

Oct. 25, 2007

CAW Local 222 General Membership Meeting with Magna Agreement Update

Sisters and Brothers:

Please make plans to attend the General Membership meeting on Thursday, Nov. 1, 2007 at 3 p.m. at your Local Union Hall, 1425 Phillip Murray Ave., Oshawa. Aside from the regular business meeting, I am planning an update on the CAW National Union's recent completion of an agreement with Magna International.

Below is the letter I have sent to President Buzz Hargrove on this matter:

October 24, 2007

Mr. Basil "Buzz" Hargrove, President
CAW Canada
205 Placer Ct
North York, ON
M2H 3H9

Dear Brother Hargrove:

As President of CAW Local 222 in Oshawa, I am writing to you, in as forceful terms as I am able, to let you know that I cannot in good conscience support the National Union's agreement with Magna International.

This is based on the understanding the Magna members will **not** have the right to strike.

Buzz, a 'no-strike' clause goes against the fundamental rights of unionized workers. As President I represent not only our 10,000 members employed at General Motors, but also thousands more in the parts sector. It is obvious the threat Magna will pose to our parts jobs should the Magna agreement go forward in its current state. The process of awarding contracts for product is in a cut-throat state already; suppliers employing my members completely lose any level playing field if the right to strike becomes a factor in the competitions' favour.

There is also the long-term negative impact on unionized labour across the country. Without the ability to legally withdraw our labour, there is little left by way of leverage for the working class in Canada. Our CAW Statement of Principles begins, "Working people need unions." Without the right to strike, people will question the necessity of the existence of their union. Our Principles also state, "In our society, private corporations control the workplace and set the framework for all employees." Does this no longer apply? Are we now bowing to corporations like Magna? Without the right to strike, there is no counter-balance to that corporate power.

Hundreds of thousands of CAW members are relying on our judgment as CAW leaders.

Although I respect your position as National President, I trust I have made my position clear as President of CAW Local 222 and its 23,000 members.

In Solidarity,

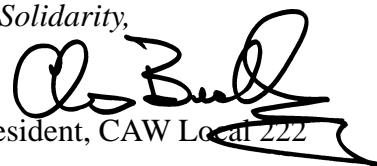


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Chris Buckley, President
CAW Local 222
Chairperson, CAW/GM Master Bargaining Committee

I will be asking the CAW Local 222 Executive Board to endorse my position at our meeting Wed. Oct. 31/07 and am respectfully requesting the membership endorse my position as well. Please attend and join in the debate and discussion on the ramifications of this Magna agreement. As members of CAW Local 222, we are currently faced with a number of obstacles in order to preserve and protect our jobs. The last thing we need is another threat of a huge corporation coming after our product.

In Solidarity,



President, CAW Local 222

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