

CANADA Daily News and Updates June 5th 2024

Rail Updates

- CN Launches New Firefighting Trains to Help Protect Supply Chain

Canadian Business/Government

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Rail Updates

CN Launches New Firefighting Trains to Help Protect Supply Chain

CN has announced the addition of two new firefighting trains along with two additional railcars to its fire mitigation and suppression fleet. With wildfires underway across Canada, this specialized fleet, the Trident and the Neptune trains will join CN's existing firefighting train, Poseidon.

Together, these three trains will provide support in combatting wildfires along CN's right-of-way, bringing a significant amount of water and fire suppression capacity to isolated areas, helping to ensure the fluidity, safety and security of goods on CN's network and surrounding communities.

"Our priority is to maintain the integrity of the supply chain so that we can continue to serve our customers and power the economy. By deploying these new firefighting railcars, we're not only reinforcing our commitment to securing the supply chain, but also helping to support the safety and security of our neighbours in communities along our network," said Matthew McClaren, Assistant Vice-President, Safety, at CN. Read the release [here](#).

Canadian Business/Government

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More than 9,000 workers at the Canada Border Services Agency (CBSA) could strike as early as Thursday, after the recent release of a federal Public Interest Commission report, which set guidelines for a new collective agreement and gave the workers the legal right to strike.

CBSA personnel are represented by Public Service Alliance of Canada (PSAC) and the Customs and Immigration Union (CIU).

On June 2, the Canada Border Services Agency (CBSA) issued additional information to industry stakeholders regarding a possible strike, and what may transpire at the border should a strike occur in the days or weeks to come:

“On September 28, 2023, the Public Service Alliance of Canada (PSAC) declared an impasse in its negotiations with the Employer on behalf of the FB group. Public Interest Commission (PIC) hearings were held in April 2024 and a non-binding PIC report is expected to be released in late May/early June. Depending on the timing of the report, PSAC would be in a legal strike position as soon as early June.

The border will remain open and safe as 90% of frontline Border Services Officers are essential workers, which means that they will continue to offer essential services in the event of a strike. Our officers will fulfill their duties with the highest level of integrity and professionalism. However, travellers and businesses could experience an increase in border wait times, picketing outside CBSA premises, and wearing of union-related accessories. The CBSA has been actively working to plan for these situations and has developed mitigation strategies to ensure operations will continue.

The CBSA will respond quickly to any job action or work disruption in order to maintain the safety and security of our border, ensure compliance with our laws, and keep the border open to facilitate the flow of legitimate goods and travel.”