



Providing information by email to our members and fellow unionists

ILWU Canada **Waterfront eNews**

Official e-newsletter publication of the International Longshore & Warehouse Union Canada

Jan 24 , 2017

Greetings Brothers and Sisters,

The rallies that were held on Jan 12th, 2017 were a great success. There was excellent attendance at each location and our message received media coverage.

I would like to thank everyone that showed up to support the Day of Action. Without the rank and file such demonstrations would not be possible. It was great to see the solidarity amongst our members as well as with the other unions involved including Unifor and the Operating Engineers.

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- 8) Latest industry articles put together by [WESTAC](#).
- 9) Join the [Fight for \\$15](#). Sign the petition [today](#). Over 47,000 people have signed up already.

In solidarity

Bob Dhaliwal



12 January 2017

ITF applauds Canadian maritime workers' action day

ITF (International Transport Workers' Federation) leaders have spoken out in support of mass union actions later today in Canada to protect maritime workers' jobs and skills.

Workers and concerned citizens will be rallying in Montreal, Toronto, Prince Rupert, Victoria and Vancouver in defence of maritime cabotage, which helps safeguard jobs in national trade. Despite its proven advantages and union victories to uphold it (see <https://goo.gl/J5Z4EE>), the principle is under Canadian government attack.

ITF president Paddy Crumlin applauded the initiative: "Cabotage is a no-brainer. Its merits are obvious. To attempt to roll it back in a country like Canada where it has been proved to be so valuable is baffling. It defies logic. Thankfully the nation's maritime workers and their unions understand what a seemingly remote political class does not - the need to fight for what is right and what is worth saving."

ITF general secretary Steve Cotton added: "We're glad to see the ITF standing as part of this important national initiative that seeks to keep Canada strong, skilled and employed."

"Cabotage protects jobs, coastal communities and even national security, all concepts that Canadians understand and support. Today's rallies prove this."

For more about today's events see this post from ITF Canada: <https://goo.gl/GyFJKE>. For details of how cabotage laws protect skills see <http://goo.gl/hzqkgE>



16 January 2017

Stranded crew case 'a human disgrace'

An ITF (International Transport Workers' Federation) inspector has issued a last ditch call to a ship owner and its flag state to act to stop the suffering of a 17-strong crew abandoned in Algeria.

ITF inspector Mohamed Arrachedi has raised the alarm over the case of the Panama-flagged, Turkish-owned Seahonest (IMO 9142100) whose crew has been stranded unpaid and unprovisioned in the Port of Algiers for seven months.

Mohamed Arrachedi explained the urgency of his appeal: "The crew are on the brink. I believe there's a real risk of suicide - that's how desperate they are. The company has washed its hands of them, yet continues to operate other vessels. It's a human disgrace, I

believe they are happy to see the men reach breaking point in the hope that they will leave without a cent of what they're owed.

"Either the company or the flag state has to act. The only reason the crew hasn't starved is because of the food and humanitarian assistance provided by the ITF, Algerian trade unions, the port authority of Algiers Port and the embassies of India and Turkey."

On Saturday one of the crew members sent the following SMS to Mohamed Arrachedi: "Is there any news or updates for us? Everybody are very tense, mentally tired and desperate to go home and anxious to know when and how our problem will be solved"

Compulsory to Cover Abandonment

Secretary-General Kitack Lim has welcomed the new obligations under the Maritime Labour Convention (MLC 2006) which require ship owners to have compulsory insurance to cover abandonment of seafarers, as well as claims for death or long-term disability of seafarers.

The 2014 amendments to the MLC 2006 come under the auspices of the International Labour Organization (ILO) and are based on guidelines developed by a joint IMO/ILO working group reporting to both IMO's Legal Committee and ILO's governing bodies.

Lim said: "These amendments, which will provide better protection for seafarers and their families, are the fruit of successful collaboration between IMO and ILO to ensure better working conditions and better protection should things go wrong. I am very pleased to see these amendments enter into force today for the Parties to MLC 2006, all of which are also IMO Member States.

