



**THE CHAMBER
OF COMMERCE**
for Greater Moncton

**LA CHAMBRE
DE COMMERCE**
pour le Grand Moncton

For immediate release: February 12, 2020

All levels of government must work together to restore all rail services

The Chamber of Commerce for Greater Moncton has added its voice to business organizations across the country calling for an end to CN rail line blockades in Ontario and British Columbia which threaten the flow of goods and people.

"While we appreciate diversity of opinion when it comes to natural resources and pipelines, and we respect the rights of Indigenous people, the rule of law is the rule of law," CCGM CEO John Wishart stressed.

CN Rail obtained court injunctions for both regions where protesters have blocked the main rail line but the blockades have continued. To date, CN estimates more than 200 trains have been impacted, stopping the flow of goods and people through VIA Rail's network, from crossing the country. The pipeline protests are unrelated to CN's operations.

"We urge those blockading the rail lines to consider other ways of showing their disapproval and remove this significant impact on Canada's supply chain," Wishart added. "If it continues, it will do serious damage to business and the economy from coast to coast."

The Canadian Chamber of Commerce called on all levels of government and law enforcement to work together to bring an immediate end to the blockades and to restore all rail service.

"From propane to grain and food and consumer items, Canada's supply chains are being severely damaged by the continuing interruptions to Canada's rail services by protestors", said Perrin Beatty, President and CEO of the Canadian Chamber of Commerce in a press release today.

The rail system affects the entire Canadian economy and Canadians everywhere, including people trying to get to and from work. They must be allowed to continue to serve the thousands of businesses that depend on them.



**THE CHAMBER
OF COMMERCE** | **LA CHAMBRE
DE COMMERCE**
for Greater Moncton | pour le Grand Moncton

In a letter sent this morning to the Minister of Transport, Marc Garneau, and to the Minister of Innovation, Science and Industry, Navdeep Bains, the President and CEO also noted that a rail disruption of this magnitude constitutes an emergency for the Canadian economy.

"On behalf of the 200,000 businesses represented by the Canadian Chamber of Commerce, we urge the government to act without further delay."

-30-

For More Information

*Sylvain Montreuil
Director of Communications & Policy
The Chamber of commerce for Greater Moncton
506 856-4004 or 506 312-2602
Email: smontreuil@ccgm.ca*