



Greetings Brothers and Sisters;

I hope all of you are enjoying the summer, and have had a chance to relax, unwind, and had time for family and friends. The summer comes and goes very quickly for us all.

Successful Collective Bargaining

At both Auto Modular and Marmon Keystone our members, through Determination and Unity, helped support their bargaining committee's, the Local Union, and our National Representatives. In both contracts we resisted the 'CONcession Logic' and, in fact, made improvements to the standards of living for the membership. Congratulations goes to us all in these difficult economic times!!

Auto Modular Petition

October 2008 found a petition, involving past Executive members seeking a departure from our Local Union. This petition was launched within weeks of the Executive Elections, then, and merely stated; 'we would be better served in Local 707'. After months of commitment and support of the membership at Auto Modular, from our Local Union, this petition has since travelled to a meeting most recently in late July. The outcome, among 25 members in attendance, found a 16 to 8 vote with 1 spoiled ballot reaching the 2/3 majority according to our Constitution. This petition then required a list of actual reasons for departure and the list was made following the meeting only to be re-worked and added too after it was understood the list from the meeting would be the one that stood. Our Local Union plans to continue to support Auto Modular members as we always have, opposing CONcessions, and seeking continual improvement in the work-life of the entire membership. Its Reality versus perception!!

MSS 'FrameWork for Fairness'

Our Local Union has continued to support the members at MSS and does not accept the method and the actions taken by both the Corporation and our National Union. We have serious legal disagreement with the intrusion of Management in the process of a Ratification meeting, and the rejection of the National Union of our Local Union through the bargaining process. Our lawyer seeks the overturning of this false ratification and for the contract vote to be done in a manner stripped of fear and intimidation and interference by both the Corporation and the National Union. We aim to, again, serve first and foremost, the members at MSS and repair the harm caused by such undermining and mis-treatment. We presently are at the Labour Board with our filed application of complaints and seek our just remedy.

Unsubstantiated Expenditures of Union Funds

A long running investigation of the Accounting Department of the CAW has finally found significant unsubstantiated expenditures of union funds. The former Executive member, the past President of the Local Union, has been ordered to substantiate these expenditures and given months to verify them. Meanwhile, our Local Union has worked to reduce in half the outstanding debt rung up by the previous Executive in a responsible manner. 67 cell phones, inflated from less than half this number, billed to our Local Union beyond \$5000 dollars per month, was the legacy of debt along with excessive lost time costs to us all that have been removed from our backs. This financial conduct of the past Executive, through its President, and those supportive of him, was a pure statement of disregard and contempt for the hard earned dues paid into our Local Union. Times are Changing!!

We are proud and remain true to the principles, and our rights we all share, as workers, and we encourage you to visit Your web-site www.cawlocal.ca/1256/

In Solidarity,

Angus MacDonald

President Local 1256