

Unifor Local 222 COVID-19 Update

Sisters and Brothers, these are unprecedented times with changes due to the COVID-19 pandemic occurring rapidly. As of today, Canada has 1472 confirmed cases of the virus, with 22 deaths. Ontario has 413 confirmed cases, which includes one death in Lindsay and 29 confirmed cases in Durham Region.

Please take physical distancing of six feet and self-isolation seriously. Follow the advice of our public health authorities.

As many of you have seen, the Prime Minister and the Premier are hosting press conferences daily in regards to COVID-19 and reporting any changes that have been implemented. We are requesting that all members follow the guidelines as outlined by the Public Health Canada website: www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/diseases/coronavirus-disease-covid-19.html

I have been on several conference calls with the National Union to address all COVID-19 concerns. The National has set up a task force led by Secretary Treasurer Lana Payne which meets daily to assess the impact to all Unifor members. The National has requested workplace protections be put in place in addition to income and benefit protections. The list of demands, frequently asked questions and a list of resources can be found on the National and Local websites, www.local222.ca or www.unifor.org/covid19.

I have also been in contact with your National reps and your chairpersons of your workplaces to follow up on protocols and procedures being used and addressing any concerns that have been raised.

As of today, GM, Ford, FCA, Honda and Toyota have implemented layoffs, with these employers re-evaluating weekly. This will have a tremendous impact on the supply chain and many of the workplaces and members that we represent. The priority is that all members are safe and the risk of transmission being reduced.

The Unifor Local 222 Union Hall is currently closed. This situation is being assessed weekly with all staff telecommuting. The following are cell numbers to contact for assistance:

Service Rep Mike Rafuse 905-744-3311
 Service Rep Rob Romano 905-744-9486
 Service Rep Don Thompson 905-744-5959
 Financial Secretary Dale Millson 905-576-2653
 President Colin James 647-454-2950
 IPS Action Centre 905-723-1480
 Dental Centre emergencies 905-243-8874
 Local 28 905-767-0109
 Unifor Organizing Joel Smith 905-449-5852

Here is a status update of our units as of today;

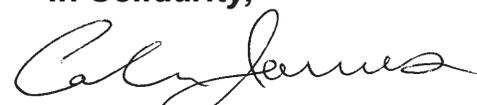
Laid Off: General Motors, Lear Ajax, Woodbridge Foam, AGS Automotive, Durham College and ONTech student associations, Armada Toolworks

Partial Layoffs: Pilkington Glass, PW Transit, Mills Motors, Mercedes Benz, Ritz Plastics, Robinson Cleaners, Robinson Facilities

Currently Working: GDI Services, Durham Transit, Loblaws, Concentrix (telecommuting), Kerr Industries, Forterra, St Marys Cement, City Wide Taxi, Canada Cartage, Premier/Del Monte

Please, take social/physical distancing seriously and do not put yourself or your families at risk.

In Solidarity,



Colin James, President
 Unifor Local 222