



October 16, 2003

VIA FACSIMILE

Ronald A. Bowden
System Federation
General Chairman

*Président général
de la Fédération du réseau*

André Trudel
System Secretary-Treasurer
& General Chairman

*Secrétaire-trésorier du réseau
& Président général*

Mr. Freddie N. Simpson
Acting Grand Lodge President
B. M. W. E.
Box 1746, Station "A"
Windsor, Ontario
N9A 6Y1

Dear Acting President Simpson;

With reference to your two letters of yesterday, please be advised that I will not and have not agreed to raid the BMWE with the Teamsters or any other Unions.

My letter clearly sets out that I am prepared to work within the BMWE to help reconcile our differences as we all know that our membership both in the United-States and in Canada feel disenfranchised. This would enable us to combat any of the other Unions that are attempting to sign-up our members.

With reference to your facsimile of yesterday at 6:00 p.m., stating that you were still awaiting my call, please note that I called Grand Lodge yesterday around 12:15 p.m. while on my way to Montreal, went through all the telephone procedures to get to your office and ended-up leaving a message on Bill Hildenbrand's answering machine. Please feel free to review the message. I do not and will not avoid anyone who contacts me.

Fraternally yours,

R. A. Bowden

Ronald A. Bowden
System Federation
General Chairman

CN Rail
VIA Rail
Essex Terminal Railway
Metropolo Railway
Ottawa Central Railway
Trans-Ontario Railway
NKE/ALCO
L'Unionniste of Canada
Railink Canada Ltd.
Guthrie's Exeter Railway
St-Laurence & Atlantic Railway
New Brunswick East Coast Railroad
Affiliated with the A.F.L. - C.I.O. and C.I.C.

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cc: All Grand Lodge and System Officers

RAB/jdb

B.M.W.E. - Eastern System Federation
Brotherhood of Maintenance of Way Employees

Fédération du réseau de l'est - F.P.E.V.
Fraternité des préposés à l'entretien des voies