

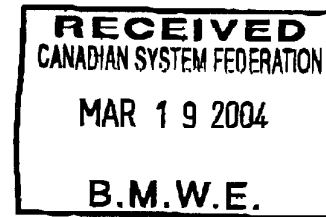


Ken M Deptuck
Vice President
Vice-président

VIA FAX

March 19, 2004

Mr. John Kruk
System Federation General Chairman
Canadian System Federation
2-2775 Lancaster Road
Ottawa ON K1B 4V8



Dear Brother:

This is in reference to your letter of March 16, 2004 concerning a copy of an attached motion you have chosen to send to the Central Committee for Canada members. As Chairman of the Central Committee for Canada I have not called for a C.C.C. meeting in accordance with the C.C.C. by-laws. Furthermore, I will not be making any arrangements for Monday March 22, 2004 meeting.

As we are all well aware the Canada Industrial Relations Board is presently handling the certification applications filed by the Teamsters Canada Rail Conference Maintenance of Way Division and the United Steelworkers of America on C.P. Rail and C.N. Rail properties. As a result of the C.I.R.B. ruling on these certification applications in the very near future there is no requirement for a C.C.C. meeting on this matter. A clear majority of BMW E members on C.P. rail and C.N. Rail have supported the certification applications made by the Teamsters Canada Rail Conference Maintenance of Way Division.

In the motion proposed it is being requested that the BMW E members in Canada be given an opportunity to vote on whom they want to represent them, the Teamsters or Steelworkers. I find this request quite odd when Acting BMW E President Freddie Simpson made this same proposal to Brothers Bowden, Dawson and yourself in October 2003 and it was rejected. It is interesting that now, 6 months later you and Brother Bowden are requesting a vote to be taken between the Teamsters and the Steelworkers. The BMW E members in Canada have been given an opportunity to make their decision who they would like to represent them by way of representation cards signed.

As you very well know the Grand Lodge Officers has officially endorsed merger discussions with the Teamsters Union. The United Steelworkers of America obviously has not been officially endorsed by the BMW E and instead has chosen to "Raid" the BMW E. Whether you agree with it or not the BMW E had to take all the necessary action to ensure that the Steelworkers will not be successful in their "Raiding" endeavours. As you know the BMW E took the necessary action to defend its membership when the CAW attempted to raid the BMW E. The CAW raid was no different that the Steelworkers' "Raid" that is taking place but I find it ironic that you and other System Federation Officers were in full support of defending the BMW E membership against the CAW but it is very unfortunate and unacceptable that you and other System Federation Officers have chosen not to take action against the Steelworkers' "Raid".

(613) 733-3827
FAX: (613) 733-3158

2775 chemin Lancaster Road
Suite 1
Ottawa, Ontario
K1B 4V8



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Trust that you all can appreciate the aforementioned and we all are looking forward to the future C.I.R.B. decisions.

I remain,
Fraternally Yours,



K. M. Deptuck
Vice President

c.c. Acting President BMWF Freddie Simpson
Teamsters-Canada President Bob Bouvier
Vice President Ron Liberty
CIRB Officer John Taggart
CLC President Ken Georgetti
BMW System Officers WSF, CSF, ESF Federations
CCC Members
CSF Local Lodges