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**Please see
Unifor Local 222's
website for current
information and an
up-to-date event
listing:
www.local222.ca**

The Threat of Tariffs Dominates Local 222

SINCE THE 47TH PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF America was inaugurated in January, the threat of tariffs on Canadian-made goods has dominated the news and discussions within our Local Union. How could our most dependable ally in the world suddenly be subjecting Canada to such a harmful, mis-guided strategy? I truly hope that this man is just leveraging his power to bargain a better trade deal. Every day the narrative changes its tone, the messaging from the President is inconsistent and we all remain anxious about what the future will bring.

The Immediate Impact of Tariffs

If the 47th President moves on his plan to impose 25% tariffs on automobiles, all of North America's auto plants would grind to a halt within 10 days. Auto parts cross the border on average six to eight times before final assembly of the vehicle. American, Canadian and Mexican assembly plants would all remain idle and hundreds of thousands of auto workers would all be simultaneously laid off. Not only are the workers laid off, but the companies would surely lose billions of dollars in stock prices and suffer damages that would have a devastating impact to the overall financial health of these companies.

If the 47th President has an agenda, that all production come back in-house, it would take years to build the plants and facilities to

accommodate this disastrous plan. The 47th President would see his entire (and last) four-year term through to its end before witnessing any tangible results. With an ego this size, and paper-thin patience, we can only hope the threat remains just that, a verbal threat.

Oshawa Generals Co-sponsorship with GM and Unifor Local 222 is back!

General Motors Oshawa and the Oshawa Generals have a long rich history. The hockey team was named after General Motors in 1937 and the love story captured our city. When GM decided they would no longer pursue naming rights to the arena in 2016, I think we collectively felt like there was



Jeff Gray

Unifor Local 222 President



more to that decision than we were being told. A void was left in Oshawa, how could the Oshawa Generals not be sponsored by General Motors? Well, nine years later, GM has done the right thing and joined Unifor Local 222 to co-sponsor the Oshawa Generals. On Jan. 26, hundreds of our members attended the game to witness our history being brought back to life. What an incredible evening for Local 222 and we are so proud to be back in a positive position again. Our legacy will always be cherished and we will always look to continue our story as we move forward. Let's all hope the team makes a good run at the Memorial Cup this spring.

Scott Bateman

Local 222 was heartbroken to learn of the passing of Brother Scott Bateman. Many people would remember Scott as the Chair of Lear Whitby. Scott was recognized for his service by our National Union and was promoted to national Staff in Ottawa. Scott continued his journey and soon was promoted to Unifor Director of Road Transport. Local 222 will never forget your legacy brother, and you Scott, certainly never forgot about Local 222. Deepest condolences to his family and friends.

In Solidarity. 🍁



Solidarity was always at the forefront with Scott Bateman, marching with (from left) Lear Whitby chair Todd Richards, former Loblaw chair and current Unifor National Rep Shayne Fields, Brother Scott and Local 222 Past-President Colin James. They joined the Ontario Federation of Labour's \$15 Minimum Wage march in Toronto in 2018, spearheaded by OFL President and Local 222 Past-President Chris Buckley.

Photo by Joe Sarnovsky

Income Tax Service at Unifor Local 222 Union Hall

*Mary is returning
for Spring 2025*



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Local 222 is Closing the Financial Books on a Year of Positives

AS WE CLOSE THE BOOKS ON THE FISCAL CALENDAR YEAR, I'm very pleased that we had a small deficit of \$2748.00 for 2024, especially considering the amount of monies that we invested into the Union Hall for long overdue improvements. These improvements included:

- A new family bathroom with wheelchair access and no-touch accessibility;
- Our former library, which was really just a storage area and did not serve much function ability, has now become a boardroom with the capability to be set up as a classroom for future member education classes.
- A new wheelchair ramp in the auditorium has replaced the old lift, saving the considerable costs of yearly inspections and a service contract.
- Asphalt patch work in the parking lot to fix some holes and repair the water drainage.
- As well, there are four new speed bumps to slow down traffic entering and exiting the Hall, which will hopefully make it safer for our members.

In addition to the above expense items, we supported almost 200 members by sending them to Union-affiliated councils and conventions all across Ontario and as far away as British Columbia.

Our Hall and our members' expenses are paid for by our members' dues. The best way to repay all of the above is to continue to both invest and educate.



Rob Romano

Unifor Local 222 Financial Secretary

I have renovation suggestions too for 2025 to continue Hall upgrades, but with the looming Trump tariffs, unfortunately we need to put those on hold. The potential auto tariffs will impact a large portion of our members and the dues dollars coming into the hall, so for now we wait.

The 2024 financial audit will take place the week of March 17th and will be once again performed by Tinkham LLP.

On a very sad note, Local 222 lost a great union activist in the passing of Scott Bateman. Scott was one of our Local's success stories who came out of the former Lear Whitby plant. He was a past elected chairperson and 2nd Vice President of Local 222. Scott transitioned to a spot with Unifor National and became a staff representative in Ottawa. It didn't take long before our Executive Leadership recognized Scott's worth and promoted him to Road Transport Director. I've known Scott since around 2014 and we remained in contact over the years, even with him residing in a suburb of Ottawa. We actually spoke the day of his passing, and it hits home that we weren't far apart in age. Scott was big in size but he was even larger in life. He will be missed by many.

I hope everyone had a great winter and let's hope it's over soon and makes way for a long warm spring and summer. 🍁



UNIFOR LOCAL 222 IS AN AMALGAMATED LOCAL MADE UP OF THE FOLLOWING UNITS:

General Motors of Canada (Oshawa)
Loblaws Distribution Centre (Ajax)
TFT Global (Oshawa)
Durham Region Transit
Armada Automotive (Lindsay)
St Marys Cement (Bowmanville)
BEST Service Pros (Oshawa/Whitby)
AGS Automotive (Oshawa)
Mills Motors Buick GMC (Oshawa)
Pilkington Glass (Whitby)

Robinson Solutions - Building Services (Oshawa)
Robinson Solutions - Facilities Maintenance (Oshawa)
Mercedes-Benz Durham (Whitby)
Concentrix (Oshawa)
Kerr Industries (Oshawa)
MPS Facility Services (Oshawa)
Durham College Students Inc. (Oshawa)
Ontario Tech Student Union (Oshawa)
Canada Cartage (Oshawa)

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Oakley Industries (Oshawa)
Securitas Canada (Oshawa)
Signify Canada (Markham)
Lear Corp. (Oshawa)
Auto Warehousing Canada (Oshawa)
Android Industries (Oshawa)
Wiebe Transport (Oshawa)
Masterfeeds (Peterborough)
Doughty Masonry (Peterborough)
Flex-N-Gate (Beaverton)

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Editorial Board: Jeff Gray ■ Rob Romano ■ Chris Waugh

To the readers: The views and opinions expressed by various writers are their own and not necessarily those of the Editor nor of the Administration of Unifor Local 222. Unsigned material will not be printed. Please sign your Letters To The Editor and include your printed name, address and phone number.

The Oshaworker reserves the right to edit material submitted.

