge overcapacity in absence of demand
- 2) Record fine in death of Melbourne port worker
- 2) Young workers face lower quality jobs
- 3) Latest industry articles put together by **WESTAC**.
- 4) Join the **Fight for \$15**. Sign the petition today. Over 45,000 people have signed up already.

In solidarity

Bob Dhaliwal

Secretary Treasurer

ILWU Canada

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## Huge Overcapacity: In Absence of Demand



The dry bulk market is grappling to survive in absence of demand. Trade of the major commodities, coal and iron ore, have almost become stagnant. Result: the big vessels (which largely carry the major commodities) are suffering the most.

However, dry bulk trade shifts comfortably from bigger segments (say, Capesize) to smaller ones (say, Panamax) rather easily and vice versa in case of a shift from smaller vessel to bigger, except for some cases like, ports and canal restrictions. So, with an overcapacity of more than 30%, the entire dry bulk market is living through some of the worst times in its history.

Much in line with Drewry's presumptions, the Baltic Dry Index also kept falling, marking a new low every other day. It's also probably one of the toughest times for dry bulk shipping companies as many have filed for bankruptcies over the past two years, and with no signs of recovery in sight, many more could follow the suit. Many vessels are being fixed at far below their operating costs largely because owners are finding it difficult to lay up their vessels for long...

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## Record Fine After Port of Melbourne Death



Shipping operator Toll Transport have been fined a record USD \$1 million following the court verdict on the tragic death of a dockworker over two years ago.

Stevedore and father-of-three, Anthony Attard (42), was working on the deck of the Tasmanian Achiever in May 2014 when he was crushed by a trailer being used to transport shipping containers. It is understood that the incident occurred whilst Mr Attard was placing rubber floorcoverings on the deck to hold shipping containers in transit. Despite wearing a hi-vis safety vest, Mr. Attard was run over by a MAFI trailer whilst working.

An investigation by WorkSafe Victoria found that Toll's safety precautions were unsatisfactory and the requirement to have a member of staff observing the deck for persons was not enforced. WorkSafe's Health and Safety executive director Marnie Williams, said "Toll had a system in place to manage the serious risks associated with loading and unloading its ships but some of its procedures were inadequate and the most critical part of all - having a second pair of eyes on the deck - was not enforced."

Ms. Williams went on to say, "It was a catastrophic failure that led to a worker dying in the most horrible of circumstances, and traumatising all the people who tried so hard to save him".

Toll Transport pleaded guilty in court after a lengthy case. Toll Group Managing Director Brian Kruger said since the incident, additional safety improvements had been made to prevent such an incident occurring again.

"Toll deeply regrets the incident that led to the death of our co-worker and colleague Anthony Attard," he said in a statement.

The fine is the largest ever passed by a court in Victoria for a single offence under work-related health and safety laws.

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## **StatCan finds young workers face downtrend in job quality**

The Canadian Press

OTTAWA

A new study from Statistics Canada says young people have seen their job quality decline over the last four decades, even as the unemployment rate has remained virtually unchanged.

In a report released Monday, the national statistics office says fewer young Canadians, who are not full-time students, are working in full-time jobs today than in 1976, a result driven mainly by the rise of part-time work rather than increases in unemployment rates or decreases in labour force participation.

The youth unemployment rate in both 1976 and 2015 was 2.3 times higher than the rate among those aged 25 and older. Researchers say that the declines in full-time employment for those aged 17 to 24 years old have been almost even across the country and mirror international trends of rising part-time and temporary jobs as a share of total employment since the mid-1980s.

The study says people under age 25 who were employed full-time have seen their wages fall behind the cost of living since the early 1980s.

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## **Western Transportation Advisory Council**

WESTAC 

**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.

Dec 9, 2016



## Bulk Products

1 result

### [Another grain export terminal proposed for Vancouver - Manitoba Co-operator](#) [Permalink](#)

December 8th, 2016

The way western Canadian crop production is growing the increased capacity is needed, say some industry observers




## Economy/Trade

3 results

### [Recession Over for Saskatchewan, but Economy Will Remain Weak - Yahoo Finance Canada](#) [Permalink](#)

December 8th, 2016


Saskatchewan's economy contracted again this year, but conditions are forecast to improve gradually going forward. After declining by 1.5 per cent this year, overall economic growth is expected to resume in 2017, with GDP rising by 1.2 per cent, ...



