



AIRCRAFTER

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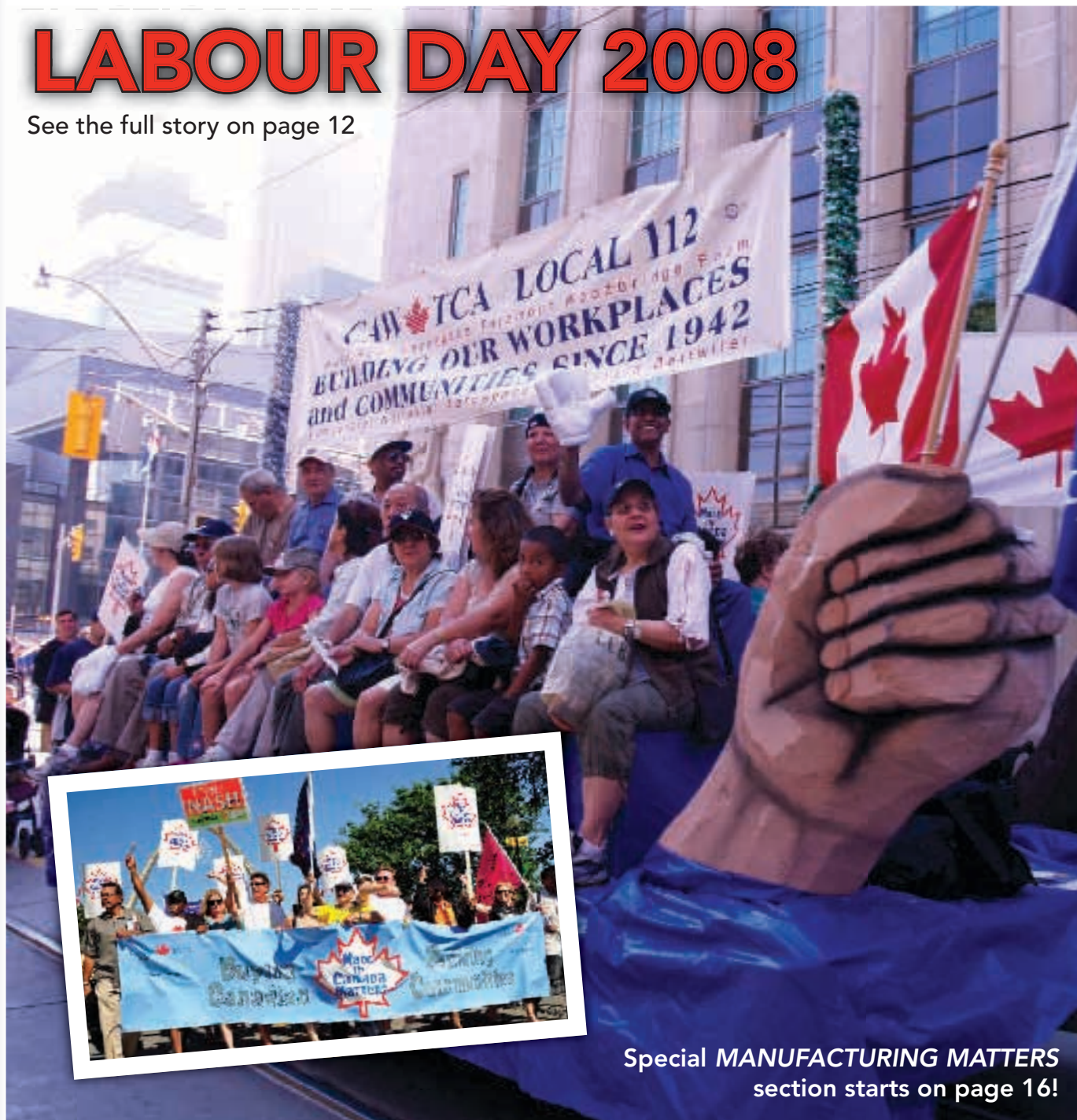


Bombardier • Northstar Aerospace • MacDonald Dettwiler • Hewitt • L-3 SPAR • Toromont • Vitafoam • Woodbridge Foam



LABOUR DAY 2008

See the full story on page 12



Special **MANUFACTURING MATTERS**
section starts on page 16!

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The opinions expressed in this newsletter are those of the authors, and do not necessarily reflect those of the Editorial Committee, the local union or the CAW National Office.


BOMBARDIER'S CANADIAN SPIRIT!?!

Nick D'Alicandro, Editor



Hope the summer treated you and your family well, and left you with lots of great memories. Unfortunately another summer season is coming to an end, leaving us to wish for some great Indian summer ahead.

My summer was a remarkable one with many new experiences. One, which really stuck with me, occurred one night while I was watching some sports news. A commercial came on that was really catchy. It was a Bombardier commercial, using a series of clips of individuals from around the world singing the Canadian national anthem. I thought it was amazing,

really capturing our great country and its diversity. But then it ended with "BOMBARDIER, Trains, Planes, The Canadian Spirit", which made me think. This is a company that uses our country's symbolism as a business promotion, portraying themselves as caring about our country, meanwhile they don't mention all the work they are off-shoring to other parts of the world, taking advantage of people there by underpaying them, just to make a few extra dollars. I wonder what the world would think if they knew how little they really care about their Canadian workers, and our Canadian spirit! 

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MANUFACTURING MATTERS AND THE FEDERAL ELECTION

Roland Kiehne, President

On October 14th, Canadians will once again be heading to the polls. At no time in our nation's history has an election mattered so much. In the last six years, 400,000 workers in the manufacturing sector have lost their jobs through plant closures and major layoffs. In 2007, 360 jobs were lost every single day. This past July, 55,000 more jobs were lost. This job crisis can be attributed to a number of factors.

1) Unfair Trade: Canada's manufacturing trade balance has gone from a \$12 billion surplus in 1996 to a \$28 billion trade deficit in one decade.

2) High Canadian Dollar: The Canadian dollar has risen by 60% in the past 5 years, negatively impacting workers in export based firms.

3) No Buy Canadian Policy: Unlike many other countries, Canada still does not have a Buy Canadian public procurement policy.

4) Government Inaction: Workers, families and communities impacted by manufacturing job loss have received nothing more than lip-service from the Federal government. No plan. No action. Not even words of comfort for the families and communities that have been devastated by this crisis.

Canada's manufacturing sector accounts for two-thirds of Canadian exports. It supports millions of other Canadian service industries like retail and hospitality. It contributes tens of billions of dollars in income taxes each year, helping to pay for the social services we care so much about. Manufacturing is the lifeblood of many communities across the country.

We need politicians to take action now! Demand from the politicians that they fight for balanced trade policies. Demand that they immediately

call for and adopt a Buy Canadian public purchasing policy that requires the highest possible level of Canadian content. Demand that they use the tools that government has to take some steam out of the rising dollar. Tell them that giving tax breaks to corporations that ship our jobs to Mexico, India, China or anywhere else in the world is wrong-headed and finally tell them that if they don't listen they won't get your vote and that Manufacturing Matters to you, your family and the community in which you live!

