

NEWSLETTER



EAST^{TO}WEST

MORTGAGE & EQUIPMENT FINANCING



WAREHOUSING IS THE NEXT BIG THING IN REAL ESTATE INVESTMENT

The pandemic that started last year has increased an already high need for warehousing in our region. According to Statistics Canada, online sales increased 110.7% from January 2020 to January 2021; there is an increasing demand for space to store inventory, process orders, and organize deliveries. [Read the complete article here.](#)

THE TOP 5 ISSUES IN THE TRANSPORTATION INDUSTRY

1. Health and safety

Every time we are on the highways as regular drivers, we are exposed to situations on the road. The scenario worsen for truck drivers due to the size of the vehicle, the hefty loads, and the demanding schedules to keep carrying on time what the industries need; there are several factors adding danger to the drivers' health and safety on their jobs:

- **Exhaustion:** truck drivers don't work 40 hours per week but rather usually drive for long hours for weeks.
- **Deadlines and safety:** there is pressure to be always on time, no matter how unrealistic the scheduled dates are nor the implied danger.
- **Drivers' silence:** truckers fear they will lose their jobs if they demand safer practices or more time to complete their deliveries.



2. Legislation changes

Any change aiming to make transportation better and safer is welcome; however, sometimes, the parties forget that being informed of the law is not enough. Complying with new rules require time, funds, and commitment from all people involved; when one of those resources fails on any side, the change does not happen, and the law doesn't serve its purpose.

3. Rest stops

Although laws regulate how the companies organize the drivers' shifts to avoid the fatigue, there's a reduced number of rest stops near the highways. Sometimes, the ones available are crowded and lack of maintenance.

4. Skills and driver shortage

The pandemic made more evident the shortage of skilled truck drivers. Many companies now realize that it is more cost-effective to keep their current drivers happy with their jobs, motivated than hiring new ones in the short term.

There are few new drivers to fill up all the positions, and older drivers have to work longer shifts to fill the gaps; this situation exposes them to unhealthy and risky conditions.

5. Technology

While technology brings accuracy, more control, and cost-savings to the companies, training can be a complicated and lengthy process. Workers can refuse changes that they see as a waste of time. On the other side, privacy and data security are now a constant threat for those relying more on digital.