



## TEAMSTERS CANADA RAIL CONFERENCE

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### CONFÉRENCE FERROVIAIRE DE TEAMSTERS CANADA

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**Don Ashley**  
National Legislative Director  
Directeur législatif national

August 9, 2019

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

This letter is in regard to the current status on the development of updated Work/Rest Rules. The following is an excerpt from a letter the National Office received from the Minister of Transport:

*I am writing with regard to Ministerial Order (MO) 18-01, issued on December 20, 2018, in accordance with subsection 19(1) of the Railway Safety Act (RSA).*

*As I have previously stated, the Government of Canada is committed to the timely adoption and promotion of safe operating practices for railway companies and their employees. In particular, we all recognize that fatigue can severely affect human performance and ultimately compromise railway safety. That is why I instructed railway companies to revise the Work/Rest Rules for Railway Operating Employees, to ensure that they reflect the latest science and fatigue management practices.*

*I would like to inform you that I have refused to approve the submissions submitted by railway companies in response to the MO 18-01 as they clearly do not address the fatigue-related risks identified in the Ministerial Order. The notice of refusal is enclosed.*

*I have provided railway companies an opportunity to re-draft the proposed rules and to submit further rules to Transport Canada by November 1, 2019. In order to ensure better results this time, additional information on Transport Canada's expectation with regard to rules and limits for all eight fatigue-related elements included in the original Ministerial Order has been provided to railway companies.*

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*I have also made it clear to railway companies that failure to produce further acceptable rules that are based on fatigue science will result in Transport Canada's exploring alternative means to address the issue of railway employee fatigue, including the development of rules or regulations.*

We have had some preliminary discussions with industry on process and timelines and anticipate consultations to continue throughout the fall with a draft rule submitted for approval early next year.

We will continue providing commentary and input in this process to ensure the safety and interests of our members is protected.

In solidarity,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Lyndon Isaak', written in a cursive style.

Lyndon Isaak  
President - TCRC