On Saturday, October 25th, Local 112 will be hosting a Manufacturing Matters Phase 2 workshop at our union hall. Leadership and activists from other Toronto and area Local Unions will be attending. I ask all 112 leadership and activists to mark this date on your calendar and to attend this very important workshop.

Canadian Space Strategy Needed

Our union, along with the Rideau Institute in Ottawa, has called on the Federal government to take immediate action to create a strong and sustainable space industry in this country. The following are a few of the recommendations from our document Flying High – A Plan to Rebuild Canada's Space Capabilities:

- **Fund the RADARSAT Constellation Mission:** Following the success of RADARSAT-2, this is a vital next step to preserve technical expertise in Canada.

- **Canadian Space Agency (CSA) President:** After having three presidents in three years, the CSA needs stability to build its long term vision.

** This past August, the government announced the appointment of former astronaut Steve McLain as CSA President.*



- **Emphasize space in the Industrial and Regional Benefits Policy:** Defence contract offsets can be directed to the space sector.

- **Develop a National Space Policy:** It is critical that the CSA develop a long-term vision of where it wants to go and what projects it wants to be involved in.

- **Fund the CSA to the G-8 Average:** Additional spending of \$1.53 billion over five years is vital to maintaining Canada's space industry. This would put Canada at the 2007 G8 average of space spending as a percentage of GDP by 2012.

To find out more, please visit www.rideauinstitute.ca and click on Flying High.

I want to take this opportunity on behalf of the membership and leadership of both Locals 112 and 673 at MDA to thank Carol Phillips and Dawn Cartwright from our National Office, Steve Staples and Anthony Salloum from the Rideau Institute, David MacDonald, author of Flying High, Parkdale High Park MP Peggy Nash, Local 673 President Maria Pinto, Local 673 Chairperson at MDA Tom Bunting and last but not least 'the undertaker' Dennis Borden 112 Chairperson at MDA. All have worked, and continue to work, hard on this campaign.

Buzz Hargrove and Ken Lewenza

On September 6th, 2008, CAW President Buzz Hargrove made the toughest decision of his 16 year tenure as President of the CAW. Buzz retired from the union he loves so much. Brother Hargrove, without question,

...continued on page 4



LABOUR DAY 2008, A WINNING DAY

Sherry Hillman
Financial Secretary

Hope everyone had a great summer and are re-energized after some vacation time and ready now for fall with its typically busy schedules. It's no different at the Union Hall; we are gearing up for a very busy fall with seminars on Stress & Violence in the Workplace, a Manufacturing Matters – Phase 2 seminar, Human Rights training for new union officers, the Trustees' audit, the fall Aircrafter and now a federal election to name just a few of the things on our agenda.

Since the last Aircrafter, we've organized and enjoyed a couple of our largest annual events: our Family Picnic and Labour Day Parade. These are great opportunities for members to get together to enjoy time outside the work place and meet each others families.

Family Picnic

This year's picnic was enjoyed thoroughly by over 1300 members and their families as you'll see from the photos on the back pages. Fortunately it was one of the rare days this sum-

mer that didn't rain, so we were able to enjoy a variety of picnic activities on Olympic Island, and the kids had a ball in the races, the talent show, on the Centreville rides, and with Dora and Diego's treasure hunt. Our Picnic Committee worked hard all day and in the weeks leading up to the Picnic to ensure a big success. Thanks to the best Picnic Committee I've had the pleasure to work with: Chair Angela Bresolin, Duane Coffin, Melinda Smith, Debbie O'Dell, and Ashley Sedore, and to the many volunteers, too numerous to name, who run the races, soccer, talent show, and help with registration, face painting, set up and clean up. But special mention has to be made to Reaford O'Dell who volunteered for dunk tank duty, getting Merv and I off the hook – only because we were too busy with other tasks, of course.

Labour Day Parade

We had the best turn out in many years for the Labour Day Parade. The fantastic weather helped, but most of the credit goes to the best Labour Day

Committee ever: my Co-Chair Scott McIlmoyle, Bob Newby, Mark Grix, Bill Bargent, and Dan Pollock, who built an amazing float, as you'll see in the centre-spread photos, and which we are convinced deserves the prize for 2008. It is the activists' involvement that makes the difference that turns an event into a huge success. Many thanks also to Committee members, Angie Bresolin and Pam Robataille who helped with the many other details making the day special. It was heartening also to have the best participation ever from Executive Board members.

The theme this year was "Organize to Unionize" and we were honoured to be joined by a courageous group of workers who attempted to join the CAW, but lost their jobs when their plant fell victim to the crisis in the auto sector. They had to picket their employer, PMP, just to get the severance pay they are entitled to by law. With the CAW's support they have now established an action centre that was housed in the Local 112 Hall until they secured their own space. The PMP workers were

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Continued from Page 3

has left his mark, not only in the labour movement in Canada, but also internationally. He is the most recognizable labour leader in North America, if not the world. I want, on behalf of the membership and leadership of all eight units of Local 112, to wish Brother Hargrove peace and good health as he moves into retirement. We also thank him for his many years of fighting to improve the lives of not only CAW members but also those less fortunate as well. Buzz may be retired from the

job but definitely not from the struggle for social and economic justice.

I also want to congratulate and wish incoming CAW President Brother Ken Lewenza well as he takes the helm of our union at one of the most difficult periods in our history. Good luck Brother Lewenza! You can count on the support of Local 112 members as you face the challenges that lie ahead.

In closing, I want to encourage our members to get involved in the federal

election. As I mentioned earlier in my report, at no other time in our great country's history has it been more vital to exercise your democratic right. Hundreds of thousands of men, women and children in the beleaguered manufacturing sector are suffering immensely. We can only reverse this trend by fighting back and electing politicians that care about our families and the communities in which we live. **On October 14th Vote!** Ⓐ



Andrew Kilgour and daughter Heather won the trip to Cuba at the Labour Day Parade, drawn from the "Good Jobs" surveys by the Toronto & York Region Labour Council.

honoured as the lead contingent of the parade this year.

Several of our members were attending the parade for the first time and enjoyed it so much they said they'd be spreading the word for next year. Once we got to the CNE, most of us relaxed and watched the Air Show, which featured Bombardier's water bombers, as well as the usual acrobatic performances by the renowned Snow Birds, and other awe-inspiring pilots and aircraft.

The day ended with nearly 200 members and guests returning to the Hall for a full course dinner. I'd be remiss without recognizing the contribution of our Executive Assistant Shan White to the success of the day, organizing the jacket orders and arranging the catering.

It was a winning day in every respect. A Local 112 member won the draw for the trip for two to Cuba (see inset photo above), selected from the surveys for the Good Jobs Summit! Congratulations to Andrew and Heather Kilgour from our Toromont unit!

