



# The Canadian Merchant Service Guild

A NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF MASTERS - MATES - PILOTS - ENGINEERS AND OTHER MARINE OFFICERS

INCORPORATED 1919

AFFILIATED WITH

INTERNATIONAL MARITIME PILOTS' ASSOCIATION - INTERNATIONAL TRANSPORT WORKERS' FEDERATION - NATIONAL JOINT COUNCIL OF CANADA

CMMSG Western Branch – Coquitlam, B.C.

## Seaspan Impasse - Item 6 Important Development to Announce

June 3, 2014

Attn: CMMSG Members at Seaspan ULC

The Guild Negotiating Committee and Western Branch President were requested to meet with the Federal Minister of Labour today regarding the intention of the employer to unilaterally impose a new contract on June 9<sup>th</sup> and the Guild's upcoming strike vote. The meeting was encouraging and there were indications that due to the intervention of the Minister, the Company will not impose the contract on June 9<sup>th</sup> and that the former contract would remain in force pending the resolution of the dispute. Stay tuned for final confirmation on that matter.

As you know, there are two sides to every dispute. On the one hand, the Guild's priority is to advocate aggressively on behalf of Guild Members who have a number of important and urgent concerns and the Guild will keep Members informed promptly of progress being made. On the other hand, one of Seaspan's important concerns is the availability of Officers to perform call-out work. The Company's position is that the number of Officers available for call-out work has decreased and that the Guild should immediately encourage more Officers to be available for call-outs while the parties continue to work with the Minister in a direction of resolving the current impasse.

The Guild will continue to communicate promptly with our Members in this bargaining unit using e-mail and the Guild website.

Yours truly,

*Capt. Mike Armstrong*

Western Branch President