

# **NEWSLETTER**

www.windsortransportationclub.com



Scholarship & Industry Awards Gala 2025 April 3, 2025 Caboto Club

### Tickets:

Individual - \$125.00 Table of 8 - \$880.00

For tickets visit our website at:

windsortransportationclub.com/2025-scholarship-industry-awards-gala/



### UPCOMING EVENTS



Annual WTC Golf Tournament June 18, 2025 Seven Lakes Championship Golf Course

#### Tickets:

Single Golfer - \$250.00 Group of 4 - \$1,000.00

Sponsorship Opportunities Still Available

To Register visit our website at:

windsortransportationclub.com/2025-wtc-scholarship-fund-golf-tournament/



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### COMPLIANCE CORNER

The Canadian trucking industry is facing several pressing compliance challenges that impact safety, operations, and workforce management.

One of the most significant issues is Electronic Logging Device (ELD) mandate enforcement. Since January 2023, all federally regulated commercial carriers must use certified ELDs to track hours of service (HOS). Non-compliance can lead to penalties, vehicle impoundment, and even the suspension of operating licenses. Ensuring proper implementation remains a challenge for some fleets, particularly smaller operators.

Another concern is driver training and qualification standards. While the Mandatory Entry-Level Training (MELT) program has set a foundation for professional driver education, there are ongoing concerns about training consistency and quality across provinces.

Additionally, worker classification and exploitation continue to be hot-button issues. The controversial "Driver Inc." model misclassifies drivers as independent contractors, sidestepping labor protections and raising safety concerns. Regulators are increasing scrutiny to prevent worker exploitation.

Hours of service compliance remains critical for road safety. Drivers must adhere to strict HOS limits to prevent fatigue-related accidents. However, balancing compliance with operational efficiency remains an ongoing challenge for fleets.

Lastly, vehicle maintenance and safety inspections continue to be key compliance concerns. Annual safety inspections and ongoing maintenance are required to meet federal and provincial safety standards, but violations remain common.

Addressing these compliance issues requires industry-wide commitment to safety, regulatory adherence, and fair labor practices to ensure a stable and responsible trucking sector in Canada.





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### CANADIAN TRANSPORTATION INDUSTRY UPDATE: TRADE TENSIONS AND FREIGHT IMPACTS

The Canadian transportation sector is facing significant challenges as trade tensions escalate, directly affecting freight movement across borders.

### Tariffs and Cross-Border Trade Disruptions:

The recent increase in U.S. tariffs on Canadian steel and aluminum is driving up costs for manufacturing, logistics, and freight operations. These tariffs, along with retaliatory Canadian measures, are increasing the price of raw materials, which directly impacts transportation costs for trucking and rail operators moving goods between the two countries. The uncertainty surrounding further trade restrictions is causing delays in supply chain planning and contract negotiations.

#### Automotive and Manufacturing Supply Chain Strains:

Canada's highly integrated automotive supply chain relies on seamless cross-border trucking and rail shipments. Proposed U.S. tariffs on imported vehicles and parts could significantly disrupt freight demand, affecting the volume of goods transported between Canada, the U.S., and Mexico. As a result, transportation providers may need to adjust operations to account for shifting trade flows and potential reductions in manufacturing output.

#### Increased Costs for Trucking Companies:

Higher tariffs on goods imported from the U.S. mean Canadian businesses face increased costs when sourcing materials and products. These costs trickle down to the transportation sector, with fuel prices, maintenance expenses, and insurance premiums also on the rise. Trucking companies may be forced to pass these costs onto shippers, leading to higher freight rates and potential reductions in demand.

As Canada's transportation industry navigates these challenges, businesses must remain adaptable to changing trade policies and shifting supply chain demands. Strategic planning and diversification of trade routes will be key to mitigating risks and maintaining freight efficiency in the face of ongoing tariff disputes.

### **MEET THE BOARD**





A.J. Wachna, President of the Windsor Transportation Club, is a lawyer specializing in the transportation sector. His practice focuses on civil litigation assisting trucking clients with contract disputes, insurance issues, liability claims, and employment matters. He also assists with collection of outstanding accounts.

A.J. delivers decisive, efficient, and innovative legal solutions. He is responsive to client needs, with clear communication and strategic case management for businesses navigating civil litigation.

### **STAY TUNED**

FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK AND INSTAGRAM FOR REGULAR UPDATES ABOUT UPCOMING EVENTS AND OTHER INDUSTRY AND CLUB NEWS. THE WTC BOARD IS EXCITED ABOUT THE UPCOMING YEAR AND EVENTS, INCLUDING OUR PRESIDENT'S NIGHT, THE 2025 SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS GALA, THE 2025 WTC GOLF TOURNAMENT, HIGHWAY CARRIER NIGHT AND MUCH MORE.