### [Mexico overtakes Canada as No. 2 exporter to U.S. ahead of Trump presidency | Toronto Star](#) [Permalink](#)

December 7th, 2016



Mexico is overtaking Canada as the No. 2 exporter of goods to the U.S. this year, in a sign of how economic ties have deepened between the two countries even as the relationship is being questioned by president-elect Donald Trump.



### [Canada has become the trading nation that's forgotten how to trade - so what's next? | Financial Post](#) [Permalink](#)

December 5th, 2016

Canadians like to see themselves as the perennial optimists of global trade, even now as questions mount almost everywhere else over the benefits of open economies.



## Energy

1 result

### [Canada developing clean fuel standard | Canadian Biomass](#) [Permalink](#)

December 5th, 2016

Dec. 5, 2016 -The Government of Canada has announced that it will consult with provinces and territories, Indigenous peoples, industries, and non-governmental organizations to develop a clean fuel standard.

## Environment

1 result

### [Four of world's biggest cities to ban diesel cars from their centres | Environment | The Guardian](#)

[Permalink](#)

December 3rd, 2016

Four of the world's biggest cities are to ban diesel vehicles from their centres within the next decade, as a means of tackling air pollution, with campaigners urging other city leaders to follow suit.

## Innovation & Technology

1 result

### [Wind tunnel shows big rigs should be shaped like boats](#)

December 9th, 2016

The big, red model of a transport truck never moves an inch, but it is still teaching lessons about why the traditional design of big trucks wastes fuel at highway speeds. The front end is fine -- a tractor curved and sculpted to slip ...

## Workforce

1 result

### [Labour shortfall threatens grain and oilseed future | Farms.com](#)

[Permalink](#)

December 8th, 2016

New research suggests that a lack of domestic workers could significantly impede the growth of Canada's grain and oilseed industry.

## Marine

4 results

### [B.C. container shipping terminals to get first crack at \\$5 billion investment fund | Transportation | Business in Vancouver](#)

[Permalink](#)

December 5th, 2016

The owner of two B.C. container shipping terminals is joining with one of North America's largest pension fund managers to create a \$5 billion funding pool to invest in global container terminals.

## **B.C. rising: The future of shipbuilding**

[Permalink](#)

December 5th, 2016

British Columbia has arrived as a global leader in the future of shipbuilding. A \$170 million private investment by Seaspan and four years of development have created a world-class shipyard ideally suited to the construction of ships urgently ...

## **Strong Season for Port of Thunder Bay**

[Permalink](#)

December 3rd, 2016

to move significant cargo volumes during the final six weeks of the shipping season. Cargo tonnage for the month of November was 16% higher than the ten-year average. The November grain tonnage exceeded 900,000 metric tonnes. Grain ...

## **Federal government studying privatization of nation's 18 ports**

December 2nd, 2016

Canada's government is in the midst of a financial assessment to help determine whether it will privatize the nation's 18 ports, including the Windsor Port Authority. The process to date has left the ports themselves in the ...

## **Transportation General**

1 result

### **Yukon premier trims cabinet size, makes canny choices - North - CBC News**

[Permalink](#)

December 5th, 2016

After delivering big in last month's election - taking the Liberals from one seat and third-party status to an 11-seat, majority government - Klondike MLA Sandy Silver took the oath of office Saturday to become the ninth premier of Yukon.

## **Trucking**

2 results

### **Electric Trucking Charges Up - WSJ**

[Permalink](#)

December 8th, 2016

In a pilot project, vehicles equipped with 'receiving coils' will draw power from another coil buried in the road in Colorado

### **Fastfrate announces new LTL service between Canada and the US - Truck News**

[Permalink](#)

## 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.](#)

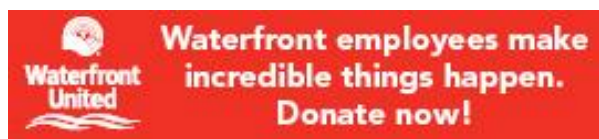
**FIGHT FOR 15**

**SHOP UNION.ca**

The place to find union goods & services

go>





## 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](mailto:communicate@ilwu.ca) or phone us at 604-254-8141 to update us.



[President Rob Ashton](#)  
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[Second Vice President Steve Nasby](#)  
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