Manufacturing Matters

300,000 manufacturing jobs have been lost since Harper took power – 55,000 in July alone. Mostly in Ontario, and Stephen Harper doesn't care as long as the Alberta oil fields are humming. The CAW response is Phase 2 of our Manufacturing Matters campaign, to challenge Harper's "laissez-faire – couldn't care" attitude. The campaign will be launched with a day-long seminar at Local 112's Hall on Saturday, October 25. That will be followed by the Labour Council's Good Jobs Summit November 22. The Federal Election gives us another opportunity to shine a spot light on this crisis and make it a "ballot issue". We need to re-elect MPs like Peggy Nash, the

NDP's Industry critic and former CAW Assistant to the President, who has championed the fight against manufacturing job loss and has advocated for government funding for aerospace jobs and Made in Canada procurement policies. See my interview with Peggy on page 18 for more, including her role in blocking the sale of MDA to foreign munitions manufacturer ATK, and next steps to secure government funding. In the midst of this federal election the CAW is organizing what promises to be a huge Manufacturing Matters rally in St Thomas Sunday, Sept 28 at 11:00am. Work boots of those who have lost jobs are also being collected to deliver to Jim Flaherty with the message that we'll give him the boot in this election so he'll know what its like to lose your job. Come out to any or all of these events to raise your voice in the fight for good jobs.

Woodbridge Foam Retirements

We had the largest group retirement in the Local since I've been an officer, at Woodbridge Foam at the end of August. President Roland Kiehne, Plant Chair Kevin Robertson and I presented gifts and best wishes on behalf of Local 112 to 40 members. While it is always a pleasure to celebrate what we hope will be a long, happy retirement for our members, it was also bittersweet this time. There were more than a few tears shed as the plant downsizes to a shadow of its former capacity, another victim of the manufacturing crisis that has hit the auto parts sector hardest of all due to unfair trade deals, and the high Cdn dollar and cost of oil.

New CAW President tours deHavilland

It was an honour to accompany out-going CAW president Buzz Hargrove and

new National president Ken Lewenza on their tour of the deHavilland plant Sept 3rd. They commented afterwards on the upbeat mood of members they met. Buzz joked that it was because they were happy to see him go. But more seriously, members were pleased to see the interest of the new president, in our industry.

The following Saturday, September 6th I attended the Special Convention where Ken Lewenza was elected CAW National President to replace Brother Hargrove. I report in more detail on that convention, examining who our new president Ken Lewenza is and where he stands on issues on page 11.

Financial Report

I will end my report, as usual, with our finances. We had over a quarter million dollars in expenses in the month of June, including the Local 112 Executive Board and In-plant elections, the Picnic and Golf Tournament, CLC and CAW Bargaining Conventions, Woodbridge Foam and Vitafoam negotiations, Health & Safety and CALM Conferences, the summer issue of the Aircrafter and Flying Squad actions in support of the GM blockade. It all adds up to a very active Local Union – one we can all be very proud of. Despite all the expenses in June, our bank balance is still very healthy with over half a million in the account and GICs.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Balance forward	\$597,257.78
Income in June	\$224,960.40
Total	\$822,218.18
Less Expenses	\$255,628.45
Balance	\$566,589.73

Ⓐ



AEROSPACE SOARS

Merv Gray
Bombardier Plant Chair

In the summer edition of the *Aircrafter* I talked about the continued success of our work situation. This trend continues and just recently there was great news as all remaining electrical installers who had recall rights were called back to support the Q 400 series aircraft line. Welcome back.

While on the topic of hiring, I just returned from our 22nd annual Aerospace conference in Montreal. We have 13 different locals in Canada that participate in this event and as president of Council I am happy to report that aerospace companies from the east coast to the west are currently adding to their workforce and enjoying an upsurge in the aircraft industry.

It was enlightening to hear the report of the plant chair from Viking Air in Victoria B.C. as she shared her thoughts on the success of the Twin Otter line that they now have running, now with 50 orders for this once owned De-Havilland product. Other plant chairs reported that there are shortages of skilled aircraft workers and I would like to invite any of our members to contact me if you know any one who

may be interested to work in any of these facilities.

At the conference I had the honor, on behalf of all Aerospace workers, to introduce the president of our union Brother Buzz Hargrove who spoke of his involvement over his many years with the different locals and shared in the past, good and not so good times. During his speech he complimented aircraft workers across the country on their dedication and commitment to the different products we build. I wish him good luck on his retirement.

Also we were blessed with his replacement and our new president Ken Lewenza, who spoke of his intentions in the future to continue the support of the office of president to oversee and involve himself if required in any issue that may arise in our industry. By the time this edition is circulated I will have given both Buzz and Ken along with some other staff reps a tour of our facility and a send-off that is well deserved. Good luck to both!

As you are all aware we had a disaster in the vicinity of the plant a few weeks ago, which affected each and every em-

ployee in one way or another. More importantly we had a number of employees who were directly affected, as they lived in some of the homes that border the plant. On behalf of the union I have been in contact with the company to ensure our members are being take care of in this tragic situation. This mishap was too close for comfort. We will continue to make every effort in making sure no other employee anywhere suffers the same as our employee did here due to negligence. A special mention should be given to Brother Joe Rudnick who, along with myself and the bargaining committee, worked endlessly on this issue with your best interest at heart.

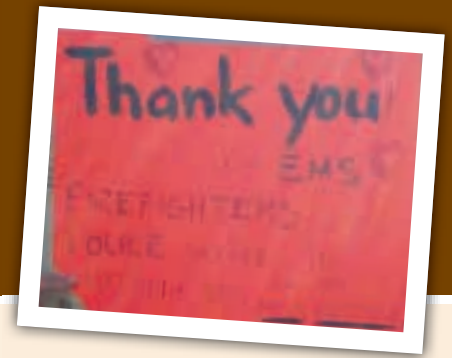
So as our summer nears its end (what summer) I remain optimistic about the future and will continue to bring any issues to the company on behalf of the members here at Bombardier/De-Havilland. Congratulations to our Picnic Committee, Flying Squad, Rec Committee and any others who have made our local proud in recent months. Keep up the good work. Until the next time... Ⓜ

Bombardier Plant chair, along with in-plant committee persons and alternate.



DISASTER HITS DOWNSVIEW

Joe Rudnick
Health and Safety Representative, Bombardier Unit



Sunday, August 10th is a day we will not soon forget. I know I won't. Years from now you might be asked, 'So, where were you when the propane plant blew up in Downsview?' Most of us, or certainly the residents of this neighbourhood, will recall.

Before I tell you how I spent my day, I would like to extend my deepest condolences to the families of district chief, Bob Leek, the firefighter who lost his life battling the explosion and of Parminder Singh Saini, the 25 year old, Sunrise employee who also perished in the blast.

I live far enough from Downsview that I was not awoken during the night by sounds of explosions. I received a call early Sunday morning from our president Roland Kiehne telling me to turn on the news and informing me of what had happened near our plant.

