



CANADA

Liberals praise CN Rail dispute resolution

OTTAWA – Liberal Leader Michael Ignatieff praised both sides of the CN Rail dispute for coming to resolution after a tentative agreement was reached this afternoon.

“We welcome the resolution of this dispute, for the sake of our rail shipping system and our overall economy,” said Mr. Ignatieff. “Both sides deserve commendations for showing good faith and returning to the negotiating table to find a solution.”

“In the absence of leadership from the Conservative government, Joe Volpe and Maria Minna also deserve praise for stepping up to the plate and playing a pivotal role in liaising with the union and Minister Ambrose to get negotiations back on track.”

“Rather than focusing their efforts on finding a resolution that all stakeholders could support, the only thing the government had to offer was back-to-work legislation – a threat that got in the way of ensuring the safety of CN workers and our rail shipping system.”

“Our Labour Critic, Maria Minna, was in very regular contact with the union from the get go, and working with her colleague Joe Volpe applied pressure on the government to get both sides to reach a deal without Parliamentary intervention,” Mr. Ignatieff said.

After working without a contract for eleven months, 1,700 CN locomotive engineers went on strike after longer mileage caps were imposed into the terms of their collective agreement, citing safety concerns resulting from longer working hours.

The details of the agreement are not yet known.

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