

2016 Auto Talks

#AUTOTALKS16



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Thursday, August 25, 2016

LOCALS: (GM) 222, 636, 199; (Ford) 200, 240, 707, 584, 1324, 1087 (FCA) 444, 1285, 1498, 195, 1459

Strike authorization votes to be held Sunday, August 28

A vital part of the Detroit Three bargaining process takes place this weekend when members of Unifor's Master Agreement auto locals vote to give their bargaining committees a strike mandate.

"The best thing members can do right now to help their bargaining committees is to give them a strong strike authorization vote," said Unifor National President Jerry Dias.

All members are encouraged to attend the meeting for their local, and vote. **Times and places are listed in this newsletter, and available from your local.**

Only those present will have a vote. The strike authorization will be based on votes cast at the meeting. There is no such thing as an automatic **Yes or No vote** for those who do not attend the meeting.

Each meeting will include an update from your bargaining committees on the talks.

No strike can be called until after September 19, and only then if talks break down or members from the target company reject a contract offer put to them for ratification.

The target, which will set the pattern contract for each of the Detroit Three, will be picked September 6, the day after Labour Day.

Be sure to attend the vote for your local. A high turnout will strengthen your bargaining committees as they head back into negotiations with the Detroit Three the very next morning.

The decision to go on strike is never taken lightly, and will only be made if absolutely necessary.

A strong strike authorization sends a clear message to the Detroit Three that the members are behind their bargaining committees.

Strike preparations begin

Representatives from each Master Agreement local of the Detroit Three automakers met last week to discuss preparations in the event of a strike during the current round of contract talks.

Barb Dolan, Director of Unifor's Strike and Defence Fund, outlined for the group the steps affected locals must go through if a strike is called, and reviewed the legal right to strike in Canada.

"The right to strike is part of our fundamental rights of expression and assembly in Canada."

- Unifor Statement on the Right to Picket

Organizing a strike takes a great deal of planning, so cannot be left to the last minute.

In the weeks ahead, you will likely see your local making preparations to be ready to strike, if it comes to that, even if your Detroit Three company is not the pattern target picked on September 6. This is only prudent and just good planning.

For the pattern target company, strike preparation will pick up significantly in the weeks ahead. Picket headquarters will be established, signs will be put together and more.

Your local will provide more information, including how you can help, in the coming weeks.



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Where, when to cast your vote

Strike authorization votes will be taking place across the Detroit Three on August 28 (except for Local 1324, which held its vote August 24).

A complete list is below. For more information, contact your local.

- 195: Local 195/240/2458 Hall, 3400 Somme Ave, Windsor 7am, 1pm and 3pm.
- 199: Merriton Community Centre, 7 Park Ave. St. Catharines 11am
- 200: Giovanni Caboto Club, 2175 Parent Ave, Windsor 10am
- 222: Local 222 Union Hall, 1425 Philip Murray Ave, Oshawa 9am
- 240: Local 195/240/2458 Hall, 3400 Somme Ave, Windsor 10am
- 444: Caesars Windsor Colosseum, 377 Riverside Drive, Windsor 10am
- 584: Galaxy Grand Convention Centre, 200 Advance Blvd, Brampton 10am
- 636: Local 636 Union Hall, 126 Beale St, Woodstock 10am
- 707: Local 707 Union Hall, 475 North Service Road East, Oakville 9am
- 1285: Local 1285 Union Hall, 23 Regan Road, Brampton 10am
- 1459: Oasis Convention Centre, 1036 Lakeshore Rd, Mississauga 11am
- 1498: Local 200/444 Union Hall, 1855 Turner Rd, Windsor 10am
- 1324: August 24. Office, 8000 Dixie Rd, Bramalea 10am

Show your support Labour Day

Unifor auto locals are gearing up to have a strong presence at their community Labour Day events on September 5.

Show your support for your bargaining committee during these important talks by coming out to the event in your community

Details on Labour Day events in your area are available from your local.

Invest in Canada key priority

The Unifor theme of Labour Day events in auto communities will be **Invest in Canada**, the key priority for this round of bargaining with the Detroit Three automakers.

Your union will also pursue wage improvements in recognition of our members' hard work, but there can be no progress without a secure auto industry in Canada.

That means securing investment in Canada during the life of the contract now being negotiated. To do that, Unifor will continue to showcase why Canada is such a great place to invest.

Stay informed

Welcome to the second edition of *Auto Talks 2016*, your official and best source of information, distributed at work, and shared on social media.

Follow bargaining and get up to date information on our website: www.unifor.org/autotalks16.

There you will find fact sheets, press releases, links to opinion pieces and much more. Each newsletter and *Just the Facts* issue can be found on the site in the "Background" section.

Info is also available on social media! Join the Facebook page at facebook.com/AutoTalks16 or follow us on Twitter @AutoTalks16.