

Railfax



October 21, 2009

VIA RAIL BARGAINING

Dear Brothers & Sisters,

There have been numerous issues facing the rail sector but once again we find ourselves back at the bargaining table, this time with VIA. Attached you will find a press release that was initiated by the VIA Bargaining Committee concerning the official opening with the corporation.

This will be a difficult and challenging set of negotiations. We all know VIA continues to be underfunded. The Harper government had earlier announced infrastructure monies. The facts are that the monies can not be used in any other area but what was earmarked by the Canadian government. VIA of course, is pleading poverty as they have in the past but that will not deter us from reaching a fair and equitable settlement.

Council 4000 and Local 100 will need the full support of the other Rail Locals and our total union as we move through this difficult round of bargaining. As has been the case in the past we will be updating the leadership and membership as we go through negotiations. We are in the early stages of the bargaining with the expiry date of December 31, 2009. Your voices of solidarity would be important to the VIA Bargaining Committee.

In solidarity,

John Burns
President
CAW Local 100

VIA Bargaining Committee

Barry Kennedy
President
Council 4000