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Union Continues to Pressure Company, Politicians on Future of GM's Third Shift

WE'RE INTO DECEMBER, but in the September *Oshaworker*, due to vacations and negotiations, I missed mentioning the passing of our beloved National Past President, Basil "Buzz" Hargrove. Sometimes when you hear of someone's passing, you remember the details of that day, where you were, what the weather was like. That's how hearing of losing our brother, Buzz Hargrove, has stayed with me. It was a beautiful, sunny Father's Day, on June 15th, and I was on our deck enjoying the day with my family. I received a text about Buzz, and I stopped and sat down. All I could remember is how Buzz guided our union, a giant of the Canadian Auto sector, a politician known in every corner of our country. When I was a young lad, and Buzz was so popular, he didn't need a last name, he was simply Buzz, almost a rockstar status. I always remember my Dad's friend, John Graham, was the General Motors National staff representative, and I thought it was the coolest thing ever, that John worked closely with Buzz.

Buzz Hargrove took over from Bob White as President in 1992 and led the CAW until 2008. Buzz was known to be a fierce trade unionist, focusing on job security, wages, pensions, paid time off, benefits and all the other items in our collective agreements that we have fought and sacrificed so much for. All of these contractual gains that we made under Buzz and the CAW set the tone for the labour movement in Canada.

Let's remember, that while our union was making these gains, the unfair trade agreements threatened to hollow



out our manufacturing sector in Canada completely. With the Auto sector squarely on the shoulders of Buzz, we fought, we protested, and Buzz made sure we survived. I would go as far to say, that Buzz was a generational leader. Your legacy, brother Buzz, will live on. Local 222 stood beside you and we always will. Our union will never know where we are going, unless we understand where we have been. Buzz, your lessons and leadership is the example we follow today. Rest in Peace Brother, and thank you from thousands of past and present Local 222 members. Brother Buzz Hargrove March 8, 1944 to June 15, 2025.



Jeff Gray

Unifor Local 222 President

Loblaws Bargaining

I was never so proud to stand with a committee and play a role in bringing home what is being referred from our National President Lana Payne as 'the greatest warehouse contract ever negotiated by Unifor'. The committee, led by Chairperson Kyle Coughlan held the line and demanded that their warehouse members be respected for all their efforts and sacrifices to make this the most efficient warehouse in Canada. With the largest increase in wages ever seen combined with free benefits for those over 15 years' service, this agreement was ratified by 91% of the membership. Our Loblaw unit does so much for Local 222, donating time, food, water and whatever else we need to deliver to those in need, it just makes us all so proud that we have made these gains for the membership. Solidarity to our brother and sisters at the Loblaw Ajax unit.

Lear Bargaining

The four-year agreement, signed in 2021, was a source of pain for our members at Lear Oshawa. Record low wages, an eight-year grow-in to full rate of pay made this agreement an absolute priority of the Local to rectify. I am so happy to report that we were able to cut the wage progression grid to four years, bringing the bulk of the membership from \$22/hr to full rate \$31.90 within the coming months. Almost a \$10/hr increase made this agreement special. Not only did we fix wages, but we implemented the Detroit 3 COLA formula starting in the third year of the agreement. Wages are now protected from inflation, an achievement for all of us to be proud of. Lear has always been a good place to work, where you can support a family and live in economic dignity. Solidarity to our Lear brothers and sisters and hats off to Chair Kirk Hinckley and his committee for a historic collective agreement!

As we move towards the Christmas break, our members that could possibly be affected by the loss of the General Motors third shift, need to know, we are fighting with everything we have. No stone is left unturned, Every politician has heard from us, loud and clear. The company continues to hear from Plant Chair Chris Waugh and our National President Lana Payne on a daily basis. Look for updates from your union in the coming weeks.

Please take time to spend with family and friends over Christmas. We all need this time to decompress from the stressful everyday environment. Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to all.

In Solidarity. 

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

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.

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)

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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Kirk Sanders (TFT Global)

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Black Indigenous Worker of Colour Member at Large -

Darrell Colley

LGBTQ Member At Large -

Nikki Lawrence

Youth Worker Member At Large -

Samantha Chinelli

Retirees' Representative - Peter Johnston



Local 222

OshaWORKER

Editor: Dave Sutton

Editorial Board: Jeff Gray ■ Rob Romano ■ Andrew McGill

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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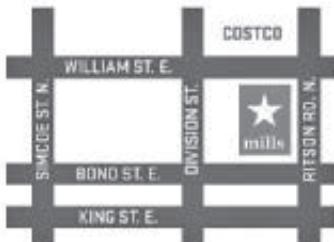
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Wrapping Up Local 222's Fiscal Picture from 2025

AS 2025 IS COMING TO AN END, WE AS A LOCAL DIDN'T

have the financially strong year that I was hoping for. It would have been nice to continue to put dues dollars towards Union Hall upgrades, but the down weeks of truck production at General Motors, which also directly affect many of our supplier units, have taken a toll on dues dollars coming into the Local, which has definitely impacted revenue.

So, following discussion, debate and vote during Executive Board meetings, it's been decided to continue to invest into our membership.

We sent many to Vancouver this summer for Unifor Canadian Council, which is where the election for the union's National Leadership took place.

We also sent many to Toronto the first week of December for Ontario Regional Council. These events do come with large costs, but we must continue to send our delegates to represent the Local, while striving to educate members on the value of Local 222 taking part in the experience that Councils provide.



Rob Romano

Unifor Local 222 Financial Secretary

Our third quarter financials are showing us in a deficit of just over \$100K, of which \$78K can be directly attributed to Canadian Council and the costs of sending our 19 elected delegates to (expensive) Vancouver.

As we approach 2026, I hope that the outlook is brighter than what we are facing right now. Governments need to work together and figure out a way to keep Canadians in good-paying jobs and put an end to the tariffs which are dictating the future of all members of this Local.

I hope all our members, active and retired, can spend time and celebrate with family and friends and enjoy the Christmas holidays. Wishing everyone a Merry Christmas and happy New Year!

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Financial Report

Balance Sheet as at Sept. 30, 2025

Total Receipts	\$1,384,982.45
Total Expenses	1,487,666.60
Q1 Surplus	(\$102,684.15)

Unifor Local 222

Balance Sheet as at September 30, 2025

ASSETS

Current Assets	
Bank.....	862,388.75
GIC's.....	3,272,045.42
Accounts receivables	704,639.18
Prepaid expenses	14,869.85
Future pension benefit.....	557,900.00
Total Current Assets	5,411,843.20
Fixed Assets	
Land.....	615,195.00
Buildings.....	1,604,057.84
Total Fixed Assets	2,219,252.84
TOTAL ASSETS	\$7,631,096.04

LIABILITIES

Current Liabilities

Accounts Payables.....	1,595,219.35
Accrued Liabilities	25,842.40
Union Dues Payable.....	2,827.55
Charitable Deductions.....	600.00
Skilled Trades Dues Payable	(146.22)
Retired Members' Fund	341,895.58
Deferred Revenue	117,364.00
Obligation for post-employment benefits.....	2,008,700.00

Total Current Liabilities

TOTAL LIABILITIES \$4,092,302.66

EQUITY

NET ASSETS

Net Assets.....	3,710,796.55
Surplus (Deficit)	(172,003.17)
TOTAL NET ASSETS	3,538,793.38
TOTAL EQUITY	\$3,538,793.38
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	\$7,631,096.04



UNIFOR ACTION CENTRE

Action Centre Now Open – Unifor Local 222 Union Hall
Monday to Friday 8:00am to 4:00pm

Jamie Tryon

email jamie.tryon@local222.ca
phone 905-723-1480 or 905-442-4438

Jamie Ellis

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



Contact Information

Local 222 Union Hall

905-723-1187 • 1-800-465-5458
email local222@local222.ca
website www.local222.ca
fax 905-436-9515
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Oshawa ON L1J 8L4

Retirees Chapter Room

905-728-8600
email retirees@local222.ca
website www.local222retirees.ca

Unifor Dental Centre

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website www.unifordental.ca
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Unifor Legal Services

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Executive Tower Oshawa Centre
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Oshawa, ON L1J 7J1
website <https://uniforlsp.com>

Continue Supporting Each Other During These Challenging Times

WITH THIS BEING THE FINAL OSHAWORKER OF 2025, I'D

like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays. The last several months in the plant have been extremely stressful for the GM Oshawa membership and for the Canadian Auto Industry.

