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Cheryl Ollila
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John Stapleton
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Greetings,

As you are aware, the current crisis in the economy and specifically the auto industry has led to the governments in the United States and Canada to force the CAW into negotiations with GM Canada Limited. Our recent meeting with the Federal and Provincial governments and GMCL resulted in a clear direction from the governments that unless the parties were able to reach a new agreement on labour costs and related matters, the governments would discontinue any support for the GM operations in Canada. As the governments indicated to both of us, the failure to reach an agreement will mean that GM Canada would not receive financing through CCAA in Canada.

This would of course mean a collapse of the GM operations as we know it today, affecting tens of thousands of GM workers, their families and their communities. The CAW has always maintained from the onset of this global, financial and automotive crisis, that we would be part of the solution on behalf of our members that we represent.

The CAW Master Bargaining Committee at General Motors has, for the last number of days, worked diligently to reach the targets outlined by the Federal and Provincial governments in order for us to reach a conclusion.

A critical part of these discussions, if we are to reach a settlement, must include the points that were outlined to you by the Federal and Provincial governments during our meeting held May 6, 2009. A key element to this was the commitment to the Canadian footprint for manufacturing for our current operations.

Therefore, part of any final solution to this difficult challenge put forward by the governments and GMCL must include the following:

1. A written commitment that all previously agreed to restructuring packages will be honoured as negotiated and agreed to at all locations of GM Canada.

National Automobile, Aerospace, Transportation and General Workers' Union of Canada (CAW-Canada)
Syndicat national de l'automobile, de l'aérospatiale, du transport et des autres travailleurs et travailleuses du Canada (TCA-Canada)

