



# Road Transport Newsletter

## Special points of interest:

- CAW RTC Update
- ITF Updates.
- RTC Website and Blog
- Saying Thank You to some of our Executive who no longer will be involved with our RTC
- Interim RTC Executive and Appointed Members-At-Large
- American Cartage Members Locked Out
- Why We Need an Updated National Transportation Strategy
- What our CAW Councils Can Do

March—April 2011

Volume 1 Issue 3

## CAW Road Transport Council Update

The CAW Road Transport Council has been working with the other CAW Councils involved with Transportation and Vehicle Assembly (Road Transport, Marine, Rail, Air and Vehicle Assembly) to look at reviewing our current National Statement on Transportation. We have been holding joint conference calls since our joint meeting back in April 2010 in Port Elgin, Ontario.

Our goal is to establish

common area's of concern and work towards solutions to our different sectors and councils through consultation and work-groups.

The environmental aspects will also play an important factor in our discussions.

Our aim is to also look at the CAW Statement on Transportation and work towards updating it.

At a joint meeting held prior to the December 2010 Council Meeting in Toronto we discussed the

importance of holding a "Transportation Conference" and with the assistance of National Office this will take place.

A date has been set for September 23—25th, 2011 at the CAW Family Education Centre. A "Planning Committee is being formed to prepare for the conference. A good cross section of participation from all sectors in the Transportation will be involved in the planning of this conference.

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## International Transport Workers Federation (ITF)

**Mario Santos** (Local 114), the President of the CAW DHL Corporate Council will be attending the ITF-UNI Global Delivery Annual Meeting in Frankfurt, Germany on May 23-24, 2011. There will also be a rally outside the building where the DHL Annual General Meeting will be taking place on the morning of May 23rd, for the participants attending the ITF-UNI meeting.

**Bill Gaucher**, President of the CAW RTC will be attending the ITF Road Transport Workers' Section meeting in Gothenburg Sweden, from June 7—9, 2011.

*This is a great honor and privilege for me as the President of the RTC to attend on behalf of our Council & Union.*

The conference will review the work of the Section since

the ITF Congress in August 2010 with its focal point on the Congress theme "Strong Unions—Sustainable Transport". Key campaigns such as those in Iran and Turkey will be highlighted. A review of the ongoing Action Week program will be another topic for discussion. Other main discussion points include Health & Safety; Quality Public Services work with other Global Union Federations; Multinational Operators; and Global organizing programs.

Road Transport

# CAW RTC Website and Blog –Jim Sadlemyer

**We have** continued work on our Website and Blog thanks to

Jim Sadlemyer (Local 114).

Please visit the website and if there is anything that you want to have posted just send it to Bill Gaucher at [gaucher@cawbclocals.com](mailto:gaucher@cawbclocals.com) and it will be forwarded to Jim and placed on the RTC Website.

There is also an exciting feature on the “Blog” giving you the ability to share your news stories on our website using social media links.

So please visit our website at:

<http://www.cawrtc.com> and our

Blog at:

<http://cawrtc.blogspot.com/>

Steve Sutherland

CAWRTC 1st Vice-

President no longer

a delegate to

Council.

Trevor Alway

CAWRTC Financial

Recording Secretary

no longer a delegate

to Council.

## Saying Thank You to Past RTC Executive

**Steve Sutherland**

(Local 111) our 1st Vice-President is no longer a Council Delegate so his position has become vacant and will be filled on an interim period until our December Council Meeting were we will hold elections for this position. I want to thank Steve for his leadership and experience on our Road Transport Council. Your involvement and contributions were greatly appreciated.

**Trevor Alway** (Local 4050) our Financial

Recording Secretary is no longer a Council Delegate as he has taken a management position at DHL. Trevor’s position will be filled in the interim and an election to fill this position will take place at the December Council Meeting. I want to thank Trevor for his assistance and involvement in our RTC as he did an excellent job for us over the years and his experience and dedication will be missed..

## RTC—New Executive and Members-At-Large

For an Interim period until our open elections in December,

**Bryant Leroux**

(Local 4457) will be filling the position as our 1st Vice-President. Bryant has been involved with our RTC since our beginning and will bring experience and leadership to our RTC.

strong leadership and experience to our Council.

I have also appointed as our new Member-At-Large ....

**Debbie**

**Montgomery** (Local

4268), Debbie is the President of her Local and will bring a fresh perspective to our RTC Council.

Please welcome them and I look forward to working with each of them on our Council.