In May 2025 the company announced it was eliminating the third shift at Oshawa, stating their intention to align production levels with market conditions. Despite this claim, and shortly before the third shift announcement was made, GM issued notice that it had made operational adjustments at its Fort Wayne Assembly plant to increase full-size truck production (Chevrolet Silverado and GMC Sierra pickups) and hire unspecified number of new workers.

In our last round of bargaining, General Motors communicated to our union that they anticipated hourly headcount at Oshawa Assembly to remain stable. In fact, based on customer demand and volume forecasts, the plant was expected to operate on three shifts for the duration of the 2023 collective agreement.

Since this announcement, it has created a lot of uncertainty and undue stress for the GM membership. On top of the elimination of the third shift, this plant has gone through one of the most aggressive PIP/GAP ever experienced in Canada. GM likes to talk to about family first, I want the entire membership to realize General Motors only cares about PROFIT not people.

Quarterly Business Review

On Nov. 6, 2025 the Union and Company met for the Quarterly Business Review. Lana Payne and the National Union staff and I were present for the meeting. In May, GM Canada and GM marketing stated that there is a plan for Canada. I asked what the plan for Canada is, and once again reminded management that Unifor's Oshawa membership is GM's most highly-skilled, committed workforce, in the corporation. During all this uncertainty this membership continues to come to work every day, exceeds expectation for quality, productivity, and safety and this plant needs to be rewarded. We remained firm in advocating for the third shift, stating clearly that the truck volume supports it and eliminating a third shift is unjustified.

Plant News

The Company has announced additional down time for the truck plant:

- Sunday, Dec. 21 to Tuesday, Dec. 23, 2025
- Sunday, Jan. 4 to Friday, Jan. 9, 2026

Construction continues in the Body Shop for the next generation Heavy-Duty pickup truck. The recently announced down time is for tooling in the Body Shop.

The launch for the next generation Heavy Duty truck has started in the plant.



Chris Waugh

Chairperson GM Oshawa
Vice Chair of GM Master Bargaining

For additional updates and communications, stop by our Facebook page, Unifor 222 GM Oshawa (www.facebook.com/groups/unifor222gmoshawa). 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.

I encourage everyone to continue supporting each other during these challenging times, and to continue building high quality trucks/parts for our customers.

Stay united. Stay Strong. Support Each Other.

I can be reached at chris.waugh@gm.com

Enjoy your time off and be safe. *

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Still Fighting to Keep the Third Shift in Oshawa

WITH THIS BEING THE LAST OSHAWORKER OF 2025 WE
wish everyone and their families a safe and wonderful Christmas.

We all need the well-earned time off. Merry Christmas everyone.

We would like to extend our extreme thanks to the members for a successful backpack program. It is very important to support your community and this membership always shines bright when called upon. Thank you!

It has been a difficult year for all of us. The news of the third shift leaving and the most aggressive PIP/GAP plan has made for a lot of restless nights and uncertainty in our industry. We can assure you that, with help from our National Union and leadership from Chris Waugh, we continue to fight every day to keep our jobs in our plant. We are sure there will be another PIP/GAP plan in 2026, and we encourage everyone not to help this corporation cut our jobs.

At the time of writing this article we have launched the 2027 trucks. This is a much-needed positive, with the situation with tariffs. Trucks are being built and going down the line. These trucks are non-salable trucks right now. We cannot express the importance of this launch for our facility and for the future of our plant. And we ask that we keep everything involved with the new truck confidential. This is very important.



**Jeff
Wood**

GAC/Stamping/CCA
District Committeeperson



**Brian
Troke**

Body/Paint District
Committeeperson



**Brian
Nicholls**

GA D/IP/Quality/Core
District Committeeperson

As said earlier we are still fighting to keep the third shift here. 2026 is an election year for plant reps. We cannot stress enough the importance to elected people with experience for these jobs. This is also a contract year. We need product to keep Oshawa strong and profitable. We have proven time and again we are the best auto plant in the business. It is important that you elect the right people to ensure our plant stays strong. Experience is a must!

GA D/IP/Quality/Core email brian.nicholls@gm.com
Body/Paint email brian.troke@gm.com
GAC/Stamping/CCA email jeff.wood@gm.com
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GM Skilled Trades Number Boosted by St. Catharines Pref Hires

HELLO ALL. I WOULD LIKE TO START OFF BY WISHING everyone a happy holiday season. With the personnel shortage that we have been experiencing over the last several months, I hope everyone will take some time to relax, rejuvenate and enjoy some quality time with family and friends.

As of writing this article, we are still unsure of the number of trades that will be required on third shift, or the process that will be used to achieve the required number on or after Jan. 30, 2026, if at all.

We are still in discussions to try and keep production on the third shift.

More information will be provided when we have the answers. Look for another edition of Trades Talk soon.

In the previous month or so the company has successfully hired two IMMs and one Electrician. Three more Electricians started Nov. 17. All these hires have come from our General Motors St. Catharines plant through our preferential hire language.

As always, please work safely, one job at a time. And ask for help when needed.

In Solidarity. 



Scott Pearce

General Motors Skilled Trades District Committeeperson



Alyssa Fell, daughter of Local 222 GM tradesperson Derek Fell (centre) has been awarded a \$2,000 scholarship from the Unifor National Skilled Trades Council, presented by the Oshawa & Eastern Ontario Skilled Trades Council members Kevin Adams (left) and Scott Pearce (right). We're proud to see the next generation continuing the strong Unifor Skilled Trades legacy! #UniforProud #SkilledTrades #Local222

Standing Together for Equity

IT HAS BEEN A BUSY FALL SEASON REPRESENTING equity within our workplace and within our community .

Our members have actively participated in many important initiatives such as Take Back the Night and the Intimate Partner Violence Walk, both supporting Domestic Violence Awareness; Truth and Reconciliation Day commemorating the history of Canada's residential school system; as well as Movember in support of men's health.

To show support for women abuse awareness month the Women's Committee of Durham Region hosted a free seminar at the Local 222 Union Hall on the subject of missing and murdered Indigenous women and girls, to bring more awareness to an already important cause. And let us not forget the Resilient Voices Gala supporting Victim Services, Local 222 had two tables of members dressing up and showing up for a night of reflection and bonding.

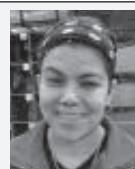
Ending violence against women and standing together against hate remains our #1 priority. Our world and workplace are safer when we uphold respect, inclusion and support for everyone.

The holiday season can be joyful but also stressful, please



Michelle Kimble

GM Human Rights Representative,
Female Member-at-Large Local 222 Executive



Maria Chinelli

GM Women's Advocate

remember-you are not alone. Support is available through your union representative, or you can utilize our negotiated GM Employee Assistance Program (EAP) at 1-877-207-8833 or one.telushealth.com (Username: GM CANADA) (Password: english)

With 2025 coming to an end, we would like to wish you and your families a safe and peaceful holiday season and a Happy New Year.

Michelle Kimble 905-744-3217 or micelle.kimble@gm.com

Maria Chinelli 289-685-1716 or [mari.chinelli@gm.com](mailto:maria.chinelli@gm.com)
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GM Retirees: Understanding Your Travel Coverage

TRAVELING CAN BE EXCITING, BUT EMERGENCIES, ESPECIALLY health-related ones, can turn a dream trip into a nightmare—particularly in the USA, where medical costs can skyrocket. To protect yourself, it's essential to understand your travel coverage options.

asrTrust's Travel Coverage for GM Retirees

All GM retired members, their spouses, and dependents enrolled in the asrTrust Retiree Benefits plan are covered for health emergencies while traveling outside their home province for up to 35 consecutive days.

Importantly, there is no age limit for this benefit.

What's Covered?

- Emergency hospital, surgical, and medical fees
- Emergency land and air ambulance services

Your coverage mirrors what your home province would provide in a similar emergency.

What's Not Covered?

- Trip cancellation or interruption costs
- Uninsurable fees by law in your home province
- Private hospital room charges
- Repatriation of remains

Important Reminder: You must hold a valid provincial health card for the entire duration of your trip to be eligible for coverage.

