

CANADA Daily News and Updates April 23rd 2024

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Air Updates

WestJet Cargo Strengthens International Network

WestJet Cargo has announced the strengthening of its flights between Calgary and Paris Charles de Gaulle (CDG). This route, operating 5 to 7 times weekly, underscores WestJet Cargo's commitment to expanding its footprint in Europe and enhancing service efficiency through strategic hubs.

Paris CDG acts as a central hub, enabling WestJet Cargo to connect with various destinations across Europe using multiple modes of transport. The route supports a diverse cargo base with a payload capacity of 18 tons, feeding and de-feeding various locations in France and beyond.

Read more in an [article from Air Cargo Week](#).

Ocean Updates

Port of Montreal: Longshoremen Reject MEA's Settlement Proposal

The 1,200 longshoremen at the Port of Montreal rejected, by a margin of 99.5 percent, management's latest offer to renew their collective agreement.

The Maritime Employers Association (MEA), which represents the employer side, had stated that this settlement proposal represented the furthest they could go in the current context.

Of the 1,206 members of this local of the FQ-affiliated Canadian Union of Public Employees (CUPE), 1,078 were present, and rejected the employer's offer by 99.54 percent.

Read more in an [article from CityNews](#).

Geopolitical Volatility Keeps Container Leasing Rates Elevated

A year-to-date (YTD) analysis of global container leasing transactions by Container xChange shows a notable uptick in average rates since the beginning of 2024, indicating an uptick in demand for container leasing services and increased financial burden on lessors, pointing to a potentially tighter market.

“China to North America one-way container leasing rates have increased particularly in 2024, with the rise mostly driven by a widening container price delta between China and the U.S. (China becoming “more expensive” up until March vs. U.S. container prices stagnating or decreasing),” commented Christian Roeloffs, cofounder and CEO of Container xChange, an online container trading and leasing platform.

There was a significant spike on the China-to-Canada ports from February to March. Yantian-to-Toronto rates surged by 68% from February to March. These were \$730 in February, which peaked to \$1,230 in March. The Qingdao-to-Vancouver leasing rates surged by 64% in one month. Ningbo-to-Toronto rates surged by 35%, Shenzhen-to-Toronto rates surged by 26%, Tianjin-to-Toronto rates surged by 23%.

Read more in an [article from the American Journal of Transportation](#).