



BROTHERHOOD OF LOCOMOTIVE ENGINEERS & TRAINMEN

GENERAL COMMITTEE OF ADJUSTMENT Canadian National - Wisconsin Central Ltd *Including former DM&IR, DWP and EJ&E Railways*

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May 25, 2017

RE: Up-Coming Bargaining Round

BLET Members
CN-WC:

Article 40 (B) of the 2014 Collective Bargaining Agreement provides that after June 30, 2017, we may serve our list of bargaining demands upon the Carrier to initiate our next round of contract negotiations. You may have heard this kind of letter referred to as a "Section Six Notice." The current Agreement remains in full force in effect until a new Agreement is reached. You may have heard this referred to as "*maintaining the status quo.*"

We are compiling a list of improvements to the Agreement and General Wage Increases (GWI's). We need to know what issues are important to you in order to craft a list of demands that best represents the collective desires of the membership. Enclosed please find a survey form with a self-addressed, stamped envelope. Please take a few moments to list the five (5) Agreement issues or bargaining objectives you consider most important to you in descending order of priority, and return them in the enclosed envelope.

As those of you who have worked through this process before will recall, contract negotiations can take considerable time. This round could be more complicated because, pursuant to Article 23, we are tied to the outcome of the health & welfare benefit portion of the current round of national negotiations, which we are not directly party to. Because the health care component represents such a large part of the overall compensation package, we do not expect to reach a tentative agreement until after the Carrier understands its healthcare costs going forward, which they will not know until the National Agreement is settled. Nevertheless, we should serve our Section Six Notice as soon as permissible in order to preserve our strongest argument for the longest possible period of retroactive pay.

Looking forward to reviewing your survey responses and thanking you in advance for participating in your Union.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John W. Reynolds". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "J" and a stylized "R".

John W. Reynolds
General Chairman – CN/WC, BLET

BLET-WC 2017 Section 6 Survey

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

Thank you for taking the time to share your thoughts and concerns with us. Our union is strongest and most effective when everyone participates.