Key Points to Consider

- Travel Duration: You can travel for up to 35 consecutive days.

Coverage expires on day 36 if you haven't returned home. You may take multiple trips, as long as you return home for at least 24 hours in between trips.

- Pre-existing Health Conditions: If you have known health conditions, they must be stable for 90 days prior to your trip departure date. "Stable" means no changes in medication or treatment, and no upcoming tests or procedures. For clarification of whether your health condition is stable, contact Green Shield Travel Assistance at 1-800-936-6226 before traveling. Even if you choose to travel with an unstable condition, you



**Mike
Rafuse**
Service Representative



**Tim
Rankine**
Service Representative



**Don
Thompson**
Service Representative



**Devon
Dickhout**
Service Representative

will be covered for health emergencies that are not related to that specific condition in any way.

Traveling Beyond 35 Days: If you need to travel outside Canada for more than 35 consecutive days, consider the following insurance options:

- Extended Travel Plan:** This plan is only available to GM retirees who are within 60 days of their retirement. This annual plan adds an additional 30, 60, 90 or 150 days to your base 35 days of coverage without requiring medical underwriting. Premiums are adjusted annually. If you stop paying premiums or opt out of the plan, you will not be able to rejoin this plan in the future.
- Individual Travel Policy:** If you didn't opt for the extended plan when you retired, you can purchase an individual travel policy from Green Shield or other travel insurance providers. If purchasing from Green Shield, the insurance will start on day 36 of your travel, allowing you to retain travel insurance without interruption. A medical questionnaire will be required, and the premium is based on age and your trip duration.

Traveling Within Canada: If your trip is within Canada, your provincial health plan will cover most emergency medical costs, but ambulance services may not be included. It's wise to review your provincial coverage to determine if additional travel insurance is needed.

Happy Travels

Being informed about your travel coverage can save you from unforeseen challenges while traveling. Always read the fine print of any insurance policy to fully understand your rights and responsibilities. For any questions about your coverage for an upcoming trip, please contact Green Shield at 1-877-266-5494 or customer service@greenshield.ca. Safe travels! *

View The Oshaworker Online:

Current and past copies of the *Oshaworker* are available on our website at www.local222.ca. Simply click **The Oshaworker** tab at the top of our home page. If you would prefer to view the *Oshaworker* online, and no longer wish to receive it via Canada Post, please call the Unifor Local 222 Union Hall at 905-723-1187, or 1-800-465-5458 or email local222@local222.ca. Be sure to include your full name, badge/employee number and address.

An Important Lesson in Our History — Inspired by a Retiree's Email From the Editor

RECENTLY, RETIRED GENERAL MOTORS electrician **Doug Lyon** emailed me a story about two Local 222 retirees who stood on the picket line during the **1955-56 strike**. That short message brought me back to one of the most important moments in our Local's history — and to my own family's connection to it. During this strike, my grandfather, **Doug Sutton**, served as the **GM Oshawa Chairperson**, helping lead the union through one of its most challenging rounds of bargaining.

The strike began in **September 1955**, at a time when autoworkers faced unpredictable layoffs, unstable work patterns, and little protection during economic downturns. One of the key issues was **job security**. The union pursued a groundbreaking idea: **Supplemental Unemployment Benefits (SUB)** — a negotiated income bridge that would protect workers when layoffs were unavoidable.

General Motors strongly resisted. SUB represented a major shift in power, giving workers stability during periods when the company could not guarantee work. With negotiations stalled, Local 222 members walked out, beginning a strike that would last five long months through fall and winter.

Despite the hardship, the picket lines held firm. Community organizations brought food. Families supported each other. Stories like this remind us of the sacrifices our retirees have made to give our past, present and future members an improved standard of living.

When the strike ended in early 1956, the gains were historic:

- **SUB agreement obtained**, giving workers income protection during layoffs and setting a precedent across the auto industry.
- **Seniority and job security language improved**
- **Working conditions and grievance procedure improved**

The strike transformed Local 222. It showed that united action could win protections that would last for generations. The gains in this contract still hold true to this day and is a direct legacy of those five months on the line. The sacrifices our retirees have made have shaped our Local. Their victories still protect us. And their example continues to guide us forward.

In Solidarity 



From left to right: G.M. Sub-Council — Wm. "Bill" Harding; Dennis Tyce; Nelson V. Wilson, Vice-Chairman; Doug Sutton, Chairman; Ray Larkin. Back row: Russ McNeil, President; Wm. "Bill" Werry, G.M. Regional Sub-Council Member.

1955-1956 Bargaining Committee



This photo was sent in by retired GM electrician GM Doug Lyon, who wants to acknowledge that 70 years ago, his dad Jack Lyon (seated) and Cleo Gould were in the longest strike against GM. It started September 1955 and lasted five months. One big gain was the SUB plan. These guys are still doing well!

Jack worked 35 years and has been retired almost 36. Cleo worked 43 years and has been retired almost 30 years.



GM Bargaining Committee signing the 1956 agreement.
Doug Sutton pictured on the right



Dave Sutton
The Oshaworker Editor

New Much Improved Contract in Place for Lear Members

FIRST OFF, THE BARGAINING TEAM WOULD LIKE TO thank Local President Jeff Gray and National Rep Jason Gale for their strong leadership during our recent negotiations.

A wide range of gains were made throughout our new CBA including increase in wages; a much-improved pay scale/grid which went from an eight-year to a four-year grow-in.

Along with that major gain came improvements on dental/medical as well as getting COLA implemented along with a third week of holidays after three years of service.

Also improvements regarding language were made as well as new positions were put in place for all Lines/Teams which



Kirk Hinckey
Lear Oshawa Chairperson

will now have an AR (area/absent relief) line ownership.

As we move closer to Jan. 30 Unifor members are continuing to hold strong that GM will extend/keep the third shift running.

With the holidays just around the corner, Lear hourly and salary employees are supporting local charities and shelters such as Dreams & Wishes, donating both food and gifts.

In closing, I would like to wish everyone a well-deserved safe and happy Christmas break.

In Solidarity. 

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www.local222.ca



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AWC Oshawa Yard Gets Significant Repairs, Eyes Future of Midnight Shift

THE AWC OSHAWA YARD IS BEING PAVED IN SOME OF the more damaged areas. This was an unexpected surprise. Going forward we should see less injury to people falling due to the pot holes. We will have to stop referring to the yard as "the Beaches of Normandy" due to the lack of potholes in our rail zones. Hopefully everyone takes their time on the newly-paved areas as they will be slicker in the weather than we have previously been used to.

As we are heading into the holidays and new year we are anxiously watching across the street to see what happens to the midnight shift, as it will directly impact our midnight shift as well. I was happy to see the extension to the end of January, hopefully more can be done to prevent job loss.

Going into the holidays, let's be grateful we have jobs in



Rob Nasso
AWC Chairperson

a unstable job market in an even more unstable sector. It would seem that one way or the other some people in auto are going to lose their jobs. Those of us that are in the clear should be thankful as a show of respect to those who are not so secure.

A reminder to our members as we're going into cold/flu season please utilize your paid and unpaid PEL days to avoid any attendance issues. Another reminder that our benefits reset in January.

Any questions or concerns I am always a phone call away.

Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays to all our union brothers and sisters. *

New Union Representatives for AGS Automotive Membership

HELLO TO ALL MEMBERS AT AGS AUTOMOTIVE.

I am privileged to introduce your new committee, including myself as Chairperson and Larry Dancey as the new Committeeperson. Returning as the Skilled Trades Committeeperson is Mark Bray. Serving as Stewards for production members are Brent Strasbourg and Keith Gillis, who can be found on the afternoon shift; Tyler DeRosie and Sam Lowe are returning as Skilled Trades Stewards. Your new Health and Safety Committee is comprised of Sheldon Kelly as Co-Chair, and Claude Whitford and Cory Travis as representatives. Makayla Brown is serving as Women's Advocate, and Michael Beaton-Perez-Salas is serving as Racial Justice Advocate. Please do not hesitate to reach out to us about any issues you may face - we are here to listen to our members and serve their interests.

