



# Chairperson's Report

January 3rd, 2024

## Happy New Year!

**Welcome Back** – I hope everyone was able to enjoy the holidays and were able to spend time with the ones you care about most.

**IMPORTANT!** As we get back to work, we all need to be reminded to think, act and work safely as we go about our work within these walls, our future depends on it.

What many members may not be aware of, as we were closing out 2023 in the month of November and December our energy control violations were trending in the wrong direction. They were on the rise. This is a very concerning trend towards the end of the year that we need to reverse. It's on all of us to work safely and follow our energy control procedures properly. Our plant has more than enough reason to be vigilant in not having another critical injury.

It doesn't pay to cut corners with safety. In fact, just the opposite. An energy control or lock out violation comes with an automatic 3 day served discipline. Note: The Union has never needed to represent any member for working safely. Part of our job is to follow GM safety policies. WE urge everyone at the start of this New Year to take the time to work safely and properly follow all ASA & Lockout procedure. You are being paid to work safe, not fast. If you encounter instruction to do otherwise this must be escalated immediately to your rep or to the safety department.

**Congratulations** – to all 104 members who applied for the incentive into retirement. This was a demand from members to achieve at Bargaining and we are to have delivered for these 104 members. We all wish you the very best in retirement. Congratulations again!

WE are not authorized to share names for privacy reasons, but the breakdown is 74 Production and 30 Trades. As the Company plans for the manpower changes ahead, the Union will stay close to those discussions and provide details to the membership as soon as we are able.

Note: These discussions are very fluid and details are changing on an hourly basis sometimes. This is made more challenging since the corporation has yet to provide publicly a definitive end date for the V6, which is like trying to hit a moving target.

**Transfer news** – For the first 3 weeks of January the current transfer list will be frozen. Monday January 22<sup>nd</sup> is the 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of the month which is the expiry date of the old transfer list. New submissions can be made after this date. A new transfer list for 2024 will be created the following week on Monday, January 29<sup>th</sup> with new submissions as per Local Language – Supplement No.1 of the Local Seniority Agreement pg17 & 18. After the first week the transfer list will be updated every Wednesday at 3pm. We can use the same QR code as last year to submit transfers. Contact your Rep if you have any questions. For New Hires, you must have 1 year of seniority to be eligible to submit your transfers.

**Continued...**

This year will be filled with changes and challenges as we retool our plant to prepare for Drive Units. To clear up any mis-information on the floor, the anticipated plan is still to proceed with a plantwide seniority bump. If this anticipated plan changes we will communicate it to the membership.

### **Volumes**

**V6** – End of production for assembly is scheduled for the week of January 8<sup>th</sup>. Headline has small volume until the end of February.

There are discussions on how to best celebrate the successful run of the HFV6 Engine, and the hundreds of people who've helped build them. This department has been the backbone of St. Catharines Quality and reputation for more than 2 decades, with numerous awards and countless memories.

**V8** – Steady at 3 shifts in machining and 3 shifts in assembly. There is a constraint of V8 blocks in the system. There is the potential for supply interruptions, but the demand is very high from our customer, so every engine we make is going into a sold truck.

**GF6** – volumes in the GF6 are stable with one shift in assembly with 3 shifts in machining. Plans are being developed to go to 2 shifts in machining. More information to follow.

**DCT** – is steadily running on one shift.

**Union Awareness** – Vince Guardari our Workplace Training Coordinator and his team of trainers led by Ashley Kofsky have done a great job delivering the Workplace Training material since ratification. I want to thank the entire team for all their efforts in providing a great atmosphere for education and dialogue. A new module is nearly finished being developed for the team to be trained on. We hope to have that available by the summer.

**New for Attendance Program** – All 6 Personal Emergency Leave (PEL) days reload January 1<sup>st</sup>. PEL's can now be used on the weekend without the need to substantiate. Once all PEL days have been used substantiation will be required for each absence thereafter.

**Issued by,**

**Trevor Longpre, GM Unit Plant Chairperson**

**On behalf of the Shop Committee, Stan Kuczma, Scott Little, Tony Verde**

**No one has been disciplined for working safely. Take your time.  
Do it Safe. Do it right.**