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UNIFOR
Local222

Financial Report

Balance Sheet as at Dec. 31, 2024

Total Receipts	\$5,947,655.73
Total Expenses	5,950,403.87
Full Year Deficit	\$ (2,748.14)

Unifor Local 222

Balance Sheet as at December 31, 2024

ASSETS

Current Assets

Bank	806,898.30
GIC's	3,168,633.62
Accounts receivables	584,512.53
Prepaid expenses	7,665.45
Future pension benefit	355,000.00
Total Current Assets	4,922,709.90

Fixed Assets

Land	615,195.00
Buildings	1,515,576.84
Total Fixed Assets	2,130,771.84
TOTAL ASSETS	\$7,053,481.74

LIABILITIES

Current Liabilities

Accounts Payables	897,538.86
Accrued Liabilities	31,718.25
Union Dues Payable	435.78
Charitable Deductions	780.00
Skilled Trades Dues Payable	9,215.23
Retired Members' Fund	376,841.68
Deferred Revenue	189,588.00
Obligation for post-employment benefits	1,975,000.00
Total Current Liabilities	3,481,117.80

TOTAL LIABILITIES **\$3,481,117.80**

EQUITY

NET ASSETS

Net Assets	3,575,112.08
Surplus (Deficit)	(2,748.14)

TOTAL NET ASSETS **3,572,363.94**

TOTAL EQUITY **\$3,572,363.94**

TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY **\$7,053,481.74**



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Jamie Ellis

email jamie.ellis@local222.ca
phone 905-723-1480

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email retirees@local222.ca
website www.local222retirees.ca

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Dedicated GM Members Contribute Meaningfully to the Community

WELCOME TO MY FIRST OSHAWORKER ARTICLE FOR 2025.

I hope everyone had a great holiday.

In November, I attended the inaugural two-day Tri-National Auto Workers Summit in Mexico City. This significant event brought together unions from Canada (Unifor), the United States (UAW), and Mexico (SINTTIA, SITIAVW, SITAUDI, CILAS). The summit's primary objective was to address the multifaceted challenges and concerns faced by auto workers across these three nations.

During the summit, participants collaborated in discussions on pertinent topics, including union organizing, job security, fair compensation, working conditions, and the trajectory of the automotive industry. We also addressed concerns pertaining to trade agreements, globalization, and the impact of emerging technologies on the automotive sector.

By uniting our voices and experiences, we as a group can positively influence future automotive industry policies and decisions.

In December, I chaired the GM Intra-Corporation Council, attended the Unifor Auto Industry Council, as well as Unifor Ontario Regional Council. One of the most significant highlights of these councils was my re-election as Vice Chair of the Auto Council. Auto Council is comprised of the bargaining teams from Unifor-represented Detroit 3 auto facilities including General Motors, Ford and Stellantis. This position not only enables me to contribute to pivotal decision-making processes on behalf of all Unifor-represented GM plants but also provides me with a unique opportunity to advocate for the interests of the entire automotive community represented by Unifor.

Unifor Auto Council, Intra-Corp Council, and Ontario Regional Councils have been at the forefront of promoting collaboration and addressing pertinent issues within the automotive and other sectors represented by Unifor. These councils serve as a platform for industry stakeholders to convene, exchange ideas, and discuss sustainable solutions. Through our collective efforts, we have successfully fostered a sense of unity and camaraderie among Unifor represented industries across Canada.

During my tenure at these councils, I have witnessed firsthand the dedication and passion exhibited by the members. Their unwavering commitment to the betterment of the industry is truly commendable. From discussing advancements in electric vehicle technology to addressing workforce challenges, these councils have been instrumental in driving progress.

Moving forward, Unifor Auto and Intra-Corp Councils will continue to play a pivotal role in shaping the future of the automotive industry. By encouraging collaboration, addressing challenges, and advocating for the needs of the workforce, these councils will undoubtedly pave the way for a prosperous and sustainable future. As the re-elected Vice Chair of the Auto Council, I am honoured to be a part of this collective effort and eagerly anticipate the positive impact we will continue to make.

Unifor, representing Canadian autoworkers, has issued a



Jason Gale

GM Shop Committee Chairperson

strong condemnation of the ongoing threat of tariffs by the United States on Canada. In a joint statement by the Unifor Auto Council and the Unifor Independent Parts Supplier Council, they emphasize the detrimental impact these tariffs would have on the automotive sector and Canadian employment.

The Canadian and American auto industries have maintained a longstanding relationship, characterized by two-way trade in automotive goods valued at approximately \$150 billion annually, split virtually down the middle, half exports and half imports, near perfect balance. This trade is mutually beneficial, fostering employment opportunities and contributing to the vibrancy of communities on both sides of the border. The imposition of tariffs by the United States would disrupt this relationship and precipitate an industrial crisis within the automotive sector.

Should these tariffs materialize, the North American industry would experience a near-immediate halt within days. The cost of vehicle production would surge exponentially, leading to production line disruptions and job losses across the supply chain. Furthermore, consumers would likely gravitate towards imported vehicles, further exacerbating the crisis for autoworkers in all three countries.

Unifor remains steadfast in its commitment to safeguarding the Canadian auto industry and protecting jobs and investments. They advocate for an immediate and permanent cessation of the tariff threat, concurrently collaborating with automakers and parts manufacturers on contingency plans. Unifor underscores the significance of Canada's domestic market and reaffirms its dedication to manufacturing vehicles and components for both domestic and international markets.

In addition to engaging with governments to develop economic protection and assistance measures, Unifor leverages its robust collective agreements to provide support to autoworkers during this challenging period. They also seek to collaborate with like-minded allies to advocate for fair trade practices and the preservation of good jobs.

It is imperative for the United States to comprehend the repercussions of its actions and the adverse impact they would have on the automotive industry and the broader economy. Unifor stands united in its opposition to these tariffs, striving for a more prosperous future grounded in mutual respect and global solidarity.

****GAP/PIP Plan****

The GAP/PIP productivity plan is a ruthless cost-cutting initiative implemented by the company. For members unfamiliar with the GAP/PIP Productivity Plan, it is a comprehensive manpower elimination plan for the purpose of cost savings. Typically, these productivity initiatives are conducted annually, but this year, the company has implemented aggressive job/manpower eliminations on a quarterly basis. To achieve these eliminations, the company has leveraged automation and strategically divided select ULOCs into smaller pieces, distributing the work to different ULOCs across the shop floor.

It is imperative that all members adhere strictly to the requirements outlined in their job descriptions and responsibilities. Failure to do so may result in additional work being assigned to your role. It is important that we maintain open communication and coordination among all three shifts. If you find your job is overburdened, have your Group Leader start the job concern tracking process.

The Port Elgin Woman's Skilled Trades & Technology Awareness Program is expanding to four sessions in 2025! I've teamed up with the Port Elgin Skilled Trades training department to secure 12 spots per class for our female GM Members. These spots are first come, first served, so don't miss out! You can find the applications and schedule from your Committee person.

Additionally, in November, we held elections for our Human Rights/Employment Equity Representative and our Women's Advocate. I would like to extend my congratulations to our newly-elected representatives, Michelle Kimble and Maria Chinelli. I would also like to commend all the candidates for their unwavering passion, dedication, and commitment to making a positive impact.

This past Christmas, our annual gate collection was a real success! Thanks to the generosity of our members, we were able to donate an impressive \$5,000 to The Denise House.

On Jan. 26, 2025 General Motors Oshawa and Unifor Local 222 reaffirmed their partnership as co-sponsors of the Oshawa Generals. Local 222 President Jeff Gray and I had the privilege of dropping the puck at the game. We extend our sincere gratitude to our dedicated members, whose unwavering support enables us to contribute to the community in meaningful ways. 🍁



Check out Local 222's website at:

www.local222.ca

GM Members Reminded Not To Help Company Eliminate Our Jobs

WITH THIS BEING THE FIRST OSHAWORKER OF 2025, WE hope everyone enjoyed their holidays with family and loved ones. The next year in the Plant is going to be extremely busy.

