



# Welcome to CAW Local 222

Canadian Auto Workers Local 222 represents 22,000 members, active and retired, at workplaces from Pickering to Lindsay to Cobourg, the largest being GM in Oshawa. We are Canada's largest private sector local Union.

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## Spotlight

### GM: Bargaining in Bad Faith

Sisters and Brothers;

The Company has just driven another stake through the heart of the Auto Industry in our community by announcing today it will cease production of trucks in the third quarter of 2009 within Oshawa.

How could this happen after we just ratified a collective agreement with product allocation being our number one demand? **Were we misled, or lied to, or both?** We negotiated agreements that gave us commitment to new products in both the Car and Truck Assembly Plants in 2012. **We had secured the next generation of trucks for the Oshawa Truck Plant in writing.** We have an agreement with the Company that they cannot ask for another Shelf Agreement during the life of this contract and we have this document in writing as well.

Various reasons are being given such as low truck sales, high fuel costs and the state of the economy in the United States. They have decided to move production of the trucks we build to Mexico and Fort Wayne.

**We believe we have been deliberately misled and out-and-out lied to by this Company.** This happens just two short weeks after the agreement was ratified by you the membership. These product allocations came with a price. We, understanding we have to compete with the UAW Agreement, acted responsibly to secure the jobs of our members and put the future of Auto Assembly and Auto Parts in this community on stable footing for years to come. We were up front and honest at the ratification meetings with this information, good and bad. Skilled Trades were faced with tough decisions but understood that product allocation was worth the price and ratified it also.

Although this Federal Tory Government has done nothing to help us we are not prepared to let General Motors off the hook. The bottom line is that they are taking the work we do and moving it to Mexico.

General Motors is building plants overseas but closing them here. Loyalty to its employees has been replaced with corporate greed. Both Car and Truck Plants have demonstrated a willingness to negotiate agreements that make us competitive but we could never compete with Mexico. Their wages, health care benefits, human rights and safety standards are well below par and in some cases nonexistent.

Both parties understood the state of the Canadian economy going into early bargaining and the Company was still willing to give us in writing product allocation for both plants. **They must be held accountable for their actions** and we will be pursuing whatever means we have at our disposal to get this injustice corrected.

We appreciate the patience and support you have shown us over the past few weeks and ask all of you to voice your displeasure with the false hope that this Company willingly bestowed upon all of us.

In Solidarity,  
Chris Buckley, CAW Local 222 President (pictured at left)  
and the GM Shop Committee