The 2014 amendments to the MLC 2006 require that a certificate or other documentary evidence of financial security has to be issued by the financial security provider of the ship owner. This certificate has to be carried on board the ship.

Lim added: "Seafarers make global trade possible and it is vital that we all work together to ensure their rights are protected. It has often been said that the MLC 2006 represents the fourth pillar when it comes to the most important maritime treaties as it complements the IMO treaties covering safety - the SOLAS treaty, pollution prevention - the MARPOL treaty and training of seafarers - the STCW treaty."

The amendments were developed over nearly a decade of discussion in a Joint IMO/ILO Ad Hoc Expert Working Group on Liability and Compensation regarding Claims for Death, Personal Injury and Abandonment of Seafarers.

IMO's Legal Committee maintains a standing agenda item, to keep under review the provision of financial security in case of abandonment of seafarers, and ship owners' responsibilities in respect of contractual claims for personal injury to, or death of seafarers.

New Silk Road Journey Completed



The first container train travelling between China and the UK is arriving at DB Cargo UK's London Eurohub terminal in Barking today - proving that it's twice as fast as cargo transportation by sea after completing the 12,000 kilometre journey in 18 days.

[The UK is the latest international connection added to the China-Europe rail link in the "One Belt - One Road" corridor](#), an initiative of the Chinese government being hailed as the new Silk Road, which also includes stops at Duisburg, Madrid, Afghanistan and Riga.

The train started its journey in Yiwu, the eastern Chinese province of Zhejiang, and loaded the approved Channel Tunnel containers at Deutsche Bahn's platforms at the Duisburg terminal in Germany.

The train is operated by the InterRail Group, a multinational transport operator headquartered in Switzerland, on behalf of China Railway subsidiary CRIMT. DB Cargo is responsible for handling the Duisburg to London leg of the journey which passes through the Channel Tunnel. Its cargo includes textiles and other consumer goods and containers have to be unloaded and reloaded multiple times due to changes of gauge.

DB has collaborated with partners since 2011 to operate weekly container trains on the world's longest rail line, which includes connections at the cities of Duisburg and Hamburg to Wuhan, Chongqing and Harbin.



Poverty Free BC

Rally: March 4, 2017

Week of Action

Feb 25 - Mar 3

for info: <http://bit.ly/2i7GC1H>



BC's poverty rate is virtually unchanged from where it was a decade ago.

At 13.2 per cent, BC's poverty rate is the second highest in the country says a new report - *Long Overdue: Why BC Needs a Poverty Reduction Plan*, co-published today by the Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives (CCPA), the United Way of the Lower Mainland and the BC Poverty Reduction Coalition.

Poverty rates in BC remain much higher than historic lows seen in the late 1970s and late 1980s. Measures of severe hardship, such as

food bank use and homelessness, have continued to climb. And working poverty rates are also on the rise.

The report finds that approximately half of those living below the poverty line are either the working poor or children of the working poor. The report also finds that:

- Income for those on social assistance is not just below the poverty line, but thousands of dollars below it. A single person receiving basic welfare of \$610 per month has an annual income that reaches less than 40 per cent of the poverty line.
- Someone working full-time year round at the minimum wage of \$10.85/hour earns about \$3,500 a year less than the poverty line for a single person.
- Costs for core essentials like housing, child care, energy/electricity and food have increased much faster than incomes, and escalating prices of these essentials are placing additional stress on the already-tight budgets of low-income families.

"Investing in a poverty reduction plan now is the best investment we could make for our future, especially when you consider how poverty robs our future generation, our children, of their potential," said Michael McKnight, President & CEO, United Way of the Lower Mainland. "United Way and other non-profits work hard to help children and families in need but there is only so much we can do. There is always more demand than there are resources available."

"Families are struggling to make ends meet with increasing affordability challenges, including rising housing costs, childcare fees, hydro rates, and food costs. The social safety net is broken throughout the province, and our economy loses 8 to 9 billion dollars annually paying for the costs of poverty. The need to rebuild that safety net through a poverty reduction plan is long overdue," said Trish Garner, Community Organizer, BC Poverty Reduction Coalition.

