

CAW  TCA

CANADA

Road Transport Council Meeting
Sheraton Centre, Toronto Ontario
Thursday December 3rd, 2009

Call To Order: 3:33 pm

Roll Call of Officers:

- President, Bill Gaucher (Present)
- 1st Vice President, Steve Sutherland (Present)
- 2nd Vice President, Don Lajoie (Present)
- Fin/Rec. Secretary, Trevor Alway (Present)
- National Representative, Len Poirier (Present)
- Executive Members At Large,
 - Russ Lucking (Present)
 - Jim Connelly (Present)
 - Gordon McGrath (Present)

Members Present:

Bryant LeRoux Local 4457
Howard Thomson Local 4209
Pat Gardner Local 4457
Shane Wark Staff
John Johnson Local 222
Dave Cassidy Local 444
D. Montgomery Local 4268
Bob Fitzgerald
Gavin McGarrigle

Owen Lindo Local 4457
Katherine Hlady Local 4209
Mike Byrne National Rep
Tim Thompson Local 222
Frank Harshaw Local 444
Cathy Jarvis Local 4268
Gord Piper Local 114
Nick DeCarlo

Financial Report:

Brother Trevor Alway presented the financial report. Moved Alway/McGrath to accept the report as read: (Motion Carried)

President Report:

Brother Bill Gaucher presented his report.
Brother Gaucher congratulated the newly elected RTC Executive members and Members at Large on being elected at the last RTC meeting in April of 2009.
Brother Gaucher discussed possible directions for the RTC as well as talked about the ITF pamphlet, RTC website, RTC Toques/Window Stickers, and the H&S manual being developed. Moved Gaucher/Connelly that the President Report be accepted as read: (Motion Carried)

ITF Campaign Report:

Russ Lucking, Local 4268

Brother Lucking reported on his Local's involvement in the RTC annual ITF campaign. Brother Lucking stated that he and several members of his local traveled to various locations in Ontario, leafleting and talking to people in the transport industry. Many locations were very receptive to the CAW entering their establishments to leave our information. This year many people seemed to be reading the leaflets as opposed to simply folding them up and putting them in their pockets, possibly due to the economic situation in Canada and people needing fair treatment by employers who are clawing back benefits. Moved Gaucher/McGrath that Brother Lucking's report be accepted as read: (Motion Carried)

Member Reports:

Ken Bondy, CAW National Coordinator H&S and Environment

Brother Bondy reported on various CAW manuals. Brother Bondy needs to hear from our members. He asked that members talk to coworkers in their workplaces and see what the workers want to make their jobs safer. What are the issues of concern for your jobs and employment sectors? What do the workers suggest as ways to fix problems; what sort of resolves can they come up with to address their concerns? Need to hear from members as to their experiences with accidents, unsafe practices and fatalities at work. Brother Bondy would like to get pictures sent in of members at work and unsafe working conditions at various workplaces. He is working on making a manual which will be in 3 ring binder form so it can be added to easily. The manual will be used by the RTC to assist members and others in working safer.

Bill Gaucher, RTC President

Brother Gaucher presented RTC Bylaw 2, Article 2 on page 19 of the Financial Report and the portion to be added. This change will be voted on at the next RTC meeting.

Gordon McGrath, Local 114

Brother McGrath presented a report on his local's RTC groups. DHL, G4S, PCL and others were discussed. Moved McGrath/Connelly that the report be accepted as read: (Motion Carried)

Gavin McGarrigle, National Rep

Reported on PCL, and issues surrounding it such as the need to apply for common employer status with all other PCL companies.

Don Lajoie, 2nd Vice Pres. RTC, Local 4209

Local is comprised of half transport sector and half hospitality sector. Reimer Transport's parent company Yellow is almost bankrupt. Asking for 15% rollbacks. Teamsters in USA have blocked our member's trips across boarder in favour of their members. This has meant less work for the Canadian drivers. Teamsters have tried to raid some members from Local 4209 but were unsuccessful. Reimer group represented by Teamsters voted on a 50% roll back and now want to join the CAW. Many agreements such as Direct Transport, TST, Clark Transport, all have remained as status quo (no increases) due to harsh economic times. There is a Taxi company in Saskatoon SK, that has been locked out by the company for 2 years now. The SFL may help. International Truck Body has laid off most of its employees. Waste Management is downsizing its employee base. Moved Lajoie/McGrath that this report be accepted as read: (Motion Carried)

