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This is in reference to our Executive Board Meeting in Winnipeg Manitoba in the week of June 01, 2008. Let me first say that your City is a first class location for such a meeting and we enjoyed our time there.

As a result of meeting in Winnipeg, Heather, Ken and I were able to attend the Policy Health and Safety Committee of Via Rail. It was wonderful to witness the talent, style and professionalism of our delegation to that Committee. Such is a testament to their hard work and dedication to worker's occupational health and safety. We were also able to attend the Via on Board group's monthly health and safety committee meeting. Although I had met Dave Kissack, Brad Roy, Stan Pogorzelec and Laura Hazlitt before, it was truly a pleasure to witness them articulating and defending the needs and rights of our members at Via. Their dedication and endeavors must be commended and Sister Ward's good work did not go unnoticed. We were also able to take some time to visit the owner operators at their drivers meeting on Tuesday night.

It was truly a pleasure to attend both Local 4002's executive meeting and general meeting. Clearly, the executive board is functioning well and is dedicated to working together for the good of the membership. We were particularly delighted at sitting in on the general meeting, which was lively but orderly. Again, this is evidence to the good work of you, your executive board and standing committees.

We want to take this opportunity to thank you, the executive board and the membership for the warm and friendly reception during this visit. It was great meeting the members and renewing old acquaintances.

Again, thank you and best wishes

In solidarity

Robert J. Fitzgerald
President

Cc: Council Executive Board

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