The report notes that the *poverty gap* in BC - meaning the amount of money needed to bring every British Columbian living under the poverty line to that threshold - was \$5.8 billion in 2014. That's how much it would take in increased wages and income supports to eliminate poverty in our province. That figure represents about 2.4 per cent of BC's economy (as measured by GDP).

BC is one of Canada's wealthiest provinces.

But we have the 2nd highest poverty rate in the country.

We are the only province without a poverty reduction plan.

POLICYALTERNATIVES.CA/OVERDUE

@CCPA_BC

"Too often, we become resigned to the presence of poverty, hunger and homelessness. The problems seem so big and complex that it's hard to see how they can be solved," said report co-author Igluka Ivanova, CCPA-BC Senior Economist.

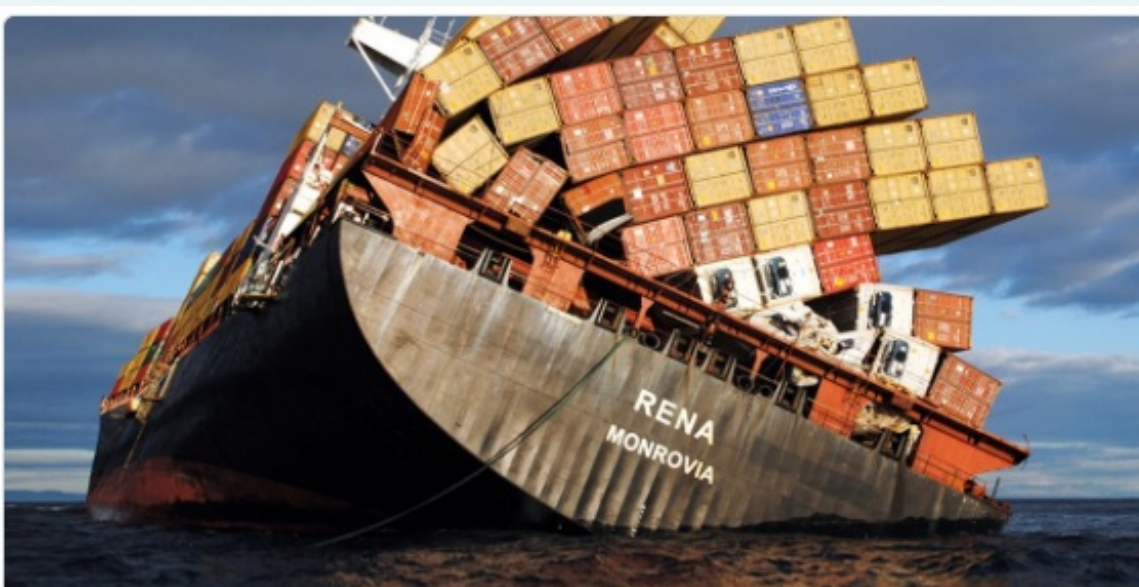
"But, effective poverty reduction plans have been developed in Canada and internationally and there is no reason it cannot be done here. Poverty, hunger and homelessness are not inevitable in a society as wealthy as ours," she added.

BC's high rate of child poverty remains stubbornly high. As well, marginalized groups including Indigenous people, people with disabilities and mental illness, recent immigrants and refugees, single mothers, single female seniors, and youth are disproportionately represented among the poor.

Essential elements of a comprehensive poverty reduction plan outlined in the report include:

- Significantly increasing welfare and disability rates and indexing them to inflation.
- Increasing the minimum wage to \$15 an hour and indexing it to inflation.
- Building 10,000 new social and co-op housing units annually.
- Adopting the \$10-a-day child care plan, which includes free child care for those earning less than \$40,000.

[Read the report here.](#)



Containers lost at sea are a known hazard for any ocean-going vessel, but it's still something for them to be considered to be the likely cause for the forced retirement of five of the 29 participants of the Vendée Globe solo sailing race that started back on November 6th. Live results of the round-the-world race, expected to finish this week, [can be found here](#).