General Motors will be starting a substantial GAP Plan across the entire complex. This is also referred to as PIP (Productivity Improvement Process). Don't be fooled, this is nothing more than corporate greed that falls on this membership. It is not the responsibility of Team Members or Team Leaders to help the company eliminate jobs. We understand this is extremely frustrating for the membership. Remember this a company initiative!

How members can fight back:

- Do not help the company eliminate jobs.
- Do not help the company move work.
- Do not talk to management when you're working on your job.
- Industrial Engineers in the complex are not your friends.
- Start a Job Concern Tracking sheet if your job is overloaded.
- Report all Ergo concerns to management.
- Follow your Blue Books.
- Use your Andons.
- Work at a normal pace.

Micro-Mart

The company is paying close attention to Micro-Mart transactions. Please make sure when you are purchasing your items that all items are scanned and paid for.



Chris Waugh

Unifor Local 222
First Vice President
GAC/Stamping/CCA
District Committeeperson



Brian Troke

Body/Paint District
Committeeperson



Brian Nicholls

GA D/IP/Quality/Core
District Committeeperson

Remember

Elected in-plant reps do not entertain calls through social media.

For additional updates and communications, stop by our Facebook page, Unifor 222 GM Oshawa (www.facebook.com/groups/unifor222gmshawa). You will be asked to provide your badge number or GMIN to join the group.

Unifor Local 222 general membership meetings are held on the first Thursday of the month. GM unit meetings are held on the third Thursday of the month. Both meetings are held at the Unifor Local 222 Union Hall, 1425 Philip Murray Ave. at 3pm. All members are welcome and it's a great way to get involved with your Union.

People before Profits.

GA C/Stamping/CCA District Committeeperson • chris.waugh@gm.com

Body/Paint District Committeeperson • brian.troke@gm.com

GA D/IP/Quality/Core District Committeeperson • brian.nicholls@gm.com

In Solidarity. 🍁

GM Trades Reminded to Process License Renewals Properly

HELLO ALL. I HOPE EVERYONE HAD AN ENJOYABLE Christmas shutdown with family and friends. With the new year comes new challenges and I look forward to what I hope will be a prosperous year for us all.

With the new year comes license renewals for our compulsory trades. Please remember that all documents sent to me must be scans, HR/LR will not accept pics or screen-shots. If you can't scan your receipt, please print it off and give it to your shift rep along with the signature sheet and we will scan and send them in so you can get reimbursed. Please keep in mind, as was referenced in our ratification local bargaining report, there is a 30-day window between payment and your submission, so please forward your documents as soon as possible.



Scott Pearce

General Motors Skilled Trades District Committeeperson

Seniority lists are currently broadcast on the big screens throughout the facility. The company is no longer supplying paper copies for the boards. Your committee is looking into other possible options.

If you find the need to go on S&A (sick and accident) please reach out to your benefit reps, Tim Rankine or Tyler Hamel. Although you can order your forms yourselves it is usually a much smoother and quicker transaction using your Unifor representatives.

Please always remember to take 2 for safety and place a call to your group leader if you find yourself in an unsafe situation.

In Solidarity. 🍁

GM Members Can Access EAP For Help With Mental And Physical Well-Being

IT WAS A BUSY START TO 2025, AS I TRANSITIONED FROM Women's Advocate to my new role as full-time Human Rights representative in the GM Oshawa plant. I would like to take a moment to thank the membership for electing me, it was a tough election and I truly appreciate the overwhelming support I received when campaigning. I would also like to take a moment to congratulate Teresa Martin on her new role as the GM Employment Equity Coordinator and Maria Chinelli for being elected as the new in-plant Women's Advocate.

The winter months can be draining on our mind and bodies so as we move into spring, we must remember to take care of ourselves and not neglect our mental or physical well-being. Stress in the workplace can also take a toll on our overall health so if you are experiencing any issues you feel need to be addressed on the shop floor, don't be afraid to put in a call for your union rep. We can't help you if we don't know that the problem exists.

Also don't forget to utilize the Employee Assistance Program or EAP which offers 24hr online service as well as a 24hr hotline for those with no access to a computer. There are a variety of options available to assist if you are struggling in anyway. There are quizzes and advice free for your personal use thanks to the tremendous bargaining done during the 2023 contract negotiations: 1-877-207-8833 or visit online at one.telushealth.com



Michelle Kimble
GM Human Rights Representative

Username: GMCANADA, Password: English. Let's use it so we don't lose it!

Lastly, I would like to take a moment to shout out an organization dear to my heart. For those who haven't heard of SafeHope Home, they provide long-term recovery programs designed to guide sexually exploited or trafficked women, into full rehabilitation and reintegration into society. The process includes housing, post-secondary education, counselling and more. On Feb. 22, 2007, the House of Commons passed a motion condemning the trafficking of persons and proclaimed Feb. 22 National Human Trafficking Awareness Day. This year on March 29 Safehope Home is hosting a gala, with the profound theme of "Hope: Bringing people together to combat human trafficking in our community", recognizing that the fight against human trafficking is a collective effort and it truly takes a village, Unifor Local 222 supports the gala with 10 members in attendance for this important cause. If you are interested in volunteering or donating, please contact info@safehopehome.com.

I can be reached at 905-744-3217 or Michelle.kimble@gm.com.
In Solidarity. 🍁



Unifor Local 222 GM Oshawa reps standing together to defend Canadian jobs and the industries that keep our communities strong.

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From the Editor

GOOD DAY BROTHERS AND SISTERS. I AM WRITING THIS article to highlight the massive influx of fake news and half truths that have been posted on social media since the change of government in the USA. This is not an article to sway the right to left or the left to right. This article is a reminder to not base your own opinions on click-bait and biased headlines. It is also a reminder not to base your opinion on the comment sections within these posts and headlines.

Comment sections in particular are a toxic breeding ground of misinformation and people fishing for a contest in the comment section. Key adjectives and verbs are generally used to bait people into an online argument. The most common words that are used to bait people into uneducated political arguments include "leftist, fascist, commie, snowflake, boomer, millennial, Gen Z". These words spark comment sections a mile long on social media posts, whether it be Facebook, Twitter (X) and Reddit.

Today's political climate has created a large amount of stress for all of us. We have been dealing with tariff threats that would decimate the world economy. I personally don't buy into the annexation threat as I feel it is a diversion tactic by the current president of the USA.

We will soon be heading to the polls to vote in our provincial election. I strongly encourage everyone to get out and vote. I've always believed if you are to have any gripes with municipal, provincial or federal politics, you best be voting. There's no such thing as a wasted ballot.

On a positive note, I would like to thank our retirees' chapter for their strong representation of our Local and community. The retirees chapter donated \$500 to the Durham Region Unemployed Help Centre. Donations like these serve a strong purpose for our surrounding communities. The paragraph below is a thank you for the donation.

"We would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to Unifor 222 for their generous annual donations of \$500 to the Durham

Region Unemployed Help Centre. Your support is invaluable to us as we continue

to provide essential employment services and resources to job seekers within our community. The Durham Region Unemployed Help Centre appreciates the kindness and generosity of organizations like yours to help bridge the gap for individuals struggling to get back on their feet. We are truly grateful for your commitment to making a positive impact in the lives of our clients, and we look forward to continuing our partnership with you in the future."

