



Significant labor disruptions at Canada's ports are anticipated to affect logistics nationwide. Starting November 4th, the International Longshore and Warehouse Union Ship & Dock Foremen Local 514 (ILWU Local 514) will initiate an industry-wide strike against member companies of the British Columbia Maritime Employers Association (BCMEA). This strike will directly impact operations across British Columbia's waterfront and follows prolonged labor disputes, with negotiations ongoing since the last agreement expired in March 2023. In response, the BCMEA has announced a defensive lockout effective the same day, impacting all ILWU Local 514 forepersons, though grain vessels and cruise operations are exempt from these actions. This labor unrest compounds existing disruptions within Canada's supply chain, adding to current volatility across rail, air, and grain transportation sectors.

Key Points:

- Strike and Lockout Start Date: November 4, 2024, at 08:00 AM PT
- Location: All waterfront operations of BCMEA-member companies in British Columbia, including the Port of Vancouver
- Exceptions: Longshoring for grain vessels and cruise operations will remain unaffected
- Impacted Operations: All cargo operations across B.C. coastal terminals managed by BCMEA-member companies



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Businesses relying on B.C. ports are advised to prepare for potential delays and consider alternative logistics options. KWE will continue to provide timely updates and support to help maintain the continuity of your cargo operations.

For further assistance, please contact your KWE representative.

Sources:

Home - BCMEA

ILWU Canada – International Longshore & Warehouse Union Canada