[2017 Jan 16, Economist Espresso](#)

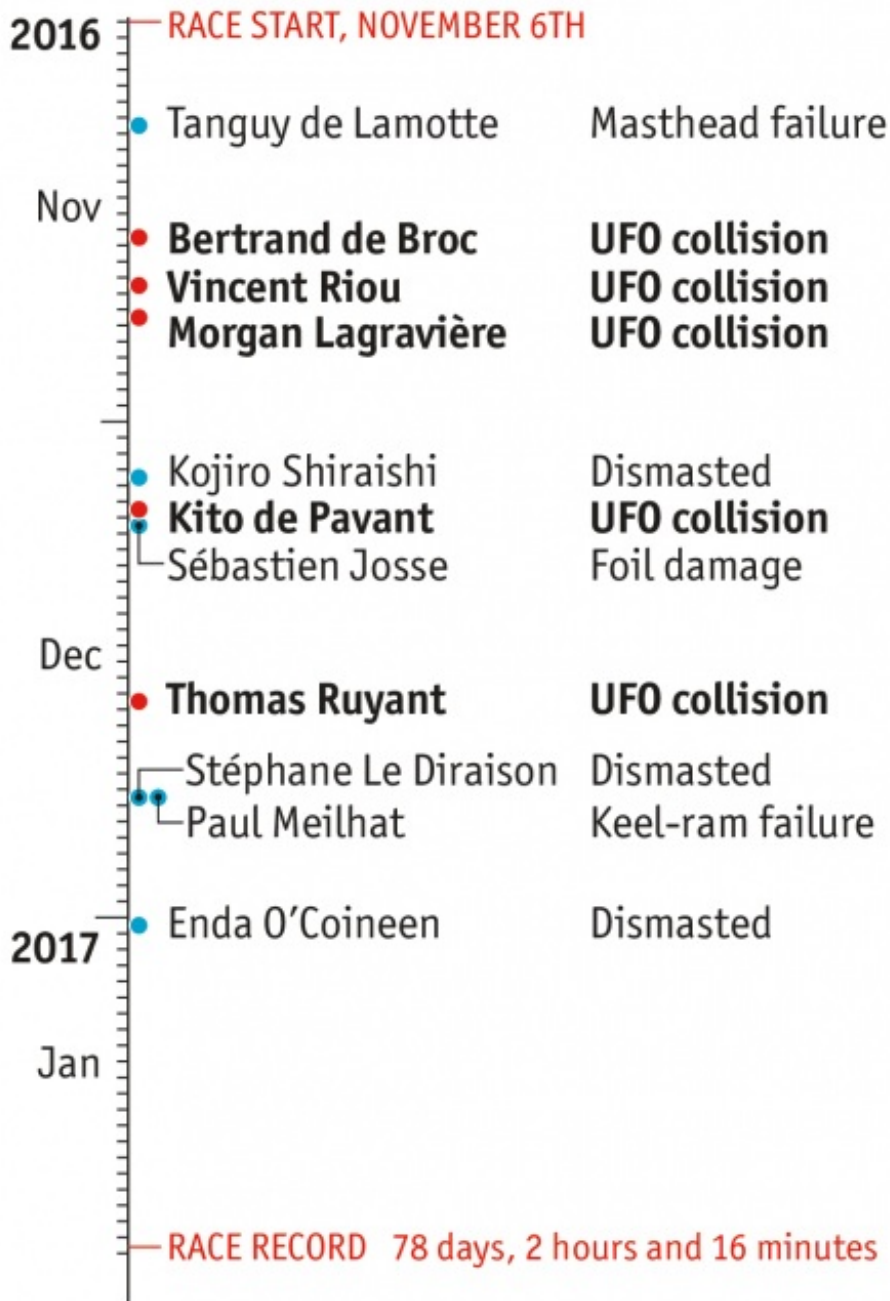
The ocean's UFOs: sailing and trade

The Vendée Globe, the only unassisted non-stop solo round-the-world sailing race, ends this week in record time, thanks to performance-enhancing foils. The quadrennial "Everest of the seas" is renowned as a test of endurance for man and machine, but this year's contest has been marked by a new danger. Five of the 11 skippers who were forced to retire from the race hit unidentified floating objects, assumed to be shipping containers. The World Shipping Council estimates that between 2008-13 on average 1,679 containers were lost at sea each year, mostly due to bad weather. This includes the total loss of 4,293 containers in 2013 from the sinking of the MOL Comfort in the Indian Ocean, and the figure is a small fraction of the 120m containers shipped each year. But each floating metal tank raises the risk of pollution-and collision.

Unseen hazard

Vendée Globe race retirements*

Due to: ● unidentified floating object (UFO)



Source: Vendée Globe

*At 15th January 2017

Crew Kidnapping Reaches 10-Year High



More crew were kidnapped at sea in 2016 than in any of the previous 10 years, despite global piracy reaching its lowest levels since 1998, the ICC International Maritime Bureau's (IMB) annual piracy report has revealed.

In its 2016 report, IMB has also recorded 191 incidents of piracy and armed robbery on the world's seas. This has increased by 93 incidents since IMB's global piracy report for the first half of 2016 when it announced that piracy and armed robbery at sea has fallen to its lowest levels since 1995.

In the first half of 2016, IMB recorded 72 vessels boarded, five hijackings, and a further 12 attempted attacks. Nine ships were fired upon and there were 64 incidents of hostage taking on board, down from 250 in the same period last year.

IMB's Piracy Reporting Centre (PRC) is the world's only independent 24-hour manned centre to receive reports of pirate attacks from around the world. It recorded 445 attacks a year when piracy was at its highest in 2010 and 2003.

