

Rt. Hon. Justin Trudeau  
Prime Minister of Canada  
80 Wellington Street  
Ottawa, ON, K1A 0A2

Hon. Pierre Poilievre  
Leader of the Official Opposition  
House of Commons  
Ottawa, ON, K1A 0A6

Mr. Yves-François Blanchet  
Leader of the Bloc Québécois  
House of Commons  
Ottawa, ON, K1A 0A6

Mr. Jagmeet Singh  
Leader of the New Democratic Party  
House of Commons  
Ottawa, ON, K1A 0A6

Dear Leaders,

The B.C. port strike has now entered its sixth day.

B.C. ports handle more than \$800 million worth of cargo daily, much of which is transported by rail. There are reports that as much as \$19 billion worth of goods are floating off our west coast right now.

These are goods that Canadian families rely on. They are the output of hard work by Canadian workers. With each passing day, Canada's reputation as a reliable trading partner is being tarnished.

As the business community, provincial leaders, economists, and others have noted, the impacts of this strike on Canadian families and businesses are enormous and mounting. This work stoppage will take weeks to correct. Further delay will only compound the challenges.

We are told that the two parties, the International Longshore and Warehouse Union (ILWU), and the British Columbia Maritime Employers Association (BCMEA), remain far apart on key issues. The two sides have stopped bargaining and reached an "impasse" over maintenance work and wage demands.

Political leadership is needed to resolve this dispute. Canadians expect all political parties to work together – especially in a minority context – to get Western ports working again. This may include recalling Parliament and passing back-to-work legislation.

There is recent precedent for such legislation as the federal government quickly intervened to end the Montreal port strike in 2021.

Supply chains are only as strong as their weakest link. This bottleneck cannot continue.

Canada's railways are asking each of you to put partisanship and political differences aside in the interests of Canada's economy and all Canadians.

Sincerely,

Marc



Marc Brazeau  
President and Chief Executive Officer  
Railway Association of Canada