Welcome and thank you for serving on our RTC Executive

## VCTA-CAW Local 2006—American Cartage “Locked Out”

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The Union has been trying to bargain a new agreement with American Cartage since our contract expired last year on June 30th, 2010. The Company has not respected the current collective agreement and has now locked out its workers. Many workers at American Cartage have given years of service and the Company has now decided to lock

out its workers who are employees and owner-operators. The Union has now settled a pattern collective agreement with several other container truck companies including; Prudential Transport, Forward Transport, Aheer Transport and AG Transport and we expect to settle more in the near future. Why isn't the pattern agreement good

enough for American Cartage? We need your support to respect our picket line and to refuse to do business with American Cartage or any person or business assisting American Cartage in locking out its workers. We believe that the Company is engaging in straight-forward union-busting.

Continued below.....



## American Cartage Members Lock Out cont...

Please send a message to the Company President and tell her to get back to the table and sign a fair agreement with the workers at American Cartage. Please write to: Gloria Vander Schaaf, President American Cartage # 101—9366 200A Street Langley, BC V1M 4B3 Phone: (604) 614-2767 Fax: (604) 513-3677

E-Mail:

gloria@americancartage.com

Tell the Company that the deal on the table is a fair deal and it should be accepted by the Company. Tell American Cartage and

its allies that you support the workers.

For further information, please contact: Paul Uppal, VCTA-CAW Local 2006 Phone # (604) 970-1005

E-mail: puppal@shaw.ca

Gavin McGarrigle, National Representative Phone: (778) 668-6455 E-mail:

gavinm@caw.ca

**On behalf of our RTC I sent the following e-mail to Gloria Vander Schaaf:**

*Dear Ms Vander Schaaf; I'm the President of the CAW*

*Road Transport Council which represents over 20,000 workers Nationally in the Road Transport Sector of our Union who support our co-workers at American Cartage. Our 5 collective voice strongly suggests that you get back to the table with the Union Bargaining Committee for American Cartage and deal with the proposed pattern agreement that the other Companies have agreed to. Our Brothers and Sisters at American Cartage will have the full support of our Union. Bill Gaucher President CAWRTC*



www.caw.ca

*Whether we drive*

*it,*

*or manufacturing*

*it,*

*in the CAW:*

*“We make it*

*move”*

## CAW — Other Disputes and issues on the go

### CAW On Strike at Bristol Aerospace

Winnipeg, CAW Local 3005 represents 375 workers at Bristol. Bristol Aerospace workers repair and overhaul aircraft and make aircraft components. Contact Jerry Dias for more information.

### CAW 114 Gray Line Members Fight for jobs.

Victoria, BC Some 50 workers got their severance pay last week when Gray Line West announced that the land the maintenance terminal sits on has been sold to BC Transit. Contact Stu Shields

### Support Locked-out Limo Drivers.

The drivers are members of CAW Local 252 and are seeking a first collective agreement. The drivers have been locked-out since December 2010. Contact Sukhvinder Johl

### Support Our Brothers and Sisters at American Cartage

Paul Uppal  
puppal@shaw.ca  
Gavin McGarrigle  
gavinm@caw.ca

# CAW — The Broader Transportation Sector Continued



The membership breaks down approximately like this:

Initial Summary: (prepared by Bill Murnighan) CAW National

## CAW Road Transport Council (RTC)

First Floor,  
# 326—12th Street  
New Westminster, BC  
Canada  
V3M 4H6  
Phone: 1-604-524-9457  
Fax: 1-604-524-0419  
E-mail:  
gaucher@cawbclocals.com

HTTP://WWW.CAW  
RTC.COM

Transportation Operations:		
Sector	Membership	# of Bargaining Units
Air Transport	15,500	26
Rail	11,400	28
Road	20,200	194
Marine	2,500	23
Sub Total	49,600	271
Manufacture of Transportation Equipment		
Sector	Membership	# of Bargaining Units
Specialty Vehicles	7,000	12
Shipbuilding	1,500	5
Aerospace	10,000	31
Auto	24,000	12
Auto parts	32,500	145
Sub Total	75,000	205
<b>Total</b>	<b>125,000</b>	<b>476</b>

Take the time to read the attached pages and do your part by submitting some input to the questions we need answered from each CAW Local and Council.