On a final note, I would like to thank the entire membership for your continued dedication to the labour movement and community supports. Our standing committees have been exceptional in their organizing efforts when it comes to events and social causes. The membership engagement has been nothing short of impressive as well.

In Solidarity. 🍁



Dave Sutton
The Oshaworker Editor



Doug Saunders and Lyle Hargrove of the Retirees Chapter presenting an annual donation of \$500 to the Durham Region Unemployment Help Centre



Dr. Michael Bryant & Dr. Sharon Lamson

Insurance coverage for eye exams and eyewear (glasses, sunglasses, contact lenses) are directly submitted by our office for all major providers.

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New Product at AGS Automotive Creating Hiring Opportunity

HELLO AGAIN EVERYONE, AND A HAPPY BELATED NEW Years to all. I'd like to start by congratulating Gary Demerchant and Steve Jones for their recent retirements. Gary started with us in June 1985 and Steve joined the team in February 2016. We wish them a long and happy retirement.

This year has gotten off to a slow start with continued down days on Friday, pretty much the way last year ended. Over the past few years, the company has been investing time and money into the plating line to allow us to chrome plate stainless steel. We've done numerous successful trials on Bezels, which are the dual exhaust tips you see on all the new model GM trucks. This is our sister plant's contract in Sterling Heights Michigan, which they had been subcontracting to another company.

With the lack of work in our facility our management pushed to bring that work in our plant. As of this writing we are just starting to run this product, quite successfully, I might add. When we first started, we were quite concerned whether we could keep up. We require 3,000 parts per day and can plate 72 every 3 minutes. Unloading 72 every 3 minutes seemed like too daunting a task, but everyone from the management team and the union members stepped up and made it happen. With each day they make it look more routine. Great work everyone.

With the addition of this new work, the recent retirees and a few employees moving on to greener pastures, the company recently hired another 11 employees. A welcome to each of them. This is still a work in progress and may possibly require a second shift for packaging the Bezels. As of now all the plating of these parts will be done on Days. This will hopefully keep the plate line running 5 days a week. With this new work we added 2 new classifications instead of implementing the work into existing classifications to give everyone the opportunity to apply.

Our existing contracts for the Heavy Duty GMC and Chevy have been extended from 2027 to 2028 which no doubt means

another year for the Bezels as well. Our ability to chrome plate stainless steel will allow us to bid on more work creating a more stable 40-hour work week, maybe even overtime. Even up to now, we are being told that officially we have not been awarded this work. I think it's our contract to lose. We've shown we are more than capable.

Our biggest obstacle in this plant is our attendance. This subject is broached daily by management. The company is being forced to move manpower on a regular basis. HR has been toying with the idea of a policy change to deal with it. Moving the 30-day policy to the calendar month policy is not working well for the company. The start of each month is our worst for attendance. Our attendance policy of anything over one and a half days a month is one of the more relaxed policies I've heard of. This is not an entitlement of a day off per month. This is there to save you from needing a doctor's note should you be sick. We see the daily call-in logs on a weekly basis, and it's basically the same names. To stay on with this policy, people need to come to work daily. This will help when the owners consider where to award new product. This subject is well noted at the corporate level and I'm sure will be a heavy hitter come next CBA. Let's all do our part and bring down the absentee average a few percentage points to reduce the importance of a policy shift come next bargaining.

If anyone has any questions or concerns, you can visit the Union office between 11am and 3pm. I can be reached via email at bobbr@AGSautomotive.com and our phones are 905-571-2121 ext. 6402 for myself, Keedron Wright ext. 6401, Mark Bray ext. 6404, Bill Goswell our JHSC co-chair ext. 6469 and Jeff Milley our substance abuse rep ext. 6400.

In Solidarity. 🍁



Bob Bryant

AGS Automotive Chairperson

Durham Region Transit committee ready to bargain new agreement

YOUR COMMITTEE HAS BEEN HARD AT WORK GETTING ready to bargain a new collective agreement. We have heard our membership and we have put together a strong and comprehensive list of demands.

Our contract will be up for renegotiations on February 28, 2025. However, while we are bargaining a new collective agreement the existing one will still be enforced and our rights will be protected.

The new Truck/Coach apprenticeship program that we bargained has been a great success. The new program allows the employer to recruit internally and a number of our members have already benefited from this.

We have an agreement with the employer that at minus ten

degrees, or colder, the buses are supposed to be started so they are ready when it is time to depart the yard. If the bus you were assigned was not started and you do not believe it is safe to leave on your departure time then wait until you believe it is safe to leave.

Under Section 43 of the Ontario Occupational Health and Safety Act, workers have the right to refuse work if they feel it is likely to endanger their health or that of another worker. If you have any questions don't hesitate to call a Health and Safety Worker representative or your Union Worker Representative.

In Solidarity. 🍁



Ian Sinnott

Durham Region Transit Chairperson

Hard Work by Loblaw Members Brings Positive Warehouse Investment

HELLO AGAIN BROTHERS SISTERS AND SIBLINGS, HOPING everyone had a safe and happy holidays. Over the Christmas break we enjoyed our annual work Christmas party with good music, food and our colleagues' company. We appreciate all the donations given to put on a great night.

It has been a busy start to the year at Loblaw Ajax DC60. We have continued to maintain our spot of number one in our network due to all our membership's hard work and because of this, it is one of the main factors in our facility receiving

new investment of a citrus bagging machine that will provide 30 preferred jobs within our warehouse. We are also receiving more WASS (warehouse as a service) work as well as more cross dock coming back to our facility, as it has become a bigger part of the business. We are looking forward to a busy year and hopefully a beautiful safe spring for all.

In Solidarity. 🍁



Kyle Coughlan
Loblaw Distribution
Centre Chairperson

Armada Members: United We Stand Divided We Fall

GOOD DAY EVERYONE I HOPE YOU ARE ALL DOING WELL. I know the title is a bold statement but we are fast approaching the end of our Collective Bargaining Agreement on October 31, 2025. We all as members need to start thinking about what we would like to see in our next Collective Bargaining Agreement. The more input from the membership would greatly help the Bargaining Committee address the needs of our members at the bargaining table, the language in our Contract needs some improvement.

I would encourage everyone to take time to read our current contract so that you can have a better understanding of it, if there are any articles that you need help understanding please come and talk to me about it or the Bargaining Committee.

We had a General Unit Meeting on February 8, 2025 we had approximately 30 members attend and would like to thank each and every one of you for doing so. However I would have liked to have seen a larger turnout of the 166 members we currently have at Armada Automotive, these meetings are for you our members to have an opportunity to address any concerns that you have. We will be having another General Unit Meeting tentatively booked at the Royal Canadian Legion in Lindsay for Saturday May 24, 2025 at 11 am. I would strongly encourage all members to attend.

Armada Automotive as a whole are venturing into uncertain times with tariffs looming from the United States and the decrease in sales for Armada can cause a lot of stress upon our members. I appeal to all members that we all remain calm because what is happening is out of our control.

We can only have hope that our Government is able to come to an agreement with the United States on a fair free trade agreement with Canada. As for Armada sales to pick up we can only concentrate on the quality of work that we do and let Armada's sales team take care of business on their end.

In closing we need more participation from our members. Art Appel was acclaimed the Health and Safety Representative position on afternoons and Peggy Wood was acclaimed the Full Time Steward position on afternoons. I would like to thank them both for coming forward. We still have openings for an

Alternate Steward on afternoons and mid-night shift. If anyone is interested please come and see me or any representatives on your shift.

