

September 5, 2012

Little Progress, Frustrations Mounting

This set of negotiations, the CAW is attempting a different approach by not immediately announcing a target company, with the goal of moving negotiations along with all three. To date though, none of the three companies have demonstrated that they are serious about reaching an agreement. Our committees from General Motors, Chrysler and Ford have been meeting with each company over the last week, with little progress being made. All committees have come up against the same barrier. The corporations are refusing to add any costs whatsoever – instead, they insist on cutting costs from our existing agreements. Worse still, the corporations fail to recognize the sacrifices our members at General Motors, Chrysler and Ford made during the economic crisis. The corporations have been uniformly clear – anything that adds cost will have to be paid for by savings elsewhere in the agreement. This message has been repeated in every subcommittee, at every local table and in every master meeting. There is little doubt that this is a co-ordinated effort by the three companies.

This week local unions across the three chains will be asked to form strike committees and start preparations for strike actions. More information on strike protocol will be circulated as the **deadline of September 17 at 11:59 p.m.** approaches.

It is our hope and intention to reach an agreement with at least one of the three companies before the deadline. We must be prepared though to shut down operations at all three, should we be unable to reach an agreement. We will continue to update the membership as negotiations continue.

Thank you for your ongoing support and interest.

In solidarity,

The CAW General Motors, Chrysler and Ford Master Bargaining Committees

You can stay up to date in the following ways:

On the web: www.caw.ca/autotalks www.facebook.com/cawautotalks

@CAWCommunicate - to get updates to your mobile device.