CAW TCA  
CANADA

Bill Gaucher (Local 114)	President CAWRTC	gaucher@cawbclocals.com	1-605-835-1197 Cell
Bryant LeRoux (Local 4457)	1st Vice-President CAWRTC	B.leroux.caw@sympatico.ca	1-416-803-7224 Cell
Don Lajoie (Local 4209)	2nd Vice-President CAWRTC	don@caw4209.ca	1-204-633-5199 Cell
Jim Connelly (Local 4050)	Fin/Recording Sec. CAWRTC	caw4050@shaw.ca	1-780-991-1860 Cell
Len Poirier	CAW National	Len.Poirier@caw.ca	1-519-635-0795 Cell
Deb Montgomery (4268)	Member-At-Large CAWRTC	caw4268@gmail.com	Cell
(Local 111)	Member-At-Large CAWRTC		Cell
Gord McGrath (Local 114)	Member-At-Large CAWRTC	mcgrath@cawbclocals.com	1-604-835-1195 Cell

# Why Do We Need an Updated National Transportation Strategy?

The issues facing us are the following:

1. The economy including manufacturing and transportation are suffering the dramatic effects of market liberalization – ie the bending of the economy to
2. Our wages, benefits, safety and working conditions are deteriorating in the transportation as a result
3. The environmental pressure to reduce energy consumption will continue to grow because of climate change and the increasing price of oil

The cost of the inevitable changes that will result will be born by the workers unless we take control of the agenda

## **The Proposal**

To develop a national transportation strategy which outlines how to rebuild the manufacturing base and the independence of the Canadian economy based on a coherent national transportation strategy – a strategy based on the needs of workers and citizens; a transportation strategy that meets and surpasses environmental objectives; and one that puts us in a position to have decent, safe, well paying jobs. An integral part of this strategy is to build support for each others demands and struggles.

## **What does this mean for our union?**

With a clear national transportation strategy, our union can be the most significant transportation organization in the country - “Whether we drive it or manufacture it, in the CAW, we make it move”.

We can mobilize 125,000 workers in the transportation sector and our entire union around a clear and comprehensive plan to expand and restructure our national transportation infrastructure. We will be in a position to have significant political impact.

We can:

1. Develop Build coalitions with: National and regional associations of cities, National and regional transportation ngo’s, the major environmental organizations
2. Build a powerful campaign for transportation, jobs and the environment that will have popular support among Canadian citizens
3. Strengthen solidarity within our transportation sector with an aggressive strategy for change and with a better understanding of each others issues which will emerge from this effort.

## **The objective:**

A plan that:

1. Outlines a strategy to develop rail, marine, road and air transportation in a manner which addresses the following principles (already union policy): Recognition of the central importance of transportation. This implies a corresponding national commitment to major investments in transportation. The limits of leaving transportation decisions to the market. At the core of a transportation policy is the need to include a wide range of factors that market signals ignore and misrepresent. Balance and integration of different transportation modes. Relying on "competition" undermines real choices and effectiveness. Transportation services as a right of citizenship. Transportation policy must reinforce the goals of individual and regional access and equity.
2. Links this strategy to a clear plan to manufacture expanded transportation systems in Canada

## **What Is The Method?**

Review, update and deepen our 1992 CAW Transportation Statement including:

1. Current status of transportation operations
2. Current description of the status of manufacturing transportation equipment
3. Trends with respect to wages, benefits, working conditions

## Why Do We Need an Updated National Transportation Strategy? Continued

4. The environmental challenges
5. A plan for an integrated transportation (operations and manufacturing) strategy that defines the social and environmental benefits to the Canadian economy and Canadian workers, points the way to developing good jobs for CAW members and defines a means to build solidarity in the fight. This plan would integrate a strategy each sector of transportation and the manufacture of transportation equipment (including estimated job creation and the spin off impacts)

### Our Starting Point - The Key Principles Defined in the 1992 CAW Transportation Statement

Our 1992 Transportation Statement made the following strategic points which are still relevant today:

1. We represent around 125,000 transportation workers who provide transportation services and manufacture transportation equipment: airline workers, rail workers, bus drivers, workers involved in the manufacture of cars, trucks, trailers, airplanes, buses, subway cars, inter-urban trains and locomotives.
2. Canadian Transportation Policy" inevitably addresses issues central to the broader national agenda: national unity, regional equity, jobs, the environment.
3. The role of transportation is important in any economy, but has been particularly important in Canada because of our geography, population dispersion, climate, and the implications of trying to build and sustain a prosperous, independent nation beside a powerful and dominating neighbor.

