

# CANADA Daily News and Updates November 8th 2024

## Ocean Updates

- Canadian Forwarders 'Extremely Frustrated' by Lack of Action to End Port Strikes
- The Port of Montreal Calls for Action to Strengthen the Supply Chain

## Canadian Business/Government

- No Strike Notice Issued as Negotiations Between Canada Post and Union Continue

## Ocean Updates

### Canadian Forwarders 'Extremely Frustrated' by Lack of Action to End Port Strikes

Canadian freight forwarders are “extremely frustrated” by the strikes across the country’s major ports, having to re-route cargo via the U.S.

**Director of policy and regulatory affairs for CIFFA, Julia Kuzeljevich**, told *The Loadstar*: “Both ports on the west coast and 40% of capacity at the port of Montreal are closed.

“The railways have placed an embargo on moving containers to these locations,” she added.

So, with employers and dockworkers on both sides of Canada in stalemate and no end in sight, Ms Kuzeljevich said: “We are very frustrated with the lack of progress across all parties.”

She added that “freight will have to be diverted to functioning ports in Canada and the U.S.,” but even this contingency leaves shippers and forwarders with few options – especially when considering the looming January deadline for the threat of renewed U.S. East and Gulf Coast dockworker strikes.

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

### The Port of Montreal Calls for Action to Strengthen the Supply Chain

Speaking at a luncheon organized by the Chamber of Commerce of Metropolitan Montreal (CCMM), President and CEO of the Montreal Port Authority (MPA) Julie Gascon outlined her ambitious vision on how to develop the St. Lawrence River and expressed deep concern about the impacts of the labour relations impasse at the Port of Montreal.

Ms. Gascon called for federal intervention to end the long-running dispute at the port, which is having major impacts on the economy, businesses and the community.

“I believe that the best agreements are negotiated at the table. But let’s face it, there are no negotiations, and the government must act by offering both sides a path to true industrial peace,” she said.

Although the longshore workers’ union CUPE Local 375 and the Maritime Employers Association (MEA) have been in the process of renewing their contract for over a year, several pressure

tactics have disrupted port operations in recent weeks. This labour dispute is the third in four years at the Port of Montreal. Negotiations are currently deadlocked, with various pressure tactics on both sides seriously affecting port operations.

Read more in a [press release from the Port of Montreal](#).

## **Canadian Business/Government**

### **No Strike Notice Issued as Negotiations Between Canada Post and Union Continue**

Negotiations continue between Canada Post and the Canadian Union of Postal Workers (CUPW), with the 21-day cooling-off period ending November 2 and both sides now in a position to initiate a labour disruption, given they provide a minimum 72-hour notice.

Canada Post said the parties remain at the table and have agreed not to provide a 72-hour notice as long as discussions remain productive.

“Our goal throughout these negotiations with CUPW has always been to reach negotiated agreements, without any labour disruption,” Canada Post said in a statement.

Talks have continued since November 2, with negotiators meeting with the employer to address two key issues.

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