Dear Fellow Railroad Workers:

Recently, a fellow rail -- Pierre-Luc “Sune” Levesque -- lost his life on the job. Brother Pierre-Luc -- age 33 -- worked for CN out of Edmundston, New Brunswick (Canada) as a Conductor/Foreman trainee and was a member of Teamsters Canada Rail Conference (TCRC). While we are saddened at the news of his death, we must double our resolve to build a safer workplace where such tragedies are not so commonplace.

The Railroad Workers United Program for Fallen Rails urges you to do the following on behalf of Brother Pierre-Luc, his friends and family, co-workers and all railroad workers:

Visit the webpage http://www.oregans.ca/french/Obituaries/130011/ (page will need to be translated from French) and sign the memorial guest book. Your entry can be simple, such as: “I never knew or worked with Brother Pierre-Luc, but as a railroader I mourn his loss. I offer my sincere condolences to his family, friends and co-workers”

Commit yourself to following up on how and why Pierre-Luc was killed. What is the behind-the-scenes story? What role did unsafe conditions, including short staffing, crew fatigue, inadequate training and/or qualifying, deferred maintenance, or other factors play in this fellow worker’s death?

Get involved in the national movement against blame the worker “behavior-based safety” programs. Help build real union-based safety committees and programs that focus on hazard elimination and do not ignore the underlying causes of accidents, injuries and fatalities sustained on the job. For more information, see the webpage http://railroadworkersunited.org/safety-programs/

Take part in the RWU annual Railroad Workers Memorial Day each April 28th. For more information, see the webpage http://railroadworkersunited.org/railroad-workers-memorial-day/

Thank you.

Railroad Workers United

P.S. Please forward this email to fellow railroad workers.