I would like to extend my gratitude to Bob Bryant, Keedron Wright, and Bill Goswell who previously served as Chairperson, Committeeperson, and Health and Safety Co-Chair, respectively. I would like to recognize their achievements in their respective roles and wish each of them future success. Your hard work and dedication over the years to this membership has not gone unappreciated.

Congratulations to Bill Goswell on his retirement after 44 years of service. Congratulations as well to Ken St. Amant and Rob Marshall who will be retiring at the end of 2025, with 43 and 42 years of service respectively. I invite the membership to say their farewells as Ken and Rob prepare for their retirement. Thank you to Bill, Ken and Rob for mentoring the newer employees over the years, and I hope that each of you enjoys

your retirement to the fullest.



Isaac Crawford
AGS Automotive Chairperson

As this new committee navigates its transition, there will be bumps in the road as we settle into our new roles. I ask for the membership's patience during this brief adjustment period - however, we remain dedicated to serving our roles with integrity.

Some updates for the membership in general: PPE and absenteeism are still at the forefront of the Company's disciplinary actions. I encourage the membership to be mindful of their PPE when inside the plant. For those who are absent, please ensure that you are providing acceptable proof to cover your absences.

Further, as most of you may have heard, the Company is expecting a two-week layoff following the Christmas shutdown. At the time of writing this, nothing has been confirmed, however, I would invite the membership to expect a posting in the near future.

Finally, I would like to extend an open invitation to anyone looking to get involved in the committee in the future - I will happily provide resources to those seeking to further their education and participate in any capacity.

Please feel free to approach your committee should you have any questions or concerns. I can be easily found in the Backside Coat area, or via email at IsaacC@agsautomotive.com. Larry Dancey can be found in the Bezel Packaging area, or via email at LarryD@agsautomotive.com.

Happy Holidays to all members.
In Solidarity. *

Extraordinary Bargaining Brings Loblaw Members New Agreement

HELLO BROTHERS, SISTERS AND SIBLINGS.

Lots of great things have been happening over here at Ajax Loblaw DC60. In late August the company approached our National Union Representative Shayne Fields and Local President Jeff Gray with their interest to go into collective bargaining early. The committee and myself were reluctant to do so due to a bad experience from our last round of bargaining we did during Covid.

Even although we did not feel comfortable we still heard the company out on their desire to go to collective bargaining early. After hearing the company's reason for wanting to go early, the committee and myself discussed the pros and cons and decided we needed to bring it to our membership for approval and they approved.

With that approval we started bargaining through September as there was a deadline the company had due to procuring work by Oct. 1. We bargained long days and nights and we managed to come to a tentative agreement to bring back to our membership and what an agreement it was.

We entered a untraditional five-year collective agreement and with that we achieved a record deal in warehousing. Just a few highlights: \$7 increase over five years, two of those dollars received upon ratification; then a dollar more five months later ;and then a dollar a year for the next four years. Paid benefits for 15-year plus colleagues and exiting packages for colleagues who are looking to leave the company before 65 years of age.

At the ratification meeting we also hit a record

for Loblaw Ajax DC60 with 91 percent voting in favour of the agreement, which has never been done before in this facility. I would like to give special thanks to the bargaining committee of Ray Foote, Sean Crane, Chris Chaulk, Jake Simpson, Paulo Pereira and Jamar Henry for all their hard work and dedication to their members and their union. To our Local president Jeff Gray and our national representative Shayne Fields for standing behind the bargaining committee and myself and giving us their full support of our decisions. Also to Sean Snow and Joe DiGirolamo over the last three years the union and the company have established a relationship of trust. This trust has led to the new five year collective agreement which has provided financial stability for the membership and promise of growth into the future.

Last but definitely not least would like to send our thoughts and prayers to everyone affected in Jamaica from Hurricane Melissa. A big thanks Sean Snow, Joe DiGirolamo and Jamar Henry for coming together and providing a massive relief package to Torix Designs and Taibu Community Health Centre.

Wishing everyone happy and safe holidays!
In Solidarity. 



Kyle Coughlan
Loblaw Distribution
Centre Chairperson



Dr. Michael Bryant & Dr. Sharon Lamson

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Redirecting Earmarked Investments Undermines Stable Transit Funding

THE 2025 FEDERAL BUDGET MARKS A DISAPPOINTING turn for public transit in Canada. Although it introduces the new Building Communities Strong Fund (BCSF) which is a \$51 billion infrastructure initiative spread over ten years the government has decided to reallocate funds originally dedicated to transit under the Canada Public Transit Fund (CPTF) into this broader, multi-purpose fund that now includes hospitals and bridges which could possibly affect money that was already earmarked for DRT and other public transits.

Public transit systems have largely rebounded to pre-pandemic ridership levels, with Durham Region Transit surpassing those figures by 20%. However, funding for critical capital investments, such as dedicated transit lanes, maintenance facilities, and fleet expansion has not kept pace with this rapid growth in demand, creating a widening gap between ridership needs and available infrastructure.

According to the Canadian Urban Transit Association (CUTA). Every dollar invested in public transit creates \$2.40 in total economic activity and generates an additional dollar in GDP through wages, taxes, and business spending. Each \$1 million invested supports 15 jobs in construction, manufacturing, and technology development.

High-density affordable housing plays a vital role in Canada's strategy to address the national housing crisis. Moreover, investing in such infrastructure projects would deliver a substantial boost to industries affected by tariffs such as aluminum, steel, and lumber while creating valuable trades jobs.

However, without capital investments to support transit infrastructure such as dedicated bus lanes, facilities for vehicle storage, and the purchase of new buses these developments risk falling short of their intended goals. Insufficient mobility options could lead to greater traffic congestion, increased social isolation, and heightened financial strain for residents.

Due to the lack of financial support from the government for transit I have spoken with our Local President, Jeff Gray, and our National Representative, Corey Dalton, regarding the creation of a Provincial and National Lobbying Committee. The goal is to engage with both the Ontario Conservatives and Federal Liberals to advocate for stronger support and improved funding for

transit and they are both fully supportive of this initiative.

We brought this forward at Ontario Regional Council and Road Transportation Council meetings. In addition, we'll begin coordinating meeting dates with key political representatives to advance these discussions.

As you know, our Regional campaign was a great success, and we're optimistic that this new initiative will achieve equally positive results.

In Solidarity. 



Ian Sinnott

Durham Region Transit Chairperson

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United Way Durham Region

Season's Greetings to All Sisters and Brothers at Local 222.

State of the Unit at Signify:

Signify Unit Members have definitely been impacted adversely by the unjust US tariffs as have many of our Sisters and Brothers nationwide.

Lighting season at Signify in 2025 has seen a reduction in volume of sales/workload. Typically, there is a spike in the volume of business and inbound/outbound product due to higher sales orders.

The US trade war has brought about economic uncertainty in Canada and worldwide.

Once again, the blame completely lies with the unqualified POTUS and his incompetent administration.

As Canadians, we must stand United and strong against any dictatorship. The Federal government, in partnership with all Provincial and Territorial governments, must step up to the plate and carve a new path forward for our economy that ensures sustainability as well as less US dependency.



Jim Johnston
Signify Chairperson

Canadians have united all across our nation and are galvanized together with immediate focus on maintaining our sovereignty, bolstering our economy and protecting our Canadian jobs/Unionized jobs.

Now is the time for the current elected Federal and Provincial governments, along with opposition parties, to cast aside partisan politics and stand up and support Canadians, our economy and our jobs.

On behalf of the Sisters and Brothers at Signify Unit: Happy Holidays, Merry Christmas, and Happy New Year to all Sisters and Brothers along with our Local Executive and staff at Local 222. 

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Update on the Efforts of Your Unifor Women's Advocates

THE WOMEN'S ADVOCATES RESUMED

their monthly meetings in September and what an amazing start to the year.

In September we gathered to set up our meeting dates, discuss upcoming events, showed our support for Truth and Reconciliation Day and along with the Local 222 Women's Committee donated much-needed items to Bethesda House.

In October we met at Local 222. We collected donations during this meeting for Back Door mission. After our meeting we attended the Mental Health and Addictions Forum put on by the Local 222 Community Service Committee.

In October we also gathered Halloween candy and donated it to the shelters for the children currently living there.

In November met to support each other before attending the MMIWG event at Local 222 held by the Women's Committee of Durham Region.