Just remember united we stand divided we fall.

I hope everyone has a good day.

In Solidarity. 🍁



Dan DeSousa
Armada Automotive Chairperson

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The State of the Unit at Signify

THE VOLUME OF INBOUND /OUTBOUND PRODUCT DID in fact increase in the latter part of November and December 2024.

We finished the year on a positive note which opened the door creating the need for further recalls of our Bargaining Unit Members that were on layoff.

The prospect of additional volume of new work for our Members in 2025 is on the horizon but could be jeopardized due to the unnecessary tariffs unleashed by the second time around POTUS.

Our sovereignty as a nation is now being threatened from coast to coast to coast as a result. The unreasonable tariffs that will be imposed will definitely impact our Members and all Canadians. Tariffs will only fuel higher Inflation and will most certainly be a burden to workers and their families.

Second time around narcissist POTUS has zeroed in on Canada to bully despite the fact that Canada always has been a reliable trading partner, neighbour, friend and ally country to America. The US administration spurred on by their dictator's agenda initiated ridiculous tariffs globally by targeting

Canada thus creating economic uncertainty for Canadians and Americans alike. All

Canadian-made products entering the US will now be subject to tariffs and the cost will be passed on down to businesses and consumers.

Clearly disingenuous the bully POTUS and his administration have set out deliberately to cripple the Canadian economy in order to annex our country and control all of our natural resources.

We as Unifor Members together with the entire Great White North population of Canada absolutely must stay united as a country in order to combat this autocratic felon president and his regime.

Canada's reliance on the US as a reliable primary trading partner needs to now pivot and refocus on a new path forward.

Diversifying our provincial trade partnerships and global free trade agreements must be front and centre. 🍁



Jim Johnston
Signify Chairperson

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Ritz Members Gearing Up for 2025 Bargaining

WE ENDED LAST YEAR on a high note with a successful bowling event, bringing members together in a fun and organized union gathering. Now, as we kick off the new year, our focus shifts to bargaining.

Our recent meeting with our National Rep went well, setting the stage for productive discussions ahead. However, this is also the time when the company starts pushing harder, trying to set precedents that may not be in our best interest. We've also seen layoffs happen around bargaining time before, so we need to stay informed, stand together, and support one another.

Stay tuned for updates, and as always, your involvement makes all the difference!

In Solidarity. 🍁



Pam Bosgraaf
Ritz Plastics Chairperson



Keith and Nathan



Melody, Pam, Kim and Julie in front



Melody, Micheal, Hector, Paul, Rod Tinku, Pam, Kim and Dave



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Local 222 Retirees support the fight against tariffs

WELCOME TO 2025. THE NEW YEAR BRINGS A LOT OF unknowns with a new President in the USA. Lots of talk of tariffs on all Canadian products exported to the States by our so-called friends. I have had friends like that at different times in my life. I called them false friends that just wanted to use you and lie to your face.

Just want the Local 222 Executive to know that our Local 222 retirees will be supporting our Local in any way we can to save all our industries. Just keep us in the loop. We are proud to live in the best country in the world called Canada. Please fly our flag proudly. We plan to do whatever it takes to stop tariffs.

All our activities are up and running with good participation. Thanks to all our committees for the great work they're



Lyle Hargrove

Unifor Local 222 Retirees' Chapter Chairperson

doing. Dances were up to 120 tickets sold for January and at least 9 tables of Euchre. Thanks to all who participated.

Executive elections will be held at our March 3 regular meeting. Thanks to those that put their name forward to run for a leadership position. It's very rewarding although a lot of work. Good luck to all.

I would like to thank Lance Livingstone and Ron Van De Walker for all their hard work with the Ontario Health Coalition on behalf of us retirees and others. They do a lot of work to help keep our healthcare free for all in Ontario and all Canadians. 🍁

Retirees' Chapter Open to All Units

RETIREE ACTIVITIES ARE OPEN TO EVERY LOCAL 222 unit that has retired members. Presently there are 843 retired members from the smaller units. That are not General Motors.

Some of the activities are:

- monthly dances
- monthly pool tournaments
- yoga Tuesday 9-10am
- euchre Tuesdays 12:30-3pm
- tai chi Wednesdays 11am-12noon
- line dancing Wednesday 12noon-1pm

Retirees' Room Monday-Friday 9am-4pm with 3 pool tables, computer room, TV and seating for over 30 people. There is also dart boards and a kitchen with free coffee



Peter Johnston

Unifor Local 222 Retirees' Member at Large

Retiree meetings are held each month on the first Monday at 1pm. We have guest speakers and retiree news at each meeting. These meetings are open to all retirees and spouses as well as surviving spouses.

We also hold a Retirees Appreciation Day in September with entertainment, catered food and prizes. Last September over 700 retirees attended.

So do yourself a favour and visit the Retirees' Room at Unifor Local 222 and see what your chapter has to offer. I am sure you will be pleasantly surprised as to what is available.

Look forward to seeing and meeting you at the Retirees Chapter. 🍁

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We Shall Remember

It is with great sadness that we note the passing of the following members:

Names will only appear in the We Shall Remember column upon direct notification to Unifor Local 222 with a death certificate.

Eugene Badurina	GM Retiree	Oshawa	Feb. 10, 2025	Samuel Jongsma	GM Retiree	Whitby	Jan. 27, 2025
Derek Bishop	GM Retiree	Ajax	Dec. 25, 2024	Keith G. Kelly	GM Retiree	Bowmanville	Jan. 8, 2025
Patrick G. Blakney	GM Retiree	Oshawa	Nov. 14, 2024	John M. Knight	GM Retiree	Brighton	Dec. 22, 2024
Glen R. Brant	GM Retiree	Oshawa	Dec. 5, 2024	Paul D. Maddiss	GM Retiree	Whitby	Dec. 31, 2024
Greta E. Brun	GM Retiree	Oshawa	Jan. 11, 2025	Harry L. Malicoat	GM Retiree	Akron, OH	Jan. 12, 2025
Ugo Chiodo	GM Retiree	Oshawa	Dec. 15, 2024	Richard E. Mattes	GM Retiree	Oshawa	Nov. 15, 2024
Henry J. Chyb	GM Retiree	Oshawa	Jan. 9, 2025	Ronald T. Netto	GM Retiree	Ajax	Feb. 3, 2025
Randall G. Collins	GM Retiree	Frenchman's Cove, NL	Jan. 31, 2025	Sharon K. Olsen	GM Retiree	Sudbury	Nov. 30, 2024
Roger F. Collins	GM Retiree	Peterborough	Nov. 12, 2024	John S. Planeta	GM Retiree	Oshawa	Jan. 21, 2025
Danny G. Davis	GM Retiree	Maple Leaf	Nov. 19, 2024	Nora Plowright	GM Retiree	Campbellford	Jan. 17, 2025
Edward J. Debosky	GM Retiree	Whitby	Feb. 9, 2025	Carvel L. Richards	GM Retiree	Oshawa	Jan. 4, 2025
Ronald K. Dinsdale	GM Retiree	Peterborough	Jan. 2, 2025	Richard J. Rossi	GM Retiree	Oshawa	Dec. 30, 2024
Georgette M. Eade	GM Retiree	Whitby	Feb. 12, 2025	George W. Russell	GM Retiree	Oshawa	Nov. 18, 2024
Herbert C. Easton	GM Retiree	Bancroft	Dec. 11, 2024	Gregory J. Russell	GM Retiree	Oshawa	Jan. 29, 2025
Garry A. Evans	GM Retiree	Brooklin	Jan. 9, 2025	Morton E. Scott	GM Retiree	Picton	Dec. 24, 2024
Walter Fiala	GM Retiree	Oshawa	Nov. 14, 2024	Daryl P. Seifried	GM Retiree	Oshawa	Jan. 28, 2025
Harold F. Foster	GM Retiree	Oshawa	Dec. 2, 2024	Buddy W. Sellick	GM Retiree	Lindsay	Feb. 4, 2025
Marlene O. Gedge	GM Retiree	Carrying Place	Nov. 11, 2024	Douglas W. Smith	GM Retiree	Lindsay	Dec. 4, 2024
Elias L. Gouvas	GM Retiree	Oshawa	Dec. 16, 2024	Patrick F. Smith	GM Retiree	Oshawa	Dec. 8, 2024
Gerald L. Gray	GM Retiree	Cobourg	Dec. 19, 2024	Lorenzo Tarabocchia	GM Retiree	Oshawa	Dec. 10, 2024
William W. Gray	GM Retiree	Janetville	Feb. 6, 2025	Leo N. Vachon	GM Retiree	Oshawa	Jan. 14, 2025
William E. Hart	GM Retiree	Lindsay	Jan. 9, 2025	Ray G. Van Meer	GM Retiree	Newcastle	Nov. 6, 2024
Donald E. Hewlett	GM Retiree	Woodville	Jan. 22, 2025	Lawrence J. Verrall	GM Retiree	Roseneath	Dec. 11, 2024
John M. Hilts	GM Retiree	Fairview, AB	Jan. 17, 2025	Philip G. Watson	GM Retiree	Courtice	Jan. 1, 2025
Douglas I. Imrie	GM Retiree	Oshawa	Dec. 24, 2024	William L. Williams	GM Retiree	Seagrave	Nov. 24, 2024