Jim Connelly, Local 4050

Reported on Cascade Carriers, TST, DHL, Waste Management, WSI. DHL has lost employees due to downsizing but ratified a contract in March of 2009 which included severance and 2.5% raises for each year of a 4 year term. TST had a status quo agreement ratified, 0% increases but pension was added. Waste Management is heading into bargaining and is looking for roll backs. WSI is currently being raided by the Teamsters. WSI has just ratified a contract with 3.5% increases for 2 yrs each and 4% in the third and then was bought by BFI. This merger should go through in January of 2010. Moved Connelly/Lucking that this report be accepted as read: (Motion Carried)

Russ Lucking, Local 4268

Economy has hit his local hard. Had to open 2 CBAs to negotiate roll backs just to keep all members working. Meyers Transport is now running Long Combination Vehicles (LCVs). One truck is now pulling two 53 foot long trailers. This will equate to job losses. First Student (Laidlaw) is now a multinational company. Parent company is in England. This company is very difficult to deal with. The waste industry is in crisis and is experiencing a downturn. National Waste, which is a new unit, has fought for over a year to get an agreement. There is a new investor in this company and it is hoped that this may turn the first agreement bargaining around. Moved Lucking/McGrath that this report be accepted as read: (Motion Carried)

Frank Harshaw, Local 444

CAW has experienced 600 Teamster members coming to join the CAW, 150 are in Windsor. No one on Layoff. Company is looking at purchasing new equipment. A plant closure in the USA caused 46 lanes to close for his RTC members here in Canada. Moved Harshaw/McGrath that this report be accepted as read: (Motion Carried)

Shane Wark on behalf of Steve Bachelor, Local 1090

Ryder Bargaining equated to a freeze agreement. 8 weeks later General Motors awarded the contract for the work that Ryder did for them to another company. This will cause massive job loss. Company called SEBA took over remaining work from Ryder Logistics. Ryder will no longer exist. CAW has put GM on notice that if work is not kept with Ryder that they will take job action at the Pickering Ontario workplace. Moved Wark/Connelly that this report be accepted as read: (Motion Carried)

Bob Fitzgerald

Brother Fitzgerald reported on various issues affecting the Rail sector. Moved Fitzgerald/Connelly that this report be accepted as read: (Motion Carried)

Len Poirier, National Rep. RTC

Reported on the need to unionize companies who are the recipients of CAW member jobs being contracted out etc. Can Freight was discussed. Allied Group my Join the RTC, this is approximately 750 members across Ontario. Brinks may join the RTC, this is approximately 920 members in Ontario.

Nick DeCarlo,

Brother DeCarlo discussed the Environmental Strategy for the RTC; to improve and green the transport industry. To actually do what we need to do to green the industry, we will impact other industries in the process. This needs to be addressed. The Environmental Conference was discussed. Many difficult issues raised such as Long haul vs. short as well as just in time production. Locating parts plants near manufacturing facilities will lessen the transportation footprint on the Environment. The Great Lakes fleet being made in Canada as well as running on greener fuels and more efficient engines is good but it would mean a loss of jobs in other sectors, such as the coal industry as fuel. Some environmental solutions will solve a problem on one hand and on the other it will create problems. The floor was opened to discussion: If we are to green the truck manufacture industry, these should all be made in Canada. Low sulphur diesel fuel burns quicker which creates less sulphur emissions, but increases the amount of fuel required to be used. Hydrogen fuel and the lack of infrastructure in Canada for this to be a readily available solution were discussed. New fuel and engine systems were discussed. Horsepower loss equates to mileage issues for truck drivers. New specialty emissions add-ons to engines creates a large added cost to operators to install and maintain over the life of a vehicle. It is perceived by some that Green Initiatives increase the cost of specialty parts.

General Business:

Moved Gaucher/Connelly that we purchase 5000 window decals for the RTC. Price for 5000 was placed at .62 cents per decal. Motion was amended by McGrath/Connelly to purchase 10000. **Motion Carried as Amended.**

Moved Gaucher/McGrath that the RTC purchase 100 toques. **Motion Carried.**

Moved Gaucher/Connelly that the RTC pay \$350 for the set up of our website. Any information member locals would like to have placed on the website should be forwarded to Bother Bill Gaucher. **Motion Carried.**

Holding a RTC Conference was discussed. Might be able to do so in 2010. Topics could include Green Trucking and Safety issues. Tie this meeting into the CAW Council meetings or Joint Council. Want to include the Quebec Delegates if possible but the need for translators would cause issues. **Moved** Gardner/Connelly that the RTC Executive select the dates and place and report back to the council. **Motion Carried.**

Moved Lajoie/Hlady that the RTC enlist the support of the CAW to lobby provincial and federal governments to provide proper rest stops, road side pull-outs and truck stop access for Long Combination Vehicles (LCVs) as they are very difficult to pull off the road safely when there is a lack of space. The need for proper merge lanes to accommodate LCVs was also raised. **Motion Carried.**

Adjournment: 5:25 PM.