PIRACY AND ARMED ROBBERY AGAINST SHIPS

ICC INTERNATIONAL MARITIME BUREAU



IN 2016

191 INCIDENTS

WERE REPORTED TO THE IMB PIRACY REPORTING CENTRE

Down from 246 reported incidents in 2015

ICC INTERNATIONAL
CHAMBER
OF COMMERCE
The world business organization

#IMBpiracy

@IMB_Piracy

PIRACY AND ARMED ROBBERY AGAINST SHIPS

ICC INTERNATIONAL MARITIME BUREAU



TYPES OF ATTACKS
JANUARY-DECEMBER 2016

150

VESSELS
BOARDED

7

HIJACKINGS

22

ATTEMPTED
ATTACKS

12

VESSELS
FIRED UPON

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OF COMMERCE
The world business organization

#IMBpiracy

@IMB_Piracy

PIRACY AND ARMED ROBBERY AGAINST SHIPS

ICC INTERNATIONAL MARITIME BUREAU



INCREASE IN THE NUMBER OF GUNS REPORTED IN 2016

GUNS FEATURED IN 48 REPORTS IN 2016 COMPARED WITH 33 IN 2015

IN 2016

151 HOSTAGES WERE TAKEN AND 62 CREW WERE KIDNAPPED

ICC INTERNATIONAL
CHAMBER
OF COMMERCE
The world business organization

#IMBpiracy

@IMB_Piracy

WESTAC is a non-profit society of major transportation organizations in Western Canada represented by business, labour, and government decision-makers. The ILWU is a founding member and holds two positions on the Executive Board, one is ILWU Canada President Rob Ashton and the other through the ILWU Affiliate in Saskatchewan the Grain Services Union General Secretary Hugh Wagner.

Bulk Products

2 results

Canadian softwood imports caused harm: U.S.

January 7th, 2017

MONTREAL * The U.S. International Trade Commission says it has found there was a reasonable indication that softwood lumber products from Canada materially injured American producers, setting the stage for the imposition of preliminary duties that ...

Mining sector in position to grow again, Citi says

January 10th, 2017

The mining sector will enjoy another year of growth in 2017 following a strong performance in 2016, an industry analysis by Citi suggested Monday. Mining stocks will have a strong 2017, thanks to industry-wide trends toward increased free cash ...

