



Track relocation in Briard's Cove area creates quite a sight

NEW CARLISLE AND PASPEBIAC – The track relocation contract currently taking place in New Carlisle/Paspebiac is providing occasional surprises to passersby, including drivers. The eye-catching surprises come in the form of enormous mounds of earth towering above some homes in the Briard's Curve area, as well as a bit to the east and west of that area, right at the municipal boundary.

This sight was observed on the afternoon of October 31, as this loader was working atop a colossal pile of material extracted from the north side of the railroad, which had been shifted approximately 15 metres from its original position. Along a 1.2-mile stretch of tracks, erosion had brought the cliff dangerously close to the rails, prompting Transports Québec, the line's owner, to initiate the relocation project. Additional retaining walls are being constructed to safeguard the railroad bed.

The contract, awarded to Pomerleau Inc. on August 25 for a staggering \$38.5 million, stands as the most substantial refurbishment contract granted since the Ministry of Transport's acquisition of the line in 2015. This contract is a pivotal step towards the anticipated restoration of train services between New Richmond and Port Daniel, set to be achieved before the end of 2024. *(Photo and caption: Gilles Gagné)*