Shortly after that, the director of plant engineering, Ramesh Ramchandani, called advising me the Sunrise explosion had hit parts of the plant and he asked me if I would like to take part in surveying the damage. I went down immediately.


Upon arrival, I was met by the director and the manager of plant engineering and some staff. I let Merv Gray and Rolly know that I was on site to survey the plant for damage.

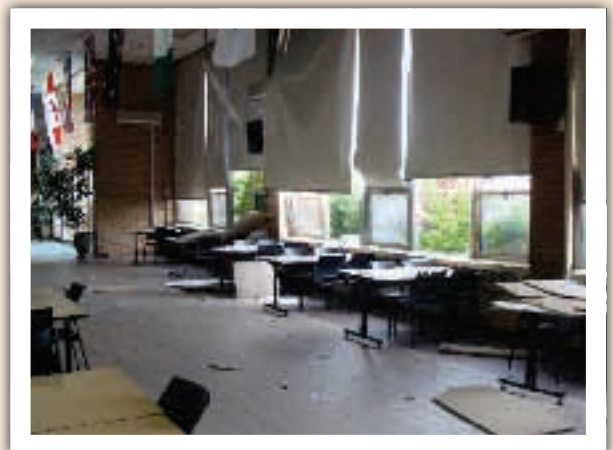
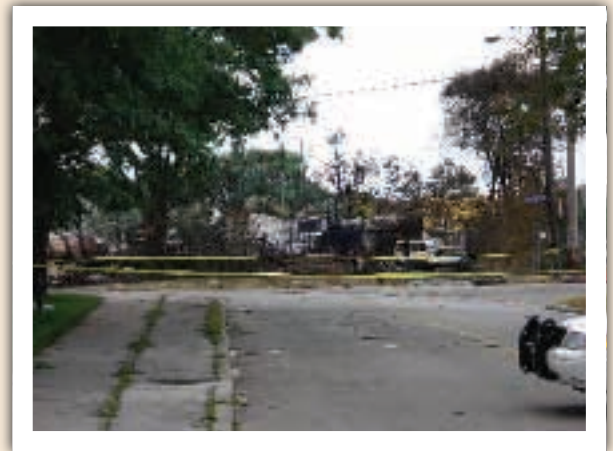
Both Merv and the VP of Production joined us as we inspected the plant zone by zone a second time. The director of HR and the president of the company came in as well.

Damage to superstores was extensive and directly impacted Local 112 workers. Damage to the main cafeteria was phenomenal, affecting everyone. The worst hit was the office area, where human injury would have been unavoidable had this happened during a regular workday.

Upon my request, the company brought in a third party to conduct the air monitoring and asbestos tests to confirm your safety regarding these issues.

The whole ordeal has been surreal. I cannot say enough about the firefighters and emergency response teams that were on site. I'd like to thank Rolly for making himself available, and Merv for all of his help, confidence and support through this. The company and management teams kept me in the loop. The cleaners and contractors have done their part and Plant Engineering has stepped up to get the plant back into shape.

I would like to thank everyone who took part. I commend everyone involved for a superior effort. 



UNION JOBS = GOOD JOBS

Melrose Cornwall
Toromont Plant Chair

END OF AN ERA

Ahamad Nabi
Vitafoam Plant Chair

WE NEED TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Graham Davies
Northstar Plant Chair



Let me take this opportunity to welcome back all you Brothers and Sisters from your vacations and hope everyone enjoyed a well-deserved rest.

This years Labour Day Parade was a big success for Local 112. Over 200 members and their families came back to our hall to enjoy a well-prepared hot meal. Thanks to the Labor Day organizing committee for a job well done.

The theme for this year's parade was "Organize to Unionize" which, when you think about it, is a direct link between the crisis facing Canadians over manufacturing jobs lost and Made in Canada Matters. I would like to share a personal experience my stepfather had while working for a company a couple of years ago. The owner of this company went around telling the employees to decertify the union and things would get better. So they had a vote and the union was decertified. Well, it was about a year following that vote my stepfather decided to go back to his old country for Christmas vacation. When he returned, he reported to work only to find the doors were chain locked. No severance, no benefits and no more job. This was devastating and he eventually had to retire from employment. So I beg of you to share this experience with anyone who is thinking of decertifying the union within their company. Make them aware that 90% or more of good paying jobs are unionized jobs and this is a fact!!! ^(A)



After nearly 35 years at the helm, Melvin Himel, popularly known as Mel, has finally relinquished his position as top honcho of the Vita Foam empire Canada-wide.

At the company's barbecue on August 28, 2008 Mel announced his retirement to the employees and staff at Vita's head quarters at 150 Toro Road, Toronto. He further made it known that his successor was the capable and efficient Peter Farah who has for 23 years successfully managed one of Vita Foam's main competitors in the industry – Woodbridge Foam. There were a few dejected faces at the announcement as some wishfully thought they were super qualified to fill Mel's shoes.

Peter has already won the hearts and trust of all employees by his friendliness and positive attitude, qualities which augur well for the future of the business. We congratulate Mel for his yeomen service to the business. There were countless differences between the employees and Mel during his reign, but all respected his fierce loyalty, his professionalism and shrewdness.

The employees all wish Mel the very best in any future endeavour; at the same time, we are looking forward to moving on with Peter. ^(A)

Today's aerospace sector is looking very positive. Not long ago we were facing much tougher times. On December 15th, 2003 Northstar announced the closing of our sister plant in Cambridge. It would eventually close in 2004 affecting some 60 members of CAW Local 1986.



This past summer I attended the annual CAW Aerospace Council that took place in Montreal, Quebec. Once there I was saddened by the absence of our sisters and brothers from Boeing Toronto, and Honeywell Montreal, who were another casualty of plant closure due to the manufacturing crisis affecting Canada.

The auto sector in Ontario has been particularly hard hit, and has no end in sight. As we enter a federal election in October we must remember how the Harper government will only result in further devastation to the struggling manufacturing sector. We need a government that will take action to ensure that decent paying jobs will not erode any longer, one that will reinvest our tax dollars in "Made in Canada" solutions. A loud and clear message needs to be sent to the Harper government at the October election.

