Fallen Teamster in Regina

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Brothers and Sisters,

Early Saturday morning in Regina, Sk, a CP TCRC member working on a yard crew was fatally injured during a train movement.

Jamie Jijian, was only 39 years old with a wife and three children. He was a railroader and a Teamster. And now he is gone.

Jamie was a relatively new employee with less than 2 years. He was a respected family man and well-liked by his mates. And now he is gone.

Every time we lose a fellow railroader, my heart tightens up a little more. We’ve lost far too many over the years. There have been too many railroad families torn asunder by these tragedies.

I didn’t personally know Jamie, but my heart, my thoughts and my prayers are with his family tonight. All of our railroad family’s thoughts and prayers are with them tonight. Their lives, in the blink of an eye, have been irrevocably changed.

My concerns also remain with all my brothers and sisters out there on the track. Your lives are immeasurably important...all of you. To your families, to your friends and to your colleagues.

We must all come together and commit to combine our efforts to make the workplace as safe as it can possibly be. We must actively engage in making fatality free railroading the ‘way it is’ instead of the ‘way it should be.’

We must stay focussed on this and regardless of the obstacles, we must achieve it. We must fight for it as if our lives depended on it...because they honestly do.

And we must never forget Jamie. Or Bob. Or Gary. Or Lonnie. Or Shawn. Or Gilles. Or Wayne. Or any of the countless friends we have lost along the way.

On behalf of all members of the TCRC MWED, I offer our sincere condolences to the Jijian family as they pass through the coming days of grief and we are all hoping that the pain you suffer will not last, but that the wonderful memories you have of Jamie, will.

In solidarity and sincere sorrow,

Bill Brehl

President
TCRCMWED