

Canadian rail co. claims grieving mom owes \$500K for crash that killed her son

John Jobson died two years ago after a train collided with his truck at a rail crossing. Now, the Canadian National Railway wants his mom Sharon Jobson to pay up for damages that the crash caused.

BY [CAROL KURUVILLA](#) / NEW YORK DAILY NEWS
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GRAHAM HUGHES/AP

CN is a multibillion dollar rail company, one of the largest in North America. Sharon Jobson's supporters have called CN's recent lawsuit — seeking \$500,000 for the inconvenience caused by her son's death in a train crash — “sickening.”

A grieving Canadian mother was looking for some closure as the anniversary of her son's death in a train collision inched closer.

Instead, she was hit with a \$500,000 lawsuit for the inconvenience that his death caused the Canadian National Railway.

John Jobson, 22, was fatally injured two years ago after a CN train crashed into his pickup truck at a rail crossing near Glencoe, Ontario. The westbound Via train derailed and six of its passengers were injured, [Sun News](#) reports.

Jobson died in the hospital six days later.

Ontario mom Sharon Jobson refused to sit quietly after her son's crash. She campaigned for the installation of lights, gates and bells at the Pratt Siding crossing where he died. According to a Canadian Transportation Safety Board report, the crossing had nonstandard warning signs that were partly hidden by weeds. In addition, the incoming train's horn didn't meet newer requirements.

Thanks to Sharon's efforts, \$400,000 in improvements were approved earlier this year. Safety equipment is scheduled to be installed within days.

But that victory has been obscured by the new CN lawsuit.

The suit claims John Jobson was "wholly responsible" for the crash and that Sharon needs to pay up for the "substantial expense" that he caused.

The company alleges that John was a reckless driver who was speeding through the crossing and refused to heed the warning signs or the train horn. They contend that he either didn't brake at the crossing or didn't brake in time.

CN apparently had to dole out a significant amount of money to repair the tracks and deal with a bottleneck after the rail line had to be shut down.

Since the crash involved a fatality, the company had exactly two years to file its lawsuit. John died on July 29, 2011, and his mom received word of the suit on Tuesday.

Sharon's supporters on Facebook called CN's actions "callous," "sickening" and a "money-grab."

The railway giant, one of the largest in North America, reported \$10 billion in revenue in 2012.

Read more: <http://www.nydailynews.com/news/world/canadian-rail-company-claims-grieving-mom-owes-500k-crash-killed-son-article-1.1395431#ixzz2YkT6RyVo>