Our union has been a leader in making a difference. We must continue to challenge our government at all levels to ensure a stable manufacturing base in this country. Canadian manufacturing matters, not only for the jobs of today but also for the future of our children. We need to make a difference before it's too late! I urge us all as union members to get involved in the "Manufacturing Matters" campaign. Getting involved makes a difference. ^(A)

DEMAND FOR AEROSPACE WORKERS ON THE RISE

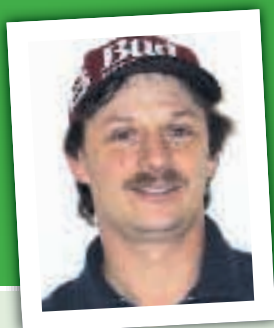
Dennis Borden, MDA Plant Chair



It seems like last week that I wrote my first article for the Aircrafter, and here I am again. That is how fast this summer is gone and how busy my job and personal life is keeping me. Life at MDA has not changed much, but the membership is still intact. There are rumblings of a possible apprentice being hired, which is positive news; just hope there is enough new business to sustain the position. Last month I attended the Aerospace Council in Montreal, and as a rookie, the folks there seemed to appreciate my input. Truly an important gathering, as it is an opportunity for many locals from across the country, to not only share their achievements, but to present the challenges they face not only now, but also in the future. Unlike the

automotive industry, the aerospace sector is experiencing phenomenal growth, that has put demands on the availability of skilled trades that simply cannot be met. As I mentioned in my last article, the CAW, under the guidance of Carol Phillips and Dawn Cartwright, picked up the torch in regards to lobbying the federal government for more funding for the Aerospace industry, and I am happy to report, based on feedback that I am hearing, the torch is still burning hot. Hopefully the efforts by the CAW will bear fruit soon, and then we can let the two of them loose on their next assignment, which should be to address the shortage of skilled workers in Canada, not only for the near term, but also for generations to come.

For any of the members out there that have young family members that are unsure of what career path to take, the aerospace industry could be an exciting and rewarding option. We hear lots of talk by management, for the desire to contract out work, but one has to wonder where this work can go, if in fact, there is such a shortage of skilled workers. Could the only option be to out-source to companies, who are using unskilled workers, therefore running the risk of utilizing parts or services that compromise the high standards that we have set? As citizens of this country, I feel that we must do our part and help address this issue if we want to create and maintain opportunities for future generations. Food for thought. Ⓐ



GOOD TIMES AT HEWITT, BUT NOT SO GOOD ELSEWHERE FOR CAW MEMBERS

Dwight Brown, Hewitt Plant Chair

This summer has gone by in the blink of an eye. I hope all of my fellow members took the time to slow down, enjoy life and all its blessings.

Although times are good here at Hewitt, and our workforce escalating in numbers, some of our other CAW members have had a difficult summer, with job layoffs and plant idling. The sad situation at Woodbridge Foam is just another example of Canada's manufacturing crisis.

With a federal election imminent, this marks a critical time in our labour history. This election will have a serious impact on the manufacturing industry. Other issues are import-

ant and need to be dealt with, but the hemorrhaging of jobs should be front and centre.

Good paying manufacturing jobs are being lost at an alarming rate, and the federal election will give people a strong voice and power to make changes. In this election let your voice be heard, ask your candidates where they stand and if "Manufacturing Matters" matters to them. Ⓐ

NEW CAW PRESIDENT TOURS DE- HAVILLAND PLANT

Sherry Hillman
Editorial Committee

When out-going CAW president Buzz Hargrove and future National president Ken Lewenza toured the deHavilland plant Sept 3rd, they commented on the upbeat mood of members they met. Buzz joked that it was because they were happy to see him go. But more seriously, members were pleased to see the interest of the new president, another who comes from the auto sector, in our aerospace industry.

Also, it's hard not to respond to Ken's warmth. He is well known as a "people-person" who cares deeply about workers concerns, and that was evident as he greeted members throughout the plant, hugging all the activists, who he calls "the heart of the union".

No doubt the mood is different than in the auto industry these days where the layoffs are mounting every week. We are fortunate that aerospace, and Bombardier specifically, is one of the bright spots in the Canadian economy. We were all pleased to hear, in the presentation the company made to orient the in-coming CAW president, that their projections for the future are very optimistic based on the strong order book, aging airline fleets that need to be replaced over the next several years and the high demand for the fuel efficient aircraft we produce. ①





WHO IS KEN LEWENZA?

- A rank & file leader who has emphasized outreach within the labour movement and broader community
- Born & raised in Windsor, Ontario
- A member of Local 444 since 1972 when he began working at Chrysler at the age of 18
- Was a steward, committeeperson, Plant Chair, Vice President and President of Local 444
- Chair of CAW's Chrysler Master Bargaining committee for 5 rounds of Big Three bargaining
- Delegate to Labour Council and community leader
- National Executive Board member and CAW Council president for past 10 years



LEWENZA ELECTED NATIONAL PRESIDENT

The following Saturday, September 6th at a Special Convention in Toronto, Ken Lewenza was elected CAW National President to replace Brother Hargrove. Founding CAW president Bob White and First Nations Grand Chief Phil Fontaine delivered moving tributes to Buzz.

In Hargrove's final address to the convention he outlined his proudest achievements at the helm of the union, including expanding the union into every sector of the economy through 33 mergers which have diversified the union. He also took great pride in our support for First Nations." No community in Canada has suffered more," and he appealed to the delegates to keep the faith, saying, "Their struggle is our struggle".

He pledged his support for the new leadership and expressed complete confidence in Lewenza, who also hails from Buzz's Local 444.

"Ken Lewenza will be an outstanding leader. He cares deeply about workers, our members and social justice around the world," said Hargrove. "I'm gonna be with you - cheering you on, supporting the leadership on every decision."

In his inaugural speech Brother Lewenza assured delegates that he would represent every local union equally with the respect each one deserves. He committed to reinforce organizing campaigns and wants to raise expectations of unorganized workers – starting with Wal-Mart.

He warned that we haven't seen the real face of Stephen Harper in a minority government. "His real face is the Reform Party, the National Citizen's Coalition," he told delegates. "With a Tory majority government universal Medicare will be in jeopardy – privatization will creep in." We will continue strategic, issue based voting, he announced, "We have to stop him in his tracks."

Referring to the John Deere plant closure announced last week – one more in a long list, Lewenza declared, "We have to fight to keep these plants open!" He urged us to pay close attention to the US elections and Obama's commitment to deliver \$50 bln to rebuild their manufacturing sector, and talked about a Made in Canada policy.

Lewenza also called for an end to the war in Iraq and Afghanistan, and the senseless loss of Canadian lives supporting American foreign policy. He was proud to have been one of the first leaders in Canada to say, "War is not the answer. Bring the troops home." If Harper is re-elected he reminded us, the war will continue and more young Canadian lives will be lost. ③

LOCAL IS IN GREAT SHAPE

Mark Grix, Local 112 Guide



Hello sisters and brothers. Hope you all had a great summer. Our grass is still green and that's a bonus. Usually at this time of the year my grass is like straw. A great number of members are saying that this is a direct result of the green house effect. I'm not sure, but I do know that if we get as much snow this winter as we got rain this summer my driveway will be plugged. Anyone that might be susceptible to any sort of health condition will have to be very careful, as these types of weather conditions can cause an amazing amount

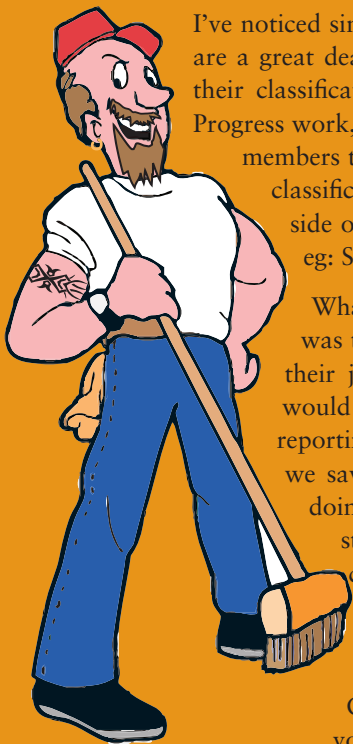
of stress and strain. If you live near a senior or a neighbour with a health problem, try to keep an eye that they are okay with the weather.