For example the development of rail system in Canada was a

- ⇒ part of uniting Canada
- ⇒ influenced location of cities
- ⇒ and combined with tariffs – influenced the creation of the steel industry

4. Transportation is a significant sector of business expenses, involves a million plus workers, uses 30% of Canada's energy and is key to various issues in our social structure. It is both a key factor in any climate change strategy and critical to our economic base.
5. Transportation policy must be part of the development and strengthening of our economic base.
6. Expanding transportation and the accompanying expansion of manufacturing can equalize development in the economy across the country

## What can each of our CAW Councils do?

Questions for Each Council: RTC; Marine; Rail, Air and Vehicle Assembly

- A. What are the main issues with the council (sectors within the council) with respect to:
  1. Job loss/creation
  2. Wages and benefits
  3. Working conditions
  4. Within Transportation Operations are workers: Hourly, Salary, Commission, Owner Operators, Dependant Contractors, Full-Time, Part-Time, Casual, Foreign Workers
- B. What are the current demands of our union to address these issues

## What can each of our CAW Councils do? Continued.....

### C. What is the current status - in broad terms and numbers

#### 1. Transportation Operations – For each mode of Transport

- ⇒ What are the modes of transport: **Any of:** Cars, Buses, Vans, 3 – 5 Ton vehicles, Tractors, Ferries, Ships, Airplanes, Trains, Subway, Sky Trains, Bikes (We have some bike couriers.), Other?
- ⇒ What do we ship: Any of – Manufactured Goods, Raw material, People, Money, Freight & packages, Furniture, Livestock, Food, other?
- ⇒ Where do we ship it and where does it come from
- ⇒ What corridors are used: any of - Municipal, County Roads, Provincial, Federal Hi Ways, Lakes, Rivers, Oceans, Rail Tracks, Air, East – West, North – South, International, other?
- ⇒ How many jobs involved
- ⇒ What are the intersection points with other modes of transport
- ⇒ What type of fuels are used: Any of – Gas, Diesel, Electric, Batteries, BIO Fuels, Solar, other?
  - ⇒ What percentage of each?
  - ⇒ What are the current costs or each fuel?
  - ⇒ Are there trends toward new fuels? What are the trends?
  - ⇒ What are the hurdles in your opinion to expanding use of renewable (green) energies?
  - ⇒ What infrastructure would be required for maximum utilization of green energies

#### 2. Manufacture of Transportation Equipment

- ⇒ What do we manufacture
- ⇒ Who do we manufacture it for and where does it go
- ⇒ How many jobs involved
- ⇒ What are the current environmental issues that are coming up
- ⇒ What are the hurdles in your opinion to expanding use of renewable (green) energies?

#### 3. General questions for both:

- ⇒ What do you see as the main environmental challenges facing your industry and workplace in the next decade?
- ⇒ What kind of "green" environmental initiatives in your industry or workplace would add jobs or strengthen your jobs?
- ⇒ How do your members think about "the environment" when it comes to their jobs?
- ⇒ How can we build support and enthusiasm among our members for a new CAW National Transportation Strategy?

Please forward your answers to these questions to:

Nick DeCarlo at CAW National Office: [Nick.DeCarlo@kaw.ca](mailto:Nick.DeCarlo@kaw.ca)

Or Bill Gaucher CAW RTC President : [gaucher@kawbclocals.com](mailto:gaucher@kawbclocals.com)





#326 – 12<sup>th</sup> Street

New Westminster, BC

V3M 4H6

**C. A. W. ROAD TRANSPORTATION COUNCIL**

*Bill Gaucher*

*Bryant LeRoux*

*Jim Connelly*

*Don Lajoie*

*Len Poirier*

*President*

*1<sup>st</sup> Vice-President*

*Fin/Rec. Secretary*

*2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-President*

*CAW National*

**CAW ROAD TRANSPORT COUNCIL  
2011 DUES REMITTANCE FORM**

**CAW Local Number:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Local Mailing Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Unit/s Name/s:** \_\_\_\_\_

Designated Member-At-Large for RTC from your Local: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell: \_\_\_\_\_

**Treasurer or F/Secretary:**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

**Dues for the Quarter of:**    **January 11**    **April 11**    **July 11**    **October 11**

(Please circle applicable quarter)

**Dues for the full year:** (Please check box)

**Total Unit/s Membership:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Cheques should be made payable to:**

**CAW Road Transport Council**

**Attn: Financial/Recording Secretary**

**C/o Jim Connelly and Bill Gaucher**

**#326 – 12<sup>th</sup> Street**

**First Floor**

**New Westminster, BC V3M 4H6**