

NEWS RELEASE

Port of Montreal – Action Needed Now!

Ottawa, April 16, 2021

The Maritime Employers Association (MEA) and the Canadian Union of Public Employees, Local 375 (CUPE 375), representing the longshore workers at the Port of Montreal have been negotiating for over 30 months. There was a strike last summer and the union is now on a partial strike, not supplying overtime or weekend service.

Even the threat of a work stoppage has impacts on the users of the port. This includes exporters, importers, trucking companies, railways, and the employees and customers of companies in these and other industries.

FMA has written to the government on several occasions regarding the wide-spread damage this dispute is causing to the Canadian economy. In our letter to the Prime Minister, earlier this week, FMA made the point *that it is the role of government to protect the broader public interest when private interests are causing wide-spread damage to the economy.*

The time has come to impose binding arbitration to end this long-running dispute and also to consider longer-term action to prevent these damaging supply chain disruptions.

The FMA letter is attached.

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The FMA has been representing the freight transportation interests of Canadian industry since 1916. Our 60+ members include companies, both large and small, from most industrial sectors and from all across the country. The FMA member companies contribute approximately \$70 billion annually to the Canadian economy and purchase approximately \$2 billion in freight services by truck, rail, marine, courier and airfreight.