Ottawa Needs to Get Tough with Provinces to Preserve our Public Healthcare

WE WOULD LIKE TO THANK

the Retirees Chapter for sending us to the Ontario Health Coalition Assembly. It was well represented by Unifor members. And we had great speakers and discussion on Healthcare issues with the coming Provincial Election. We also like to thank the Chapter sending us to Ottawa for the SOS Canadian Health Coalition Conference to discuss issues with the upcoming Federal election happening later in the year.

By the time you read this the Provincial Election will be over and we are hoping whoever is elected will fix the issues with our Healthcare.

Also when the next Federal Election happens please ask the candidates what their opinion is on keeping Healthcare in public hands. We need the next Federal Party who is elected to get tough with Provinces who do not keep the money in public hands and not to give it to private clinics.

We also need the Federal Government to get tough on Provincial Governments who gives money to private Long Term Care Facilities instead of creating more Non-profit Facilities. 🍁



Lance Livingstone

Durham Ontario Health Coalition Chairperson



Ron Van De Walker

Durham Ontario Health Coalition Member

Change of Address

Before you move, please notify Unifor Local 222 of your new address by calling 905-723-1187 and pressing 11 (one one) or emailing local222@local222.ca.

If you leave a message when you phone, please make sure to include your badge/employee number, spell your last name, refer to your old address and leave the complete new address.

Editions of the **Oshaworker** can be read online at www.local222.ca/the-oshaworker/

Oshaworker Not Delivered?

Canada Post will not deliver if the unit number is missing or the postal code is incorrect.

Union Visits

For those in Lakeridge Health Oshawa only:
Anyone wishing a visit by the Retirees' Sick & Visiting Committee should call the Retirees Chapter at 905-728-8600.

This applies to both active and retired members of Unifor Local 222.

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The Road Ahead: Trump's Global Impact, Ford's Ontario, and the Battle for Public Services



Bob Linton

Local 222 Retirees' Chapter Political Action Committee Chairperson

FOR MANY, SINCE THE LAST EDITION OF THE OSHAWORKER it may seem we are on the verge of a new world order. Since the inauguration of Donald Trump and his appointment of his sidekick Elon Musk they've been wreaking havoc not only in the United States, but throughout the world.

Greenland, South Africa, Ukraine, Mexico, Panama, China, the European Union and yes Canada, to name a few, are countries or member states that have either been threatened or have had action taken against them by Donald Trump.

In our country we are witnessing the end of the Trudeau era and the election of a new Liberal leader with a federal election soon to follow. In Ontario, Doug Ford called an arguable needless snap election under the guise of needing a strong mandate to fight the tariffs that Trump is threatening to impose to protect Ontario.

Ford already had a strong majority government so was triggering an election that will cost Ontario taxpayers \$189 million necessary?

At time of writing, it appears that Ford may be headed to another majority government and if that happens perhaps it would be a time to reflect upon his previous government and look at the shortcoming of it and the treatment of workers by his government.

In *Against the People: How Ford Nation is Dismantling Ontario*, a new co-edited book by Bryan Evans a Professor at Toronto Metropolitan University and former policy advisor and senior manager at the Ontario Legislature, Ministry of Labour and Workplace Safety and Insurance Board and Carlo Fanelli a Professor of Work and Labour Studies at York University, analyzes the Ford government's reckless policies.

Since 2018, the Ford Conservative government has begun to dismantle our public universities and colleges, our single-payer health care, hospitals and much more of our public infrastructures. Because of this it is becoming increasingly difficult for the working class and their children to enjoy the benefits and opportunities that our public services once provided.

We must ask ourselves, are we better off today under this Conservative government than before they came to power?

Colleges and universities across Ontario have resorted to a record number of program closures, staff and faculty layoffs, and have growing repair backlogs, while students bear the brunt of larger classroom sizes and fewer supports. The same is true for our elementary and secondary schools.

In health care, where no matter how you measure it, Ontarians are living with the most under-resourced health-care system in the country. A staggering 2.5 million Ontarians do not have a family doctor — the highest number ever recorded in the province. If Ontario hospitals were even similarly staffed as other provinces, we would have close to an additional 35,000 extra full-time hospital workers to deal with the record long wait times, hallway medicine and the crisis of worker burnout.

Had the Ford government kept spending consistent with population growth, that would mean close to an additional

[4,400] hospital beds. Instead, we've seen the largest expansion of for-profit health care in Ontario's history, with taxpayers shelling out more to private operators than it gives to Ontario's public hospitals to perform the same operations, like cataracts and knee surgeries.

In 2024, Ford brought in Ontario's largest ever budget. A budget that cut spending on several social programs and services in real terms, while doling out billions in new 'corporate welfare' subsidies for the development industry and to underwrite business expansion. A quick glance includes: \$1.2 billion in developer regulatory cuts; \$1 billion in direct payouts to the Beer Store, grocery chains and convenience stores; a 95-year lease to Therme to build a spa at Ontario Place subsidized by taxpayers to the tune of \$1 billion; and the list goes on.

The scale and degree of privatization, contracting out, the demand for worker concessions under Ford has been unprecedented. Whatever party wins the provincial election we will be in for a difficult four years. Not only will we be dealing with the actions of Donald Trump against our country and either trying to rebuild our public services from the damage done by the Ford Conservatives or facing more of the same if Ford is reelected. 🍁



Register Today!

The Spring/Summer 2025 Activity Guide is full of things to keep you active this spring and well into the summer.

Visit oscc.ca/activityguide today.



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Attention Retiree Golfers!

REGISTRATION FOR THE Unifor Local 222 Senior Retirees Golf League is April 8 from 10am to 12pm at the Union Hall.



