

# Teamsters Canada Rail Conference Convention 2014 – Election Declarations

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**TO: All TCRC Members  
All TCRC Divisions,  
All TCRC General Committees and Provincial Legislative Boards**

## **Convention 2014**

On September 23, 24, 25, the Teamsters Canada Rail Conference (TCRC) third Convention is being held in Ottawa at the Marriott Hotel. The TCRC Convention is a working convention, in the Delegates from each Division are engaged in debates involving adjustments to the TCRC Bylaws, as well as managing nominations and conducting elections for some of the National Officer positions. The National Legislative Director, the Executive Board Recording Secretary, three Executive Board Trustees and three alternates will be nominated and elected by the Delegates at Convention. The President, Vice President and Secretary Treasurer nominations are conducted at Convention with their elections conducted following the Convention through a rank and file vote of the active membership.

## **We are declaring our intentions to seek nomination and election into senior TCRC Officer Positions**

Each of us currently occupy elected positions within the TCRC, we all share the same values, goals, and objectives and commitment to make the TCRC the best Union possible and to actually deliver the best representation and service possible. Each of us is committed to working cohesively, in solidarity, and to focus on the goals and objectives which our members value the most and which our Constitution requires.

## **Don Ashley for TCRC National Legislative Director:**

I am declaring my intention to seek nomination and election as the National Legislative Director. Many elected officers throughout Canada have been encouraging me to run in this year's election for the NLD position. I have established a solid foundation of experience through my involvement **over 25 years** as an elected officer within the various Legislative positions from the Division level, the Provincial Executive level, and onto the Ontario Provincial Legislative Board Chairperson and National Legislative Board. My experiences include advocating on behalf of our members for Worker's Compensation, Employment Insurance, Canada Pension Plan and Health & Safety Tribunals. I am a graduate of Labour Studies from Mohawk College and a licensed paralegal with the Law Society of Upper Canada. I sat for two terms as a side person on the Board of Referees for Service Canada and currently sit on the board of directors for the Occupational Health Clinics for Ontario Workers. This work along with my involvement with the Ontario Federation of Labour and the Canadian Labour Congress has allowed me to make strong alliances in the labour movement. I am a certified and recognized trainer with many years experience particularly training our TCRC Legislative Officers, which has been particularly rewarding. It is my intention to seek nomination and election as the National Legislative Director, a position that is elected by the Delegates at Convention. I look forward to rebuilding the solidarity throughout the TCRC, refocusing on the goals and objectives of our membership, and **helping the TCRC to become a Union moving forward once again.**

In Solidarity,

*Don Ashley*

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## **Douglas Finnson for TCRC President:**

It is my pleasure to inform you of my intention to seek the nomination and election to the position of TCRC President. It has been my honour to work as the National Vice President for the past two terms, since January 2007. Prior Union Officer positions include: General Chair for Western Canada CP, CTY, Vice General Chair, Local Chair, Vice Local Chair. My responsibilities as an elected Union Officer began early, and span in excess of 30 years. I have been involved in Education and Training my entire career, including a return to school at the University of Saskatchewan, graduating from the Labour Studies Program.

**We must get back to being a Union**, focus on fighting to protect workers' rights, standing up to the Companies, and stop wasting time trying to be their friends. The TCRC has stagnated these past three and one half years, money has been wasted on Bylaws reviews and appointed Special Reps. It is my objective and commitment to strengthen and solidify our Union from the grass roots level through to the most senior elected officers. I take pride in working hard, and expect hard work and maximum effort from everyone elected within the Union. If we stay united, we work hard, and we all pull together in the same direction, the employers can never defeat us. **We cannot afford to continue with a Union President who thinks he is a CEO!**

In Solidarity,

*Douglas Finnson*

## **Roland Hackl for TCRC Vice President:**

In a few weeks at Convention I will be seeking the nomination and election to the position as TCRC Vice President. My background is from CN, 27 years as a Railroader and 22 years as an elected Union officer, beginning as Local Chair, Vice General Chair, and presently General Chair CN Western Lines CTY and TCRC National Executive Board Trustee. My Union education and training includes Canadian Labour College and many courses through the Provincial Federation of Labour, and Canadian Labour Congress. Experience involves Federal and Provincial Labour Board complaints, National Bargaining including mediation and Interest Arbitration, and having prepared, written, and/or argued over 400 grievance arbitration cases. **I am committed to rebuilding the solidarity within the TCRC, strengthening the TCRC, and fighting for your rights!**

In Solidarity,

*Roland Hackl*

## **Chris Lowe for TCRC Secretary Treasurer:**

I am pleased to announce my intention to seek nomination and election as TCRC Secretary Treasurer. My Union experience over 9 years includes Division ST and General Committee ST, Local Chairperson/General Chairperson, on the Algoma Central which is now CN. I have also been co chair of the Bargaining Committee, completed two arbitration programs and one GCA – ST training program. I have a complete understanding of the TCRC dues system and accounting structure within the TCRC and have developed a good working relationship throughout the TCRC. **We must be financially sensible and practical, and operate with a solid financial plan.**

In Solidarity,

*Chris Lowe*