## DHL Express Canada reinstates service after workers ratify labor deal

Parcel delivery delays expected as courier strives to reduce accumulation of packages

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DHL Express delivery drivers will be back on the road Monday after members of the Unifor union agreed to a new labor agreement. (Photo: Shutterstock/sockagphoto)

DHL Express has restored all services in Canada and will resume full operations Monday after union workers represented by Unifor ratified a new four-year contract, the company announced Saturday.

Approval of the collective bargaining agreement ends a strike/lockout that lasted nearly three weeks and forced the company to halt parcel deliveries on June 20. Unifor said the agreement, which covers more than 2,100 truck and van drivers, warehouse pickers and clerical workers, was ratified by 72% of the membership.

Negotiators for both parties <u>reached a tentative contract agreement on Wednesday</u>.

"DHL Express Canada has worked diligently and in good faith with Unifor's bargaining committee to reach a fair deal and ensure a prompt return to service. . . We are excited to resume our operations and welcome back all our team members. Together, we'll prioritize delivering the highest quality service to our customers," DHL Express Canada said in a statement.

The new contract features a 15.75% increase in wages throughout the life of the contract, a new payment structure for independent drivers, pension increases for hourly workers and a new pension for owner-operators, according to Unifor. The labor agreement also increases short-and-long term disability payments, provides a new mental health benefit, increases severance and wage adjustments, and provides greater worker protection from artificial intelligence and automation.