Economy/Trade

3 results

Advanced manufacturing: The new manufacturing footprint

January 14th, 2017

Adidas prepares a high-tech plant to bring production of trainers back to Germany BEHIND closed doors in the Bavarian town of Ansbach a new factory is taking shape. That it will use robots and novel production techniques such as additive ...

5 reasons Canada's economy is looking up in 2017

January 8th, 2017

After 2016, a year of ups and downs for the Canadian economy, there's a growing body of evidence suggesting 2017 will be a better year. Here are five big reasons the economy could do a lot better than you might think this year. The ...

2017: Policy Pivot? - Export Development Canada (EDC)

[Permalink](#)

January 12th, 2017

Energy

6 results

[B.C. First Nations leader backs northern refinery](#)

January 12th, 2017

A prominent B.C. First Nations figure is lending his support to the notion that a refinery should be built on the province's northern coast to process and ship raw bitumen to Asian markets. Ellis Ross stepped down as chief councillor of the Haisla ...

[Is Canada setting itself up for a pipeline glut?](#)

January 13th, 2017

Director of the Resource and Environmental Planning program at Simon Fraser University Prime Minister Justin Trudeau's statement of support for the Keystone XL pipeline and approval of two other pipelines raises an interesting question. ...

[Peter Tertzakian: 4 reasons why a leaner and meaner Canadian oilpatch is back in the game](#)

January 11th, 2017

For an energy veteran like me, North America's oil industry reminds me of "That's Life," the classic Frank Sinatra tune. After every oil price crash I can imagine Ol' Blue Eyes crooning, "Each time I find myself flat on my face / I pick ...

[Trans Mountain expansion still needs board approval; Kinder Morgan has met B.C.'s terms; directors' verdict expected by March](#)

January 13th, 2017

Kinder Morgan's Trans Mountain expansion project still faces its biggest step before starting construction on the \$6.8-billion twinning of its pipeline - a final decision from its board of directors. The B.C. government's decision Wednesday to ...

[Two Gitksan chiefs seek to block Lelu Island LNG terminal](#)

January 11th, 2017

Two Gitksan hereditary chiefs have filed a court challenge in a bid to block Pacific NorthWest LNG's plans to construct a massive terminal in British Columbia. The two leaders of house groups called Gwininitxw and Luutkudziiwus are asking the ...

[China needs to prepare for US energy independence - Global Times](#)

[Permalink](#)

January 13th, 2017

Even though the demand for petroleum from the world's two major consumers - China and the US - has slowed down in recent years, global demand has grown at a steady pace. The US, China, India and Japan remain the biggest oil consumers, accounting for ...

Environment

3 results

[What Ottawa is doing to protect the Salish Sea; In addition to Ocean Protection](#)

Plan, there will be investments in sensitive ecosystems

January 13th, 2017

I would like to outline the government of Canada's way forward on protecting Canada's oceans and waterways, in response to Laurie Gourlay's commentary ("Bold moves needed to preserve the Salish Sea," Jan. 7). Canadians are fortunate to have some of ...

A sticky national debate; Does spilled pipeline bitumen sink or float? A scientist seeks to answer this pressing environmental question

January 9th, 2017

Heather Dettman has spent nearly two decades taking her lab coat on and off at a federal research complex located on 1 Oil Patch Dr., a right turn off Derrick Drive in the Alberta town of Devon. For much of her career, the petroleum ...

We can learn so much from nature

January 12th, 2017

If you fly over a forest and look down, you'll see every green tree and plant reaching to the heavens to absorb the ultimate energy source: sunlight. What a contrast when you look down on a city or town with its naked roofs, asphalt roads ...

Infrastructure

1 result

Liberals promised an infrastructure spending bonanza, but a year into their term the money is trickling out

January 13th, 2017

The federal Liberals have been talking up their \$60-billion infrastructure plan since the election, but there's been little concrete progress to show for it. During the 12 months after Prime Minister Justin Trudeau took office on Nov. 4, ...