I've been on the Executive Board for 3 months now, and the Local is in great shape. I would openly like to thank the members that were on the Executive Board previously for the hand over of the responsibilities of the Local. If at any time I can assist any member of any unit with an issue please feel free to get in touch with me through the Local 112 Office. I will be your voice at the Board.

There are several of the Units that are going through negotiations and others that are looking forward to having their Bargaining Committee's start the negotiating process on their behalf. This Executive Board stands solidly behind all the Bargaining Committee's of this Local and will stand shoulder to shoulder with all issues that come forward.

Well I hope everybody has a great autumn and enjoys the fall colours. Remember that the children will be returning to schools, so watch out for our future members. ⓐ

WILLIE THE SWEEPER



I've noticed since my return to service that there are a great deal of members doing work out of their classification. The Lead Hands are doing Progress work, the company has convinced some members that it is okay to work out of their classification. There are also people outside of Local 112 doing Progress work eg: Supervision.

What we used to do back in my time was to allow the progress people to do their jobs and we would do ours. We would support the Progress people by reporting to the Committeeperson when we saw people out of the classification doing Progress work. We need to stick together and ensure that this company respects our Collective Agreement. I'll be watching and if you watch as well, then we will be able to stop this disrespect for our Collective Agreement. It could be your classification next!!

Signed Willie

VIOLENCE

It's not part of the job!

STRESS

It's not part of the job!

CAW Local 112 will be offering Special Health and Safety courses on:

Stress In The Workplace

October 18, 2008

9:00 am — 1:00 pm

Violence In The Workplace

November 1, 2008

9:00 am — 1:00 pm

Both courses will take place at Local 112 hall located at 30 Tangiers Road, Toronto, Ontario.

Sign up can be done through your plant chair, education chair or health and safety rep.

Cost is \$5, which will be returned on the day of the course.

OUR PLANET OUR PEOPLE

How many things I have no need of.
– Socrates

FAIR TRADE, NOT FREE TRADE

David Gyorgy
Editorial Committee

What is the difference between bananas that cost 39c a kilo vs 2.29 a kilo? Well the bananas are probably quite similar. The difference is who picks them and how. When you see the fair trade sticker on, lets say coffee, you can be pretty sure that your money is not going solely towards corporate profits. That money is being used to ensure a decent standard of life for those that pick and harvest the crops. That sticker represents the idea of social responsibility, and how for the price of one cup of coffee a day you could help support organizations that make workers welfare a priority over corporate greed. Not too long ago there was no option to support trade that was fair for humanity. These organizations are growing rapidly, mirroring closely the virtues that our union holds high: that everyone is entitled to a safe rewarding work place, that ensures a decent standard of life. Fair trade not free trade. You have the option. ①

DID YOU KNOW?

Canada accounts for 2% of the worlds greenhouse gas emissions, compared to our share of the world population which is only 0.5%.

ANOTHER REASON TO BUY CANADIAN

When Canadians purchase goods from offshore suppliers such as clothing, foods, household appliances or cars, not only are we losing valuable jobs in our economy, it has a negative effect on the environment too. The distance those goods travel will be further - hence the “carbon footprint” from the purchase will be greater.

Consider for example the thousands of freighter ships delivering cheap goods from Asia and other low-cost exporters to consumers around the world. These ships run on cheap, dirty fuel such as Bunker oil.

These commercial marine vessels:

- Collectively produce more carbon dioxide (CO₂) than all but 10 of the signatory nations to Kyoto.
- Emit more sulphur dioxide (SO₂) than all the car, trucks and buses on the planet.
- Emit one sixth of all the nitrous oxide (N₂O) pumped into the atmosphere.

Despite all these drawbacks, international ocean shipping has no “Government” control to control it. ①



WHAT YOU CAN DO

Plant Trees

A single tree will absorb approximately 1 ton of carbon dioxide during its lifetime.

Idle Nation

Idling your vehicle for more than 10 seconds uses more fuel that it would take to restart your engine.

Recycle and Compost

If just 1 million people cut down their trash by 50%, which is not hard to do, we could reduce our yearly CO₂ emmissions by as much as 250,000 tons.

Change Your Batteries

Use rechargeable batteries. They cost more to buy, but save you 10 times the original cost and do not get thrown in the trash.

Reduce Chemical Use

Clean your windows and mirrors with vinegar and water instead of chemical products.

Need a Bag? Bring Your Own

Bring your own backpack, tote or canvas sack when shopping, which are so much more comfortable to carry. Globally we use as many as 1 million new plastics bags every MINUTE at a cost of 2.2 billion gallons of oil a year.

If You Don't Need It, Don't Buy It

Create markets for good products like minimal packaging, reusable items and organic foods. Remember, your the consumer and your work hard for your money, so make the manufacturers work hard for yours. ①

ORGANIZE



UNIONIZE



LABOR DAY PARADE 2008

ORGANIZE TO UNIONIZE

For many Ontarians, the last day of the "Ex" marks the final day of summer. But for many workers, the Labour Day Parade is what marks it: a celebration of working people, our sweat and hard work throughout the year, our contribution to society.

This was a monumental day for the members of Local 112: one of our biggest turnouts to date, as well as having the best float.

In keeping with this year's theme: "Organize To Unionize", Local 112 marched side by side with our friends from Progressive Moulded Products (PMP) who have lost their jobs due to the closure of their plant after an organizing campaign.

The day started with speeches by some of our city's great leaders: Mayor David Miller, MP Peggy Nash, and ending with Buzz Hargrove's last Labour Day speech of his 16 year tenure as President of our Union.

The parade left from Nathan Phillips Square, where thousands of people, and floats, marched along Queen St., down to the exhibition grounds entrance.

After a great day of parading and celebrating, we returned to our Local's hall and hosted a dinner for all the members who participated, as well as our Sisters and Brothers from PMP.

What a great day! Plan to join us next year.

N.D'A.



**6-Page
Special Section
Starts HERE!**



SPEND OUR TAX DOLLARS HERE AT HOME

Sometimes it is baffling why things that seem so obvious have to be fought for so hard. Demanding that governments spend our tax dollars wisely is one of those.