Lots of events have happened during the year that Advocates have attended: Mayor's Community Cleanup; Suicide Prevention and Awareness Walk; Take Back the Night; Pow Wow at Curve Lake; Memorial for Buzz Hargrove; Peterborough Pride; Truth and Reconciliation in Brantford; Code Red at Lakeridge Health; Rally at Stellantis Brampton; Final Offer viewing at Hot Docs; 80th Anniversary of YWCA; Community Walk to End Intimate Partner Violence; Advocate update training at Port Elgin; Drag Show at Local 222.

In December we will be joined by the Local 222 Women's Committee to help Settlement House with Christmas hampers and set up and attend the December 5th vigil at Local 222.

In Solidarity. 

Karen Barker

Unifor Local 222 Women's Advocate



All donations to Bethesda House on the table were made by the Advocates Network and the Local 222 Women's Committee. Pictured are advocates from four Unifor Locals with Laura from Bethesda House.

Retirees Chapter Extends Appreciation for Everyone's Community Efforts

I'M SURE WE ALL ENJOYED THE SUMMER WITH ITS MANY
warm days and sunshine.

Our Appreciation Day was a great success! We had 785 retirees attend and enjoy the fantastic food, quarter horse racing and the vintage car show. I was happy to see many familiar faces we don't often get to connect with, and it was wonderful to catch up with everyone. Thank you all for attending!

We also had good attendance at the Older Persons Day celebration Oct. 1st. The day kicked off at City Hall with the official flag-raising ceremony, led by Deputy Mayor Bob Chapman. Following the ceremony, we made our way to the Oshawa Senior Community Centre on John Street for a light lunch and insightful presentations from our guest speakers. It was a truly great day.

At our retirees meeting on Nov. 3, we had a special guest speaker: Robert Betic from the City of Oshawa's Planning Department. Mr. Betic, who works with the Street Naming Department, informed us that veterans who fought in various wars over the years are recognized first before others on the naming list. I believe this is a very fair policy.

Our next meeting on Dec. 1st focused on supporting several local food banks. Their usage has increased significantly over the last year, and they desperately need our help. We encourage everyone to contribute what they can.

I want to thank the Retirees Chapter for all the incredible work you do throughout the Durham Region and surrounding areas.



Lyle Hargrove

Unifor Local 222 Retirees' Chapter Chairperson

You truly make a big difference in our community.

On a final note, I want to wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. May you have the best year ever in 2026!
In Solidarity. 

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/

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"In the Event of a Death"

THERE ARE MANY GM RETIREES AND THEIR FAMILIES who are prepared with their "final arrangements."

However... there are many who are not, based on the calls received by the Union Hall when our GM members die.

The Union wants our members and their families to be as prepared as possible while they're under no stress.

Here's a checklist:

- confirm address that GM has on record

All pensions are processed through the GM Canada Benefits Centre.

It's important to keep all information up-to-date with the GM Canada Benefits office.

- confirm current spouse/beneficiary
- confirm the surviving spouse pension payment amount, if applicable
- confirm the life insurance amount. Remember it decreases with age.

The GM Benefits Centre's online portal is a useful tool for getting your information: www.gmcanadabenefits.com

If you haven't been online, update your security questions by calling 1-877-442-4625. Have your SIN and birthdate ready to punch into the phone system to speak with a representative.

- Secure (not secret) place for SIN card and birth certificate

"My spouse did everything"

- Share the load. Make sure your spouse and/or a trusted family member has the information detailed in this article.
- Passwords. It's a new world. If your family wants to shut down your email, Facebook account, or switch the utility bills to the surviving spouse's name, they need your passwords.

"It's all paperwork & grief"

The service reps at the Union Hall can help. We need a copy of the death certificate, plus the name and phone number of the person reporting the death. This information can be emailed to local222@local222.ca or faxed to the Union Hall at 905-436-9515.

All the relevant paperwork from GM Canada Benefits Centre, Green Shield and Sun Life comes to the address

on file by Canada Post. These take about 15 business days.

"What's dad's number?"

Everybody needs a current will. Unifor Legal Services (905-433-4242/1-800-387-6592) prepares wills. Legal Services will ask for the member's GM badge number or GMIN. The Union Hall staff can provide the number if needed.

If the residence with the address on file with the GM Canada Benefits Centre is being sold, we strongly recommend the Executor put at least one year's forward with Canada Post to make sure all appropriate tax slips are received for the estate filing.

- Original will: Where it's kept
- Marriage certificate, birth certificate of spouse and of any dependent children.
- List of the deceased's financial institutions. These ask for a copy of the will and an original death certificate when the estate trustee is ready to close the accounts.
- Location of safety deposit box.
- Certificates for all investments held by the deceased.
- Life insurance policies, other than the one with Sun Life from GM.
- Details of debts, including names, address and account numbers of all creditors (i.e. mortgages, loans, credit cards, landlords, nursing homes, hospitals).
- Real estate titles
- Vehicle owners slip

The following need to be dealt with:

- insurances (house, cottage, trailer, car, renter)
- cancel any government benefit payments
- cancel drivers licence/transfer vehicle ownership
- cancel miscellaneous automatic banking withdrawals: i.e. magazine subscriptions, club memberships
- check for credit card insurance with credit card company; cancel cards

"There's a Union death benefit"

There is no death benefit through the union. This common myth is likely from a time when the Local would help process the federal CPP death benefit. The majority of funeral homes/crematoriums assist with this now. 



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Despite All the Politics, Retirees Committee Wishing Everyone a Better Year

WITH THE SNOW BEGINNING TO FALL AND THE HOLIDAY season fast approaching, for many it's a time to pause and reflect on the happenings of the past year and look forward to what the new year may bring.

Politically it's been a roller coaster year caused by Trump's tariffs. Even though we are in Canada, Trump's presence played a significant role in the Ontario and federal elections held in 2025.

In Ontario, Doug Ford called an election saying he needed a strong mandate to combat Trump's tariffs and how they would affect the economy. He championed himself as a kind of Captain Canada. Many called the election unnecessary, and the results of the snap election backed it up. While Ford's conservatives still got a majority government, they lost three seats.

His government had been plagued with scandals. Remember the Greenbelt scandal, the mishandling of the Ontario Science Centre and redevelopment of Ontario Place and the Therme Spa? Since the election his government has been confronted by a new one.

The new scandal facing his government comes from his Labour Minister David Piccini, who it seems has used the \$2.5 billion Skills Development Fund to reward supporters of the Conservative Party. One such recipient of a \$10 million grant from the Fund is a company that owns an adult entertainment club. When Rob Ford was mayor and Doug was a councillor the owner of the club supplied the alcohol for two of the Ford Fest parties.

Federally, we witnessed the resignation of Justin Trudeau and the election of Mark Carney as Prime Minister. When Carney called the election in March it was widely expected that Pierre Poilievre and the Conservatives would win the election. Not only did Poilievre and the Conservatives lose the election Poilievre lost his own seat.

The election also brought devastating results to the NDP. They were reduced to seven seats and lost official party status in the House of Commons. They are now in the midst of a leadership election campaign to replace Jagmeet Singh who resigned on



Bob Linton

Local 222 Retirees' Chapter Political Action Committee Chairperson

election night after losing his seat in parliament.

Canadians voted for Mark Carney and the Liberals in the hope he was the best to deal with Donald Trump and his ever-changing policies that affect Canada. Poilievre however was forced to run in a byelection in Alberta to regain a spot in Parliament.

In 2026, we look ahead to see if Ontario Labour Minister David Piccini will survive the Skills Development Fund scandal now that a forensic audit on part of the fund has been turned over to the OPP.

More intriguing however are rumours that if Pierre Poilievre loses his leadership review slated for January and resigns, the Conservatives would hold a leadership campaign and Doug Ford may run for the federal leadership of the Conservatives.

Another possible rumoured contender for the leadership is Jamil Jivani the MP for Bowmanville-Oshawa North and good friend of US Vice President JD Vance. Jivani has been doing a tour of colleges and universities under the guise of Restore the North, an initiative he founded like the Turning Point movement in the US which was spearheaded by influencer Charlie Kirk before his assassination. While Jivani's tour and his Restore the North campaign are not funded through government, questions are being raised as to where funding for his tours and organization is coming from.