Innovation & Technology

3 results

Robots Will Take Jobs, but Not as Fast as Some Fear, New Report Says

January 13th, 2017

The robots are coming, but the march of automation will displace jobs more gradually than some alarming forecasts suggest. A measured pace is likely because what is technically possible is only one factor in determining how quickly new technology ...

Singapore to test autonomous truck system

January 14th, 2017

Jan. 14--Singapore will develop and test an autonomous container truck platooning system, The Ministry of Transport (MOT) and the Port of Singapore Authority (PSA) announced in a joint statement on Thursday. Truck ...

Opinion: Blockchain technology tremendous opportunity for GTH

January 12th, 2017

In his Dec. 17 column, Murray Mandryk comments on the long-term sustainability of Regina's inland port, the Global Transportation Hub (GTH). At a recent Van Horne Institute conference in Winnipeg, we learned about ...

Workforce

1 result

[Sunken tugboat a consequence of letting foreign crews in Canadian waters, says union - British Columbia - CBC News](#)

[Permalink](#)

January 13th, 2017

Over 200 maritime workers gathered in Vancouver, Victoria and Prince Rupert Thursday to protest what they view as "an attack on jobs" from the federal Liberal government.

Marine

4 results

[Ports weigh natural gas as marine emissions rules tighten | AJOT.COM](#)

[Permalink](#)

January 13th, 2017

The UN's International Maritime Organization last year cut limits on sulfur in marine fuels to 0.5 percent from 3.5 percent, starting in 2020. The target: So-called bunker fuel, a cheap, tar-like oil residue used by most ships. Now ports in ...

[Choppy outlook for marine shippers in 2017- Nikkei Asian Review](#)

[Permalink](#)

January 13th, 2017

Fares for bulk cargo ships are expected to maintain steady growth in 2017, but the ongoing capacity glut in the industry could weigh on prices.

[LA sets container terminal record - MMD](#)

[Permalink](#)

January 13th, 2017

Cargo volumes at the Port of Los Angeles reached 8,856,782 TEUs in 2016, marking the busiest year ever for a Western Hemisphere port. The previous record was set in 2006, when the Port of Los Angeles handled 8,469,853 TEUs.

[Canadian ports anticipate higher cargo volume shipments in 2017](#)

[Permalink](#)

January 9th, 2017

Extract not available.

1 result

All-season road to Whati, N.W.T., gets federal gov't funding

January 11th, 2017

The federal government has announced it will pay 25 per cent of the cost of building an all-season road to Whati, N.W.T., through the P3 Canada Fund. The announcement of funding for the long-anticipated road into the heart of the ...

FIGHT FOR \$15 Minimum Wage



It is time to increase the minimum wage and address income inequality in BC.

At \$10.85/hr BC's minimum wage is one of the lowest in Canada. As the cost of living continues to go up, workers earning minimum wage cannot make ends meet.

BC's minimum wage leaves full-time workers living below the poverty line.

The BC Federation of Labour believes that work should lift you out of poverty. It's time for the BC government to increase the minimum wage so that nobody is left behind.

Help us fight for \$15/hr. It's only fair!

[Sign the petition!](#)

[Click the image below to visit the Fight For \\$15 website.](#)

FIGHT FOR 15

SHOP UNION.ca

The place to find union goods & services

go>



Waterfront News

Reminder



The Waterfront News is the newsletter produced by ILWU Canada and mailed to members several times per year. The Dispatcher is the newsletter produced by our International Union and is also mailed to members several times per year. ILWU Canada keeps an address database for both of these, but we only receive addresses from the Locals or the Members directly.

[Copies of past editions of the Waterfront News are available here:](#)

[Copies of past editions of the Dispatcher are available here:](#)

If you are a Member of the ILWU in Canada, or on the A or B boards in any of the Longshore Locals you are entitled to receive one or both of these. If you are not receiving it now you should contact your Local to make sure they have your current address.

You can also send us an e-mail at communicate@ilwu.ca or phone us at 604-254-8141 to update us.



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