It's obvious that we should be entitled to have our tax dollars spent in a way that benefits our communities and the Canadian economy as a whole. Since this seems a no-brainer, it makes you wonder why, since the CAW has been pushing for this for years, only now are we starting to see some momentum behind this demand.

With the crisis in the manufacturing sector that has seen close to 400,000 jobs lost forever over the past 5 years, strong Canadian content rules for publicly-funded purchases is an important tool that governments could be utilizing to help deal with this calamity.

Just look at the municipal level. Our municipal governments purchase billions of dollars worth of goods and services - everything from buses and cars to furniture and food, to name only a few. Outstanding infrastructure projects alone add up to billions over the next few years. This is a very big deal, and if you add in the Provincial and Federal levels of government it becomes even bigger - \$280 billion last year to be more precise! 19% of the Canadian economy.


So of course you would be correct in thinking that however else our governments spend our money, buying Canadian and building stronger communities would be a priority. After all, the U.S. has rules under their Buy America Act, Mexico has comparable rules for itself, as does the European Union. It makes absolute sense for all these countries to do so. So why not here in Canada? Quebec recently passed rules calling for 60% domestic content but here in Ontario we are still at a lowly 25%.

At the Federal level we don't have a Buy Canadian purchasing policy at all, a situation that sees our tax dollars going to buy Chinese-made uniforms for our Canadian Olympic ath-

letes while a recent purchase of buses by our military went to a German company instead of to an existing Canadian company, one that would create jobs here in Canada.

A Vector poll conducted this past May found that 9 out of 10 Canadians say that when governments purchase public transit vehicles, they should buy Canadian-made equipment. Canadian taxpayers get it. How come our governments don't?

It was these issues that took us to the convention of the Association of Municipalities (AMO) in August. 2,000 delegates from across the Province meeting to discuss important policy matters was too big an opportunity to pass up. We handed out our 'Made in Canada Matters' buttons and leaflets and chatted to anyone who would listen—and lots did. And what we found is that there is an even bigger opportunity if we are ready to step up and take it. Many politicians at the municipal level are ready to endorse our call for a minimum of 50% Canadian content.

This is what our CAW activists in Woodstock, Thorold and Oshawa found when they recently took a CAW Buy Canadian resolution to their councils and won! And CAW leadership and activists are gearing up to do the same thing in municipalities across the country. We are also demanding Federal, Provincial and Territorial governments do the same. While this won't solve the economic woes we currently face it will help strengthen our communities and our union is making that happen. 

Carol Phillips is an Assistant to CAW President Ken Lewenza and heads up the CAW Manufacturing Matters campaign.

CAMPAIGNING FOR AEROSPACE JOBS

Dawn Cartwright
Director of Aerospace, CAW-Canada

Many of our members and their families have been the victims of the steady decline in manufacturing within our country. Recent numbers identify that in July of this year alone, we suffered a loss of an additional 55,000 manufacturing jobs bringing the total loss in the hundreds of thousands. The mass exodus of manufacturing jobs out of this country and the resulting impact on workers and the communities in which they live could be significantly lessened if our government were to adopt and enforce policies that recognize the importance of a strong manufacturing base, not only to the workers employed, but to Canada's economy as a whole. For those employed in the aerospace sector, government policy and support geared to both research and development and a requirement for reciprocal work (offsets) in the event of offshore public purchases, has provided a measure of stability.

It was with that in mind that CAW aerospace locals from across the country actively participated in a campaign to ensure that support for our sector not only continues, but continues to improve. In our meetings with Members of Parliament we acknowledged that while our sector generally is enjoying stability and in many cases growth, we are not immune from decisions which have resulted in the movement of our existing work or the investment of new work to low cost manufacturing environments in Mexico, India and China. In many cases the development cost of this work was paid for through our tax dollars. Our sector's involve-

ment in our union's Manufacturing Matters campaign stressed from a first hand perspective, the importance and necessity for our government to put in place policies and measures supportive of manufacturing jobs as a whole. The CAW's "Buy Canadian" is just one example.

At our Aerospace council held earlier this month, delegates representing in excess of 11,000 CAW workers frequently reported that their employers were either presently hiring and or making plans to do so in the very near future. This included CAW workplaces in British Columbia, Manitoba, Ontario, Quebec and Nova Scotia. There has never been a time of greater stability for aerospace workers in my time as Aerospace Director. More good news followed our council with the government's announcement of \$120 million dollar investment in support of both an existing and a future program development in Bristol Aerospace (Magellan) in Manitoba, CAW Local 3005.

Despite the good news, our sector is not without its challenges. Honeywell in Quebec closed its plant the very day we were convening our council. This was a plant that had been around our union for over 30 years and at one time employed almost 600 members. There are also workplaces like L3 in Local 112 which are still in holding pattern with very few members, whose present

outlook doesn't look good. They have been awaiting a decision and are very much dependant on a commitment to offset work at that location. Our efforts at MDA, while a success in terms of our Union's effort to block its sale to ATK and the loss of technology abroad, cannot end there. We must now focus our efforts on ensuring that a commitment to space: support of ongoing development, and Canada's involvement internationally in space exploration, is included in our government's economic platform. Our Union has never limited ourselves solely to making progress at the bargaining table. While we have enjoyed a great deal of success in that area, we recognize the necessity of advocating on behalf of workers interests in the political arena. With the likely announcement of an upcoming election date, we may soon be at the polls. I'm confident that through the efforts of our union we can ensure that potential candidates will have no doubt about the CAW's position on a host of important issues affecting working people. ^(A)



HOW CAN GOVERNMENT ADDRESS THE MANUFACTURING CRISIS?

An Aircrafter Interview with MP Peggy Nash

Sherry Hillman, Editorial Committee



Peggy Nash, MP for Parkdale – High Park and the NDP's Industry Critic, has been one of the few politicians to raise the issue of manufacturing job loss in parliament and in the media, championing the concerns of the 300,000 workers that have lost jobs since Stephen Harper took office. She was also instrumental in forcing the government to block the foreign takeover of MDA by American munitions manufacturer ATK, and continues to press for funding for Canada's space & aerospace programs. She kindly made time for this interview with the Aircrafter on the eve of the announcement of the federal election.

A How serious is this crisis in manufacturing? What do you see as the cause? Is there any end in sight? Would you describe it as cyclical or structural?

PN I see the crisis in manufacturing as a structural crisis, it's caused in some measure by the high dollar, the high cost of oil, the downturn in US manufacturing. These are all factors but the major cause is the massive and growing trade imbalance that Canada has in its manufacturing sector with some of its key trading partners.

A What kind of government action can be taken to mitigate this crisis?