We will also be looking forward to seeing who the new leader of the NDP will be and if they can rebuild the party. Will there be a new leader of the Conservatives in Ottawa? Will Mark Carney's minority government survive and if so, will they be able to get a deal with the U.S. and stop the tariff rollercoaster ride that is affecting Canadians, especially those who work in the auto sector.

Politically 2026, will be busy year but for now on behalf of the members of the PAC, Don Nicholls, Fred Taylor, Chris White, Tony Leah and myself, let us wish you Happy Holidays and a happy, healthy and prosperous New Year. 🍀

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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.

Ibrahim A. Bala	GM Retiree	Oshawa	Oct. 16, 2025	Kenneth J. Henning	GM Retiree	Bowmanville	Oct. 13, 2025
W. Joe Bannan	GM Retiree	Ottawa	Oct. 29, 2025	Thomas P. Herrington	GM Retiree	Oshawa	Nov. 6, 2025
Ronald T. Barber	GM Retiree	Orono	Oct. 14, 2025	Randy J. Howard	GM Retiree	Oshawa	Sept. 6, 2025
Eugene R. Barré	GM Retiree	Port Hope	Aug. 5, 2025	Robert F. Howson	GM Retiree	Ennismore	Aug. 31, 2025
James D. Batty	GM Retiree	Whitby	Oct. 19, 2025	Bradley A. Hoy	GM Retiree	Oshawa	July 6, 2025
Laura M. Beatty	GM Retiree	Ajax	Sept. 22, 2025	Krystyna Jones	PPG Retiree	Oshawa	Sept. 2, 2025
John J. Beth	GM Retiree	Oshawa	Oct. 14, 2025	Rae C. Keeler	GM Retiree	Oshawa	Aug. 29, 2025
Salvatore Bonta	GM Retiree	London	Aug. 8, 2025	Roka Kikic	GM Retiree	Oshawa	Sept. 19, 2025
Lloyd R. Breen	GM Retiree	Courtice	Oct. 5, 2025	Frank A. Lavally	GM Retiree	L'Amable	Oct. 15, 2025
Ale "Al" Brouwer	GM Retiree	Port Perry	Sept. 20, 2025	William M. LeBlanc	GM Retiree	Scarborough	Oct. 21, 2025
Lakeworth C. Brown	GM Retiree	Peterborough	Oct. 23, 2025	Elmer Leclerc	GM Retiree	Ste-Foy QC	Sept. 20, 2025
Arthur A. Burrows	GM Retiree	Oshawa	Sept. 30, 2025	Dale G. Lee	GM Retiree	Bolsover	Sept. 5, 2025
John W. Calvert	GM Retiree	Grafton	June 24, 2025	Ernest G. Lukawesky	GM Retiree	Oshawa	Oct. 6, 2025
Gerald T. Carrigan	GM Retiree	Oshawa	Oct. 20, 2025	Brian P. MacDonald	GM Retiree	Fenelon Falls	Aug. 17, 2025
Philip B. Cassel	GM Retiree	Oshawa	Sept. 27, 2025	Shannon E. Magee	GM Retiree	Oshawa	Sept. 30, 2025
Mark A. Chase	GM Retiree	Scarborough	Sept. 2, 2025	Brian W. Mansfield	GM Retiree	Brantford	June 4, 2025
William M. Cook	GM Retiree	Oshawa	Sept. 30, 2025	Andrew P. McBride	GM Retiree	Little Britain	Nov. 4, 2025
John S. Cosman	GM Retiree	Lindsay	Sept. 13, 2025	Darren A. McCaughey	GM Retiree	Oshawa	Nov. 4, 2025
Ronald B. Cowan	GM Retiree	Cobourg	Oct. 13, 2025	Lorne C. Miles	GM Retiree	Peterborough	Sept. 8, 2025
Edward Craig	GM Retiree	Oshawa	Nov. 13, 2025	George W. Mitchell	GM Retiree	Whitby	Oct. 10, 2025
Monica E. Craig	GM Retiree	Brighton	Aug. 28, 2025	Russell "Tubby" Patterson	GM Retiree	Lakefield	Sept. 6, 2025
Richard W. Crowley	GM Retiree	Peterborough	Sept. 3, 2025	Marian H. Reszka	GM Retiree	Oshawa	Sept. 11, 2025
Wanda M. Cumby	GM Retiree	Oshawa	Aug. 24, 2025	Domenico Rocchio	PPG Retiree	Oshawa	Sept. 5, 2025
David J. Davies	GM Retiree	Cobourg	Sept. 8, 2025	Richard J. Roy	GM Retiree	Brandon MB	Oct. 25, 2025
Mary K. Demerchant	GM Retiree	Oshawa	Nov. 12, 2025	James P. Rudd	GM Retiree	Peterborough	Oct. 13, 2025
Andrew Devries	GM Retiree	Whitby	Sept. 13, 2025	Donald F. Rundle	GM Retiree	Bowmanville	Oct. 1, 2025
Carl J. Dillman	GM Retiree	Peterborough	Oct. 26, 2025	Matthew R. Ryan	GM Retiree	Oshawa	Nov. 2, 2025
Timothy G. Dorgan	GM Retiree	Manilla	Oct. 15, 2025	Arthur W. Scott	GM Retiree	Perth	Oct. 16, 2025
Robert P. Dorigo	GM Retiree	Oshawa	Oct. 28, 2025	Carl A. Slute	GM Retiree	Oshawa	Oct. 26, 2025
James A. Douglas	GM Retiree	Bancroft	Aug. 28, 2025	Donald R. Straughan	GM Retiree	Peterborough	Sept. 3, 2025
Drew W. Elliott	GM Retiree	Cameron	Nov. 1, 2025	Carl B. Vesna	GM Retiree	Oshawa	Oct. 19, 2025
Mario J. Formosa	GM Retiree	Newcastle	Sept. 19, 2025	Charles H. Williams	GM Retiree	Prince Albert	Aug. 19, 2025
Adam V. Gardzinski	GM Retiree	Oshawa	Aug. 27, 2025	Meroslaw Zajac	GM Retiree	Oshawa	Aug. 21, 2025
Ronald A. Hamblin	GM Retiree	Oshawa	Oct. 24, 2025				



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Retiree Golf League Already Planning for Spring 2026

WITH WINTER FAST

approaching and our clubs put away for the year, it's time to reflect on our season. All in all, it was a success! We played 26 Tuesdays with



Doug Heming

Chairperson Retirees
Golf League

six tournaments. We wrapped up our season on Oct. 15 at Ashbrook with our final tournament and banquet. Congrats to our winning team of Annie Labaj, Elvis Trenchfield, John Burk and Charlie Peel. Well done golfers!

After golf we enjoyed a meal and had our annual executive election. I'm pleased to say that all of the executive stood for their positions and all were acclaimed! Special thanks to them... Annie Labaj, John Pittens, Mike Saunders. We wouldn't have a league without them!

Special shout out to Ray Leitch, who shot his age not once, but twice this year! Well done Ray!

We have a big year planned with five courses on our schedule for next year. I will provide more detail in the Spring *Oshaworker*. Our League Registration is April 7 from 10am to 12 noon at the Union Hall.

Keep updated on our league at <https://222retireegolf.com/>. Contact me at dwheming@gmail.com or cell 905-243-4323.

I hope everyone has a safe winter and I'll see you in the spring!
In Solidarity. 🍁



John hit it to "that close" for a tap in eagle for his team on hole #6 at Ashbrook.

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Thanks from Delegate at Unifor Constitutional Convention 2025

I WOULD LIKE TO EXTEND MY HEARTFELT THANKS TO each of you for granting me the opportunity to serve as a delegate at the Unifor Constitutional Convention 2025. It was a true honour to represent our local at such an important and impactful gathering.

Throughout my time in my current elected role on the Election Committee, the Unifor Constitution has been an essential tool that guides my work. Having the opportunity to participate in the convention brought that document to life in a whole new way. Seeing first-hand how the Constitution functions, how resolutions are introduced, debated, and voted upon, and how our democratic processes play out was a powerful and inspiring experience.

One of the most meaningful aspects of the convention was witnessing the democratic election of our national repre-



Tanya Elmhurst-Dodd
Local 222 Election Committee Chairperson

sentatives. Watching members from across the country come together and to help shape the future of our union reminded me just how vital and vibrant our democratic traditions are within Unifor.

