

RE: Those 10 missing trains? Blame CP's freight traffic

"MTA Had Promised 20 Extra Runs; West Island commuter service limited", The Gazette, Tuesday, Dec. 16, 2008, P.A2.

Dear Editor,

Why only lay the blame at the doorstep of Canadian Pacific?

In the golden age of rail there were many more passenger trains interspersed with fast freights on the line. How many freight trains are too many?

Given the current recessionary blues it is comforting to know that there is still some economic activity left. It is better to move more cargo onto the rails than on our clogged and crumbling highways.

The AMT, the Quebec Ministry of Transport and the Montreal Agglomeration still quibble with the notion that Aéroports de Montréal's Dorval Rail shuttle will be the Second Coming.

The long suffering public does not have to wait for this imaginary train...

Much of the responsibility lies with the AMT and its unwillingness to invest a few million dollars in a modernized railway with automated centralized traffic control, power switches, and passing sidings to greatly increase frequencies throughout the day.

The current situation is failure by design and has many authors.

Yours Sincerely,

Avrom David Shtern,
Cote Saint Luc, QC.