

## VIA Rail / Local 100 Negotiations Resume

Local 100 bargaining committee representing Agreement #3 VIA Rail employees return to the bargaining table this week in Montreal, Quebec.

Formal opening with VIA Rail took place in Montreal on Friday October 30th, 2015 where Unifor National President Jerry Dias joined both National Council 4000 and Local 100 bargaining committees in the initial meeting with VIA Rail.

Local 100 bargaining committee, led by Local President Ken Hiatt, then met with VIA Rail the week of December 7th, 2015 where the union presented an overview of the union proposals, most of which were derived from our membership surveys.

The bargaining committee, in consultation with the National office formulated proposals on Pensions, Wages, Benefits, Employment Security, Contracting Out, Vacations, Health and Safety, Hours of Work, Skilled Trades and Shift Week End Premiums and other proposals that will improve the working lives of our members.

The corporation presented numerous concessionary demands, some include rolling back some off the gains we achieved last round of bargaining. Discussions from both sides have been gritty, but respectful and we hope we can make some progress on our proposals this coming week.

Local 100 and VIA Rail has also scheduled future bargaining dates:

Week of February 15<sup>th</sup> Toronto and Week of March 14<sup>th</sup> Vancouver

The ongoing support and solidarity of our membership will be important as we go through the bargaining process.

We remind our members not to listen to rumours or innuendoes and should questions arise, members should contact their National Union Representative or Local President. We will post bargaining updates when information becomes available on the Unifor National and Local websites. Please follow us on twitter [@Unifor\\_Railline](https://twitter.com/Unifor_Railline) and to receive Rail Line directly, please send an email to [rail@unifor.org](mailto:rail@unifor.org)

In solidarity, and for the bargaining committee:

Ken Hiatt – Local President  
Nicolas Bourgeois – Bargaining Committee Representative  
Chris Garrod – National H&S Coordinator  
Marcel Rondeau – Staff  
Bob Orr – Assistant to Unifor President

Zoltan Czipfel – VP Mountain Region  
Terry McKimm – VP Prairie Region  
Ashok Venkatarangam – VP Great Lakes  
Jacques Ouimet - VP St-Lawrence Atlantic Region  
Brian Stevens – National Rail Director