Doug Heming
Chairperson Retirees
Golf League

With our snowy Winter hopefully coming to a close, it will be soon time to dust off the clubs. We will begin our season April 22 at Newcastle Golf and Country Club. We golf every Tuesday morning at a variety of courses in the Durham Region area. Courses include Newcastle, Bowmanville, Ashbrook and Wolf Run.

The fee is \$60 and includes group rate golf, 6 tournaments with lunches, and the end of season banquet with prizes. We have games for closest to the pin and longest putt as well.

All Unifor Retirees and associates in good standing are welcome to join.

Sign up and enjoy the fun!

For more information don't hesitate to contact me, dwheming@gmail.com or call or text 905-243-4323. 🍁

All GM Members Welcome!

GM Unit meetings are held on the 3rd Thursday each month at 3:00 pm (except July & August)

Unifor Local 222 Union Hall

1-1425 Phillip Murray Ave. Oshawa

Stop by our Facebook page

Unifor 222 GM Oshawa

for current updates



Find us at www.facebook.com/groups/unifor222gmoshawa

You will be asked to provide your badge number or GMIN to join the group

It's Time to Unite

IT ISN'T NEWS TO ANY OF US THAT OUR COUNTRY IS facing an existential threat from outside of our borders. While it may be an economic rather than military incursion, it will affect all of us as workers, consumers and citizens. We live in a democracy, yet someone we couldn't vote for or against can affect our way of life. If there might be one positive that could and should arise from this is putting aside some of what has polarized us politically and culturally.

As Canadians we should become more focused on common interests and pay closer attention to what not only benefits ourselves but our fellow citizens. We should expect

our leadership to respond with policy absent of the usual partisan rhetoric that sells us perception rather than providing answers.

As union members we already know we are better off as a collective group, that works as citizens of our country as well. Made in Canada does matter, read the label and consider its source. It's time to look into what is in our common interest rather than what divides us.

It's time for Canadians to unite. 🍁



John McVey

Unifor Local 222
Union in Politics Committee

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Unifor Plays A Pivotal Role In Achieving A Feminist Future

EACH YEAR THE UNITED NATIONS SETS A THEME FOR International Women's Day this year's it is "To create actions that unlock equal rights, power, and opportunities for all, fostering a feminist future where no one is left behind, a key focus should be on empowering the next generation, particularly young women and adolescent girls, to become catalysts for lasting change through initiatives."

When I think about this year's theme, I think about all the ways in which our union helps to unlock equal rights, power and opportunities for all by collectively bargaining for policies that address gender pay gaps, combat workplace discrimination and harassment, actively recruit and empower young women within their ranks and advocate for legislation that supports gender equity.

Key ways our union contributes to a feminist future:

1. Closing the gender wage gap:

By negotiating collective bargaining agreements that mandate equal pay for equal work, unions can significantly reduce the gender pay gap and women are fairly compensated for their labour.

2. Addressing workplace discrimination:

Unifor uses their collective power to challenge and address systemic gender discrimination in the workplace, including harassment, biased hiring practices and unequal promotion opportunities.

3. Empowering young women leaders:

Actively recruiting and supporting young women to take on leadership roles within our union provides them with a platform to advocate for issues to their generation and promotes future leaders.

4. Legislative advocacy:

For example, one of Unifor's current campaigns is "Intimate Partner Violence is an Epidemic" to urge Ontario MPP's to immediately pass "Bill 173 the Intimate Partner Violence Epidemic Act." Passing this act highlights the widespread nature of the issue, signifying its seriousness as a public health crisis, thereby prompting greater awareness, dedicating funding, research and social services to address the problem comprehensively, moving beyond crisis response to preventative measures and supporting survivors effectively.

5. Intersectionality focus:

Recognizing that women's experiences vary based on race, ethnicity and other factors, Unifor has the ability to advocate for policies that address the unique challenges faced by women of colour and other marginalized groups.

6. Education and awareness campaigns:

Unifor educates their members and the broader community about gender equality issues, promoting awareness of gender bias and encouraging active participation in advancing women's rights.



Ann Hubbell

Unifor Local 222 Women's Committee Chairperson

7. Future changemakers:

Investing in the next generation of female leaders ensures that the fight for gender equality continues and evolves with the needs of future generations.

8. Diverse perspectives:

Young women bring fresh perspectives and innovative approaches to tackling complex issues related to gender equality.

You can see how by being a part of Canada's largest private union "Unifor" we have the opportunity to play a pivotal role in achieving a feminist future by actively advocating for policies that promote gender equality, empowering young women within our ranks, and working to dismantle systemic barriers that prevent women from reaching their full potential in the workplace and their community at large. 🍁

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It's Almost Time To Walk On... On March 29 Along The Lakefront

HELLO, UNIFOR FAMILY. AT THE TIME OF WRITING, WE'RE amid Black history month, with events scheduled right across the GTA. The Unifor National office planned a theme around African Diaspora and Labour, on Feb. 22, 2025 to honour the achievements and struggles of BIWOC activists whose resilience create a footprint in the workplace and communities.

Personally, a panel across the country, including myself, was invited by the Unifor National Advisory committee to participate in who we'd nominate as a true black labour activist, in their region. I will present former Liberal MP for Whitby, Celina Caesar-Chavannes as the prospect who's led a life of navigating anti-black racism as an entrepreneur, all the way to being the Parliamentary Secretary to Prime Minister Justin Trudeau. I had the pleasure of meeting her since her controversial resignation, at her book signing "Can You Hear Me Now?" (2021) and followed her path during the mayoral race in Toronto (2023). Other great activists will also be presented at the event. Go to unifor.org for the Unifor Black History month statement.

Since the advent of Diversity, Inclusion and Equity (DEI) programs decades ago, companies have been committed to providing education and training to promoting a safe working environment. The intent of these programs is to encourage accountability at all levels and mitigate stereotyping of underserved groups. Whether you're someone who identifies on the 2SLGBTQI+ spectrum, BIWOC worker, female, disabled, elderly, or of different religion, the comfort level allows them to become more productive. However, these programs have been under fire and scaled back, especially in the U.S., to prove their illegitimacy. The idea of creating a "more diverse workforce" has been scrutinized to the extent that candidates aren't "intellectually" qualified for their position. This is exemplified in the spate of recent mishaps where the blame fell on the "diverse leadership." Some people call this a form of discrimination by disadvantaging other groups, who are just as qualified for the position but limited by the DEI program. These conflicts have been debatable dating back to the Civil Rights movement. The Civil Rights Act of 1964 outlawed employment discrimination based on race, religion, sex, color and national origin. It also banned segregation in public places, like public schools and libraries. Then in the 1960s-1970s, employees filed discrimination lawsuits, causing companies to create diversity training to better reflect the demographic. This transitioned into the education system, as well to boost student enrollment in less diverse areas. In recent times, there's been the question of DEI sustainability, as the training support or funding was insufficient. This prompted companies to halt or cancel DEI programs altogether.

Local 222 and its units continue to find new ways to engage the membership through events and diversity statements, with no means of slowing down. It has always welcomed ideas that make our Local more inclusive and vibrant.

On March 29 our Local 222/1090 BIWOC committee, along with Local leadership will be hosting our 4th annual International



Darrell Colley

Unifor Local 222 Aboriginal/Worker of Colour
Executive Board Member At Large

Day for the Elimination of Racism walk, event & reception, at the Local 222 union hall. Doors open at 10am to begin the 1k walk, followed by a reception of speakers, entertainment, food and prizes. Admission is \$5 cash at the door. You can scan the QR code in support of the Durham Community Health Centre food security program provided on the **Oshaworker** back page.

