



# Chairperson's Report

September 5th, 2024

Tuesday August 27<sup>th</sup>, I attended a Quarterly Business Review with the other Chairperson's from Oshawa and Cami in Oshawa, along with the National Union and executives from Detroit. We had high level discussions about how well GM of Canada is doing through the transition to an EV Future, the overall state of the auto industry, the threat of Chinese EV imports, upcoming American and Canadian Elections, Government Programs, ect.

It's important for the membership to know these discussions are in person occurring 4 times a year. During these meetings as Chairperson, I always take the opportunity to advocate for the membership in St. Catharines and for any future product considerations. I also receive updates directly from the Company on our plant's status in the past quarter. Both the Union and the Company are working collaboratively through the challenges that we are currently facing, to protect the business and mitigate the impact of this transition to our members. Currently there are no new details to communicate in regard to the EV Drive Units. When any new details become available, they will be communicated at that time. But for the time being our business remains status quo.

**Volumes – Gen5** volumes remain strong on 3 shifts in assembly despite the persistent rumors that we are losing a shift. The current 40week schedule of volume has St. Catharines running strong at 3 shifts with overtime in the schedule after Labor Day.

**DCT** – remains steady on one shift in assembly with no change in volume anytime soon.

**EV Drive Units** – There is no new information pertaining to the schedule of the Drive Unit Launch. It is still set for early 2027. It is a delay. It has not been abandoned despite the doom and gloom rumors. Work is still being done to update the infrastructure and prepare the floor space of the Drive Unit footprint.

**Summer Vacation Coverage** – Prime time is now finished and those members who have been kept for summer vacation replacements should receive their AVOs this week. Other members who are being extended or laid off were notified by the Company last week. The extensions are a direct result of a high number of S&A and other approved leaves. These leaves are monitored weekly by the plant Peoplepower Coordinator and the Union. If you have not heard from the Company and want to know your status, please reach out to your committeeperson or myself for details. Also, those who anticipate being laid off please stop by the EI Office in the West Clockhouse to get the latest EI communication from Vince and Adam.

**CAAT DBPlus** – The team from CAAT DBPlus have sent out a welcome and information package to members who were already enrolled in the DC Pension Program. Additional information sessions are currently being planned for the Fall/Winter (Oct-Dec) timeframe. If you did not receive this information, please reach out to the Union and we will provide you a copy of it. We will also

communicate more about the information sessions as details become available in the new future, so get your questions ready for the CAAT DBPlus team.

**Trades** - this summer has been very busy in the Trades Union office. Local Union Leadership have been fighting through challenging 3<sup>rd</sup> step grievances. The National Union has carriage of a 4<sup>th</sup> step grievance and we are supporting their efforts for a resolve hopefully in the near future.

Early July I requested the support of Dan Beaudoin to help represent the Trades for the first couple of weeks, which he agreed to do. I thank him for stepping up to help represent the Trades with very little notice, even with a personal loss to Dan and his family during that time. Thank you, Dan!

This was the same time V8 Machining areas were crippled with a lot of downtime affecting our throughput of all machined products, especially the block line. Through ongoing discussions with local management, 17 Tradesmen were recalled from layoff to assist the V8 Business Team which had an immediate positive impact.

This recall helped clear John Lorenz to return by seniority from layoff as Alternate Trades Rep where he currently is serving the Trades Members.

**NOC Meetings** - Since June 7<sup>th</sup> I re-established a weekly NOC meeting (Notice of Contractors) with the Company where the Union can demand to know what non-Bargaining Unit work the Company is considering outsourcing to contractors within the following 10 business days. We've had 11 meetings since June 7<sup>th</sup>. Through these meetings we've challenged the Company's use of contractors and argued for our trades to perform that work at Bargaining Unit cost which is a benefit to the Company compared to contractor costs. We've seen the use of these contractors cut in half as we've developed business cases and placed bids on the other work that is not traditionally performed by us, the Bargaining Unit. We've been successful in winning some bids by following the bidding process and identifying capable skillset within the Bargaining Unit. We will continue to work through the bidding process and continue the fight to keep our Trades gainfully employed as long as possible. As a reminder, St. Catharines agreed to get out of Construction work in 2007 COA. While we still have some members red circled in that group, not all construction work is assigned to our members which is why we must bid for that work.

As mentioned in a previous Chair Report, the Drive Unit Project is already under contract and managed by a 3<sup>rd</sup> party Company who has their own Safety Management System removing liability from GM.

**Issued by, Trevor Longpre, GM Unit Plant Chairperson**

**With the Bargaining Unit, Scott Little, Tony Verde, John Lorenz**

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

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