Additionally, I had the chance to observe the process of selecting the election committee for the convention. It was interesting to see how these roles are filled.

Thank you again for placing your trust in me to represent our interests. I return from the convention more informed, more inspired, and more committed than ever to our shared work and the values that unite us. I look forward to continuing to serve you and to applying the insights gained from this experience to strengthen our local union and support our collective goals.

In Solidarity.

The Refuge: A Safe Haven for Oshawa's Youth

SINCE 1999, THE REFUGE has been a cornerstone of support for young people in Oshawa who are experiencing homelessness, are at risk, or are simply struggling to find their footing.

More than a place to find a meal or a shower, The Refuge offers youth safety, belonging and hope. With access to food, clothing, hygiene products and housing support, it's a space where young people can rebuild their lives and rediscover their potential. Rooted in the belief that everyone has the ability to create positive change, The Refuge embodies compassion in action and strengthens our community as a whole!

As Union members, we understand that solidarity extends beyond the workplace. It's about lifting one another up! Supporting organizations like The Refuge reflects that shared commitment to care, dignity, and community!



Samantha Chinelli
Local 222 Youth Member-at-Large

Most needed items include:

- New socks and underwear (men's & women's)
- Hygiene products (toothpaste, toothbrushes, deodorant, shampoo, body wash, menstrual products)
- Laundry detergent & cleaning supplies
- Non-perishable food (canned meals, cereal, granola bars, pasta, sauces)
- Baby supplies (diapers, wipes, formula)
- Warm clothing & outerwear (hoodies, coats, hats, gloves)
- Gift cards (grocery stores, pharmacies, gas stations)
- Backpacks & reusable water bottles

To support and learn more about The Refuge this Holiday season please visit, <http://www.refugeoutreach.com/>

In Solidarity.

Canadian Workers are Stronger Together

WHILE THE FOCUS IS PROTECTING OUR JOBS FROM AN existential threat from outside of our borders, we should also pay close attention to how our political leaders in Canada react.

While all Canadian workers have a common enemy to our economic well-being, we shouldn't let any of our own politicians suggest any erosion of rights won over decades through labour solidarity.

Look for some to suggest "we must" to "compete globally" or "achieve sustainability through austerity" with a foreign leader ignoring rule of law as the excuse. When we hear any political leader claim to be "on our side" we should consider that deeds speak with greater accuracy than words ever have. Policies that undermine any Canadian worker in any sector and whether they supported it is on public record.

Now more than ever we should be vigilant in our solidarity with all Canadian workers in our choices and support. Using the Notwithstanding Clause to skirt our rights isn't a whole lot different than the POTUS using executive orders based on contrived emergencies to work around the checks and balances those he governs should expect. The "barn door" of globalized trade policy was opened decades ago and it will be impossible to get all of the "horses" back in. It would be a moot point to argue we might face a trade partner that would renege on signed deals but here we are.

We can be sure none of our elected politicians regardless of partisan stripe want economic mayhem on their watch, so you can expect they will do what they can and those in opposition will say they'd do better about the crisis we face. It requires division to conquer so it's up to us to stay together.

In Solidarity Always. *



Maria Chinelli
Union in Politics Committee



Jamar Henry
Union in Politics Committee



John McVey
Union in Politics Committee



The Local's Political Mobilization Committee joined the big rally in Brampton in early October. From left, John McVey, Maria Chinelli and Jamar Henry stood with 3,000+ Unifor members in support of the Stellantis members who learned their work was heading for the United States.

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We're Needing More Solidarity Than Ever...

HELLO, UNIFOR FAMILY. THE LATTER HALF OF THE YEAR has been strewn with rallies and conferences, to highlight the importance of worker justice and solidarity.

Our 12th annual Black Indigenous Worker Of Colour (BIWOC) conference was held at the Port Elgin Education Centre through the weekend of Sept. 26th. The theme was "Rooted in Resistance: Healing, Justice & Solidarity," and focused on racial and ally solidarity, within our union membership. It was moderated by Unifor National Director of Equity and Racial Justice, Tricia Wilson and Director of Indigenous Relations, Gina Smoke. There were guest speakers who expressed their stories of grief and resilience and Indigenous drum performances. To highlight the weekend, Unifor National BIWOC and Indigenous seat elections were conducted to select our leaders for the next three years. Congratulations, to new-elect Sharlene Henry (BIWOC) and re-elect Michelle Wilson (Indigenous) as they endeavour to progress the next generation of BIWOC activists. The whole event was capped by a dinner and social dance.

On 09/20, members of the Local 222/10190 BIWOC committee traveled to Curve Lake to celebrate their 72nd annual Powwow event. It highlighted the traditions of the First Nations culture through song and dance. There were multiple vendors and plenty of refreshments for the full-day event. I was personally fascinated by the expansive history of the Curve Lake Ojibwa people at the Whetung (wind from the north) family Ojibwa center. The center spoke volumes with its fine art, clothing, sculptures and mini museum, to highlight the many contributions of the First Nations people in the Kawarthas regions. Through merchandise purchases and private donations, the center can support the surrounding community, including Powwows and various non-profit agencies.

On Oct. 4th members of Local 222, including the BIWOC committee, attended the "Protect Canadian Jobs" rally at the shuttered Stellantis plant in Brampton. It had been idled for almost two years, while members awaited a new electric vehicle launch that never came. Auto tariffs also exacerbated the situa-



Darrell Colley

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

tion of plant closure, yet the rally was met with fierce protesters from Locals across Ontario, including Windsor. Important speakers in attendance were Doug Ford, demanding the plant re-open and Lana Payne reminding the company the workers deserved a product. The Ingersoll CAMI plant also announced their electric vehicle shutdown with no clear directive of a new product.

Our Ontario Regional Council elections were held on Nov. 5th at Local 222, with multiple delegates from Local 222 elected to attend the yearly event. The delegates discuss and debate provincial labour laws and economic and social concerns, within their region.

I'd like to invite BIWOC members, 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. ♡



BIWOC committee members attending the BIWOC Conference: Rowena Hamilton, Juan Vazquez, Kyla Quilty-Piccott, Tonya Carnegie, Charlyn Archer, Ferne Jones, Darrell Colley, Maria Chinelli.



Enjoying the Curve Lake pow wow and representing Local 222 were active and retired members Brian Nicholls, Mike Munce, Teresa Martin, Jeff Wood, Chris Waugh, Kyla Quilty-Piccott, Brian Cooper, Tanya Elmhurst, Colin James and Darrell Colley.

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Days of Importance to Ending Intimate Partner/Gender-Based Violence

NOVEMBER 25TH IS THE INTERNATIONAL DAY FOR THE

Elimination of Violence Against Women, officially designated by the United Nations General Assembly in 1999. The importance of this day is it is a time for raising awareness, supporting survivors, and demanding action to end violence against women and girls worldwide. You may ask is this really an issue here in Canada the place we call home and sadly the answer is yes.

- Every 48 hours, a woman, or girl is killed in Canada due to gender-based violence - 240 lives lost in 2024 alone.
- Half of all women in Canada have experienced physical or sexual violence since age 16.
- Indigenous women are 2.7 times more likely to be likely to be victims of violence than non-Indigenous women.
- In 2023, police reported 123,319 victims of intimate partner violence, a 1% increase from 2022.

Intimate partner violence/gender-based violence is a national crisis, that many including our own union are petitioning/lobbying all levels of government in Canada to declare "Intimate Partner Violence (IPV) is an Epidemic." Reasons it is important for all levels of our government to declare Intimate Partner Violence an Epidemic is:

1. Creates a unified national response, when federal, provincial, territorial, and municipal governments all recognize Intimate Partner Violence as an epidemic, it ensures:
 - Constancy in policies and funding across jurisdictions.
 - Coordinated strategies for prevention, intervention, and survivor support.
 - Shared data and best practices to address systemic gaps.
2. Signals urgency and legitimacy, a multi-level declaration elevates IPV from being seen as a private issue to a public health and safety emergency. This:
 - Reduces stigma and encourages survivors to seek help.
 - Promotes public awareness campaign nationwide.
 - Frames IPV a societal problem requiring collective action.
3. Unlocks resources and funding, official recognition at all levels allows:
 - Increased healthcare, housing, and legal support for survivors.
 - Dedicated funding for education and prevention programs.
 - Investment in training for police, courts, and social services.
4. Address regional disparities, rates of IPV and femicide vary across provinces and rural/urban areas. A national approach ensures:
 - Rural and Indigenous communities receive targeted support.
 - Provinces with higher IPV rates (e.g., Saskatchewan, Manitoba) are prioritized.
 - Equity in services for vulnerable populations.
5. Saves lives. Every six days, a woman in Canada is killed by her intimate partner. Coordinated action can:
 - Improve early intervention.
 - Reduce femicide and severe injuries.