We're also re-starting our hoodie & t-shirt purchase campaign! Details to order apparel are included on the hoodie flyers located throughout Local 222 and social networks. You'll also have the option of purchasing at the event, while supplies last! It is a great way for BIWOC Unifor members and allies to showcase the support we've given each other over the years. Hope to see you there!

We're always seeking volunteers and sponsors to make this a great experience, if you're interested. I'd also like to invite BIWOC workers, allies and retirees, to get involved in our Local 222 & 1090 BIWOC committee. This committee allows members to express themselves, regarding racial equality in the workplace and surrounding communities. Our Facebook group is (Black, Indigenous, Workers of Colour- BIWOC group). I can be reached at 905-999-8839 or email DarrellUnifor222@gmail.com.

In Solidarity. 🍁



MEETINGS

The **General Membership** meeting is held at 3 p.m. on the first Thursday of every month except July & August.

The **General Motors Unit** meeting is held at 3 p.m. on the third Thursday of every month except July & August.

The **Retirees' Chapter** meeting is held at 1 p.m. on the first Monday of every month except July & August.

**All meetings are held at the
Unifor Local 222 Union Hall
1425 Phillip Murray Ave., Oshawa**



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Steve's Leather Takes President Cup This Year

THIS YEAR WITH ONE GAME REMAINING IN THE REGULAR season, Steve's Leather has already won the Eric "Sea Dog" Smith President Cup trophy. Chuck Bickle (team rep) picked the team of the year at the draft in September. With only one loss all year long (to Molson) and with one game to go, against Ontario Motor Sales who has not beaten them all year, OMS has nothing to lose. Big game for Ontario Motor Sales to start the round robin playoffs.

There have been a couple of big upsets this year. OMS beat Durham Medical twice with their number one Star, Number 5, Mitch Thurston. Steve Wilson (rep for Durham Medical) was not in a good mood after the games. Sorry Steve. Also this year, Steve Skene (Steve's Leather) had a shutout beating Durham Medical 7-0. In the second game of the day, goalie Claude Blanchet did not show up for Molson's game. Steve Skene played for Molson's and recorded another shutout against OMS. Dave King (rep for Molson) said they had to get the dressing room door made bigger for Steve to get in. LOL. I think that's a first in our League.

This year I want to thank all the spares who have come out and supported our teams when guys have been out. We cannot run without 10 guys on a team. We are old but still going strong. Some of the guys like Gary Beedham, myself, Steve Wilson, Chuck Bickle, Steve Skene, Geordie Oliver, John McLeod, Andy Bahor, Scott Hallett and others made this Truck/Car Hockey League go on and on. Also to the new guys who have come into the Truck/Car Hockey League in the last few years and on have made it what it is. Thank you. We cannot have made it this far without all of you.

We the reps and players would like to thank Steve's Leather and Molson (restaurant upstairs) at Canlan Ice Spots for their support. Molson hosts our Christmas party with food for the guys and Steve's Leather provided us with some great prizes on wing night. Ontario Motor Sales and Durham Medical, we want to thank you too.

Mark Mapes looks after our refs for the Truck/Car Hockey and is doing a fine job, just ask Mike Kozar and Webby or the players. You will get two different answers. Ken Parker is our time keeper and doing a fine job to. Thanks to all.

We had one regular game to go on Feb 25, then we start the round robin games on Tues. March 4th. All three games will be played this week. The finals will start Tues. March 25th and all playoff games will be done this week. Good luck to all four teams. Molson's could be the big upset team of all. They beat the number



John Perrault

Unifor Local 222 Truck-Car Hockey League

one team and also tied them. Steve's Leather could be in for some trouble. Durham Medical could be scary too. Mr. Wilson does not fool around. Steve is the boss just ask his team. Ontario Motor Sales sits in third place. We are ready to pounce on any team who does not have their number one stars. Just remember guys we are still playing the game we love and having lots of fun doing it. To Chuck Bickle's team (Steve's Leather), you know the old saying. CURSE OF FIRST.

Retirees Dances Friday Nights

February 21
Step By Step

April 11
Then & Now

March 21
John Anderson

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person,
available
in advance at
Reception*


UNIFOR
Local 222 | Canada
Retired Workers Chapter



Results

Nov. 5

Molson 4, Steve's Leather 1
Ontario Motor Sales 3, Durham Medical 2

Nov. 7

Ontario Motor Sales 2, Molson 2
Steve's Leather 7, Durham Medical 0

Nov. 12

Steve's Leather 6, Ontario Motor Sales 3
Durham Medical 6, Molson 3

Nov. 14

Durham Medical 4, Ontario Motor Sales 2
Steve's Leather 4, Molson 1

Dec. 3

Steve's Leather 7, Durham Medical 5
Ontario Motor Sales 5, Molson 2

Dec. 5

Durham Medical 4, Molson 2
Steve's Leather 4, Ontario Motor Sales 2

Dec. 10

Steve's Leather 6, Molson 1
Durham Medical 5, Ontario Motor Sales 2

Dec. 12

Durham Medical 3, Steve's Leather 3
Ontario Motor Sales 4, Molson 2

Jan. 7

Steve's Leather 5, Ontario Motor Sales 2
Durham Medical 3, Molson 1

Jan. 9

Steve's Leather 6, Molson 2
Ontario Motor Sales 5, Durham medical 2

Jan. 28

Steve's Leather 7, Durham Medical 0
Molson 4, Ontario Motor Sales 0

Jan. 30

Steve's Leather 5, Ontario Motor Sales 4
Durham Medical 8, Molson 4

Feb. 4

Steve's Leather 1, Molson 1
Ontario Motor Sales 4 / Durham Medical 3

Feb. 6

Steve's Leather 6, Durham Medical 1
Ontario Motor Sales 6, Molson 2

League Standings

	W	L	T	Pts
Steve's Leather	14	1	3	31
Durham Medical	8	7	3	19
Ontario Motor Sales	7	10	1	15
Molson	2	13	3	7

Top Five Players

	G	A	Pts
Durham Medical, Jim Reid	6	32	3
Steve's Leather, Tom Pohjolainen	20	16	36
Ontario Motor Sales, Cory McGraw	23	8	31
Molson, Brad Henry	14	9	23

Kenny Parker's Top Three Stars

Durham Medical: Mitch Thurston with 5 first, 3 2nd and one 3rd star. Brick Emmerson 3 first, and 3 2nd stars.

Molson: Claude Blanchet ,Two First, One 2nd, and one 3rd stars. Brad Henery with one first, 3 2nd and one 3rd stars.

Steve's Leather: Tommy Pohjolainen with 6 first, one 2nd and one 3rd stars, Chuck Bickle with 3 2nd, and one 3rd star. Steve Skene with 3 3rd stars.

Ontario Motor Sales: Cory McGraw with 4 first , 4 2nd, and one 3rd star. Blaine Corriveau, one first, two 2nd, and 2 3rd stars. John Perrault with 2 3rd stars. 🍁

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1999 Grand Prix for sale \$1500 firm, will run, needs work, as is; mitre saw with stand \$100. Call: 289-251-3350

Golf balls used, brand names, \$4 per dozen. Call: 905-579-2094

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Black, Indigenous & Workers of Colour



**International Day for
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Waterfront Walk March 29, 2025

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