

CANADA Daily News and Updates May 23rd 2024

Ocean Updates

- Baltimore Bridge Collapse: Navigation Restored

Rail Updates

- CPKC-TCRC Bargaining Update

Ocean Updates

Baltimore Bridge Collapse: Navigation Restored

In a significant development for commercial shipping in the Port of Baltimore, the Captain of the Port has announced the reopening of the Fort McHenry Limited Access Channel following the successful refloating and removal of the *M/V Dali*.

The channel, now available 24/7, now has a depth of 50 feet, a 400-foot horizontal clearance, and a vertical clearance of 214 feet, which is enough to accommodate deep draft vessels with ease.

Read more in an [article from gCaptain](#).

Rail Updates

CPKC-TCRC Bargaining Update

CPKC and the Teamsters Canada Rail Conference (TCRC) leadership met again between May 15 and 21, with the assistance of federal mediators in an effort to achieve renewed collective agreements for Train and Engine (T&E) and Rail Traffic Controller (RCTC) employees. Regrettably, no progress was made. Additional bargaining dates have not been scheduled at this time.

Although May 21 marked the expiration of the mandatory 21-day “cooling off” period under the *Canada Labour Code*, the Federal Minister of Labour’s referral to the Canada Industrial Relations Board (CIRB) regarding the maintenance of activities means that a legal strike or lockout cannot occur until the CIRB renders a decision. While it remains unclear how long it

will take for the CIRB to issue a decision, based on precedent, it is unlikely the parties will be in a position to initiate a legal strike or lockout before mid-July or later.

Submissions from stakeholders were due on May 21. The CIRB has received a significant number of submissions that it will need to review and consider. A case management conference is now scheduled for early next week. The CIRB has given CPKC and the TCRC until May 31 to file replies.

Read more in an [update from CPKC](#).