Ann Hubbell

Unifor Local 222 Women's Committee Chairperson

- Break cycles of violence that affect children and families.

If you or a family member or a close friend are a victim of Intimate Partner Violence there is a combination of emergency services, counseling, legal assistance, and community programs to provide support.

Local Shelters and Safe Housing

Bethesda House (Bowmanville):
905-623-6050 or 1-800-338-3397
<http://bethesdahouse.ca>

Denise House (Oshawa):
905-728-7311 or 1-800-263-3725
<http://thedenisehouse.com>

Herizon House (Ajax): 1-866-437-4966
<https://www.herizonhouse.com>

YWCA Durham - Y's Wish Shelter (Oshawa): 905-576-2997
<https://ywcadurham.org>.

These shelters offer 24-hour crisis lines, emergency housing, counseling, and transitional support.

December 6th in Canada is the National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women, this day commemorates the tragic day known as the Ecole Polytechnique massacre in Montreal, when 14 young women were murdered by a gunman who targeted them because they were women studying engineering. Parliament officially designated this day in 1991 to honour the victims and to raise awareness about gender-based violence. At Unifor Local 222 on Friday December 5th our Women's Committee will hold a Candlelight Vigil to honour the 14 women from Ecole Polytechnique and to hear guest speakers highlight issues of Intimate Partner Violence/Gender-based violence which affect women and girls and have a call to action to eliminate violence against women, promote equality and support survivors. 🌟



Truck / Car Hockey League Underway for 2025/2026 Season

THE TRUCK/CAR HOCKEY LEAGUE A GO FOR ANOTHER season. This year we had 44 players sign up at the draft, but as it got closer to the first game on Oct. 7th we were 4 players short. It was great that we had a lot of spares wanting to play. They have filled in wonderfully. Thanks guys, and a big THANKS to all our regulars who came back again this year. I would like to thank our new sponsor, Chad Kozar of A+ Home Design. Chad's dad is Mike Kozar, who is one of our great refs. (Mario Barbara is also doing a fine job in the black and white stripes.) So if you need anything done in your home don't hesitate to call Chad at 437-248-1758 or 905-239-8862, he does it all. Chad also purchased the new jerseys for his team. Ken Parker, our timekeeper, is doing a great job running the clock. Thanks Ken.

This year the Christmas party will be on Dec. 11th at Canlan Ice Sports put on by Molson's. We would like to thank Alex the manager for helping us with the party. Wing Night this year will be on Thursday, Feb 19th at the Courtyard in Courtice starting at 7 pm. I know everyone who comes out will have a great time as usual. We have a wing eating contest with one guy from each team joining in. Two lbs. of wings each and whoever finishes in the least amount of time gets a prize.

The four new reps are doing a bang-up job too. They have made more trades in two months than we ever made all year. With Mike Cole, Terry Milkie and Don Reynolds coming in to play really helps the teams balance out. Steve's Leather here in Oshawa supports his team with some prizes at Wing Night. Always looking after Chuck his last rep. Ontario Motor Sales and Durham Medical are our other sponsors, so if you need a vehicle or medical supplies please check them out.

We are still short one player for the league so anyone who wants to play please contact one of our great reps: Cory McGraw 289-688-2863, Tom Pohjolainen 905-375-4973, Charlie Edwards 416-902-7713 and Brick Emerson 905-441-3155.

Again Chuck Bickle, Steve Wilson, Dave King and I would like to thank the new players, the old players, spares, refs, timekeeper and anyone else behind the scenes for a great job well done.

Oct. 7, 2025

Molson A+Home Design 4/Durham Medical 2
Steve's Leather 4/Ontario Motor Sales 2

Oct. 9

Ontario Motor Sales 5/Durham Medical 2
Steve's Leather 6/Molson A+Home Design 3

Oct. 14

Durham Medical 3/Steve's Leather 1
Ontario Motor Sales 6/Molson A+Home Design 1

Oct. 16

Durham Medical 3/ Molson A+Home Design 2
Ontario Motor Sales 4 /Steve's Leather 2

Nov. 4

Steve's Leather 5/Molson A+Home Design 2
Durham Medical 3/Ontario Motor Sales 2

Nov. 6

Ontario Motor Sales 5/Molson A+Home Design 2
Durham Medical 3/Steve's Leather 2



John Perrault

Unifor Local 222 Truck-Car Hockey League

Nov. 11

Ontario Motor Sales 7/Steve's Leather 4
Molson A+Home Design 3/Durham Medical 3

Nov. 13

Durham Medical 5/Ontario Motor Sales 1
Steve's Leather 3/Molson A+Home Design 2

Standings after first eight games

	W	L	T	Pts
Durham Medical	5	2	1	11
Ontario Motor Sales	5	3		10
Steve's Leather	4	4		8
Molson A+ Home Design	1	6	1	3

Team Average	GF	GA	Avg
Durham Medical	18	20	2.5
Ontario Motor Sales	32	23	2.87
Steve's Leather	27	26	3.25
Molson A+ Home Design	15	33	4.12

Top Four Players	G	A	Pts
Ontario Motor Sales Cory McGraw	9	8	17
Durham Medical Blaine Corriveau	5	6	11
Steve's Leather Mitch Thurston	5	5	10
Molson A+Home Design Scott Ward	3	5	8

Remember players, keep your sticks down and the goalies the puck out. 



New sponsor A+ Home Design owner Chad Kozar and John Perrault.

Unifor Local 222 Recreation Committee Event

"The Good Old Hockey Game"



versus



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COLTS**

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- Food & Soft Drinks
- Door prize raffle & 50/50 draw

All Ages Event! Open to all Local 222 members, retirees & family & friends.

Limited number of tickets available.

Register, pay (cash only) & collect tickets at the Union Hall



Happy Holidays & Happy New Year
*from your Recreation Committee: Jason Matthews, Ryan Northam
Terry Cornish, Raymond Foote, Cory Wilson*

the OshaWORKER classifieds

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Four Dunlop winter tires on rims used 2 winters 235.65 R.17 \$350, off an Equinox. Call: 905-723-5490

Plastic covered weights plus lift bar 185 lbs in total for free. Must take them all. Call: 905-723-0114

Set of 4 Firestone Affinity P205/60/15 like new \$225. Call: 905-263-1088

4 Alloy wheels 18" 5x 114.3 from R09 Vibe GT with 215/45R18 tires and lug nuts \$600, 15" wheel covers \$120 CD radio. Call: 905-922-4436

Bridgestone 4 tires 245/50 R18, \$450. Call: 437-608-5069

2020 Silverado one owner 72000 km. \$38,000, 2024 Buick Encore Avenir 12,000km \$37,000; 2 blocks basswood, free. Call: 905-576-5186

4 17 inch steel rims 5x7 like new fits Buick Envision \$600, leave message. Call: 905-576-7830

Stationary bike Sole B54 add-ons heart monitor etc. like new \$300. Call: 705-760-9117

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Women's 25-year service ring. Call 289-356-1009

Truck 1997-2006 short box 4x4; 4 post car hoist; 4 15x7 steel rims. Call: 705-277-9495



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**



**DEADLINE FOR THE SPRING 2026 ISSUE IS
FRIDAY, FEB 13, 2026 AT 12 NOON**

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SHIFT #1 NIGHTS

2026

SHIFT #2 NIGHTS

JANUARY

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

FEBRUARY

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28

MARCH

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

APRIL

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

MAY

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

JUNE

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

JULY

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

AUGUST

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

SEPTEMBER

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

OCTOBER

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

NOVEMBER

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

DECEMBER

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

Union Hall Closed

Canadian Manufacturing Matters

PM40032015