PN Governments like to pretend that the invisible forces of the market are at work and there is nothing that elected officials can do. I don't buy that. Even in the US they have a buy domestic policy for certain key products for example in the transportation sector where government procurement policy requires that they buy locally made products. And we've seen the importance of government procurement in the city of Toronto where the NDP was able to negotiate funds for transit from the federal government that were going to be used for corporate tax cuts. We got that reversed and got that money

invested in public transit. The city of Toronto did its job by awarding the bus contract to a local supplier, Orion Bus. CAW members built the buses – accessible buses to accommodate people with disabilities or parents with strollers. They were hybrid buses, so they were low emission good for the environment and they secured a lot of jobs - good paying jobs in a nearby plant.

A Similarly, there was also the TTC subway car contract awarded to the Bombardier Thunder Bay plant.

PN Yes, similarly that was public investment for transit subway cars. Canada is a world leader in building subway cars so again this could modernize our transit system, be good for the environment and secure a lot of good paying jobs for Canadians, not just the assembly jobs but all the spin off jobs and support services supported by manufacturing. So procurement is clearly one area where government can make decisions. Also we can stop being the good boy scout when it comes to trade and stop saying there is absolutely nothing we can do. Other countries defend their market and their production. Canada is a trading country – we will always be a trading country, but trade has to be fair. Trade doesn't mean you give everything away and get

nothing in return. Right now we are trading commodities – raw materials and we are importing value added goods. Canada needs its share of the value added jobs. It's that defense of the value added sector that our government needs to play a role in. We can't just give away all the good paying jobs to other countries.

A Yes, just leaving us "hewers of wood and drawers of water."

PN Yes, and of course with high oil and gas prices, it exacerbates that trend to be just a commodity trader because it's easy money.

A Is there a role for government investing in key sectors – like the aerospace industry? Industries with high R&D costs and that provide high tech, good paying jobs.

PN Absolutely. Again it's these folks that feel the government should play no role in the economy, that it's completely up to the private sector... But we've seen in the aerospace sector, in the space sector and other key sectors that, in fact, strategic government leadership can make a huge difference. We are a world leader in space satellite technology because Canadians invested millions of dollars to help develop this

technology. We are a world leader in transportation. Bombardier, for example, is a huge success but they didn't do it all by themselves. They had help from Canadians to make them a world leader. Government also invests through the education system: we have a well-trained, well-educated workforce. We invest in infrastructure – roads, sewers, transit. These things all help business, as does our health care system. These things are all advantages that Canada has, but the Canadian government needs to provide further assistance because we are in a period right now of such a trade imbalance. And there are other forces working against our production like the high dollar and high oil prices. Also we have become very dependant and integrated with the US economy and the downturn in their economy is obviously affecting us too.

A *Aerospace is one of the few bright spots in our struggling manufacturing sector, as the headline in your Hills Times article pointed out. Why do you think aerospace has been spared so far? Do you think that's temporary, is there a crisis looming?*

PT No I don't think there is a crisis looming. I think aerospace has been a bright light because Canada and Canadian companies have invested in products that are selling well right now: fuel efficient vehicles, fuel efficient aircraft that are in high demand especially in an era of high oil prices. So that's strategically very good for our aerospace production. The launch of the new aircraft by Bombardier is huge – it's not everyday there's a new aircraft launch so this is a real bright light for us. It speaks to the optimism in the aerospace sector. We have a highly skilled workforce, a very productive workforce and it's a credit to the workers in the aerospace sector – the men and women who make these high technology, high quality products – that Canadian aerospace is such a success story. And to some degree it isn't as affected by the immediate fluctuations of the high dollar, because aircraft purchases aren't as price sensitive as say motor vehicles. Which isn't to say that there aren't some challenges.

A *What would some of those challenges be?*

Peggy: High oil prices. At some point there is going to be a shakeout in the airline sector and that will mean fewer aircraft purchases.

A *Yes, we are already beginning to see the first signs of that with Air Italia, Zoom and some of the American carriers.*

PT So certainly we need to be aware of that, but again I would say that because of the fuel efficiency of the aircraft Canadians are building that certainly is helpful as we go into this period. But there will come a time when Airlines hold back on decisions to purchase new aircraft. We'll have to see where oil prices go and how the airline sector fares over the coming years.

A *What do you think needs to be done to ensure a continued strong aerospace sector in the Canadian economy? Other than the things you've identified as needed for manufacturing in general, is there anything more specific?*

PT We need a government to recognize first of all the importance of a value added economy, the importance of a manufacturing sector making goods right here in Canada. That would be a complete 180 degree turn for this government that has taken a completely hands off approach. I don't know how many times I've stood up in the House and demanded attention of the manufacturing crisis that we are facing in this country and all we hear about is all the jobs in the booming oil patch or the service sector. I challenged the Industry Minister just before the layoffs at Chrysler in Bramalea – I challenged him to go into the plant and speak to the workers and tell them, "the bad news is they are getting laid off, but the good news is there is a minimum wage job for them at Walmart". But too bad that it doesn't pay enough to get your head above the poverty level. Needless to say he never went to the Chrysler plant.

They can't just take a hands-off approach. It's my understanding that the Industry Minister will be making an

announcement today about appointing a new head of the CSA – the space agency. And it looks like MDA has some new contracts. Hopefully there will be more funding for the space industry, particularly because our sovereignty is involved in that as well. But equally, there is a Canadian benefit to having good jobs in the manufacturing sector here in Canada and no government can turn its back on the heart of our workforce by shrugging its shoulders, leaving everything up to the market and just allowing all these jobs to go off shore. Especially in aerospace. There is no aerospace industry in the world that does not have government leadership and investment to help them succeed.

A *You played a major role in the battle to stop the foreign takeover of MDA. Why did you see that as so crucial?*

PT The announcement of the MDA sale came one month after the Industry Minister, at the launch of the Radarsat2 satellite in December 07, bragged about how with the launch of the satellite his government was going to defend our arctic sovereignty. This was a satellite that Canadians had invested hundreds of millions of dollars in and was a unique satellite in the world, designed to assist us with our vast landscape to protect our security, sovereignty and environment. Less than a month later, here was the company announcing it was sold to the largest US munitions manufacturer, maker of cluster bombs, depleted uranium warheads. It just struck me as completely unacceptable that Canadians had paid for this satellite, we were going to lose control of it and worse it was going to go to a US military company probably for use in star wars which we had made a decision we were not going to be part of in this country. The real kicker was that I was able to get the backing of the Industry Committee to get the Minister and witnesses before the Committee and when I finally had Alliant Tech, the US company, before the Committee I asked them what commitments they had made to jobs and investment here in Canada. "Was that part of the contract they were signing?"

...continued on following page



And there was absolutely nothing there - nothing that they had committed to for the jobs to remain here in Canada

A *Despite the impression they tried to leave through the management of MDA.*

P Yes, the company had said this was the best way to secure jobs in Canada but the reality was there was absolutely no commitment to jobs here. It was a bad deal for the workers at MDA, it was a bad deal for the Canadians who had invested our tax dollars in this company, a bad deal for our sovereignty. But I'll tell you, it was a good deal for the people who owned shares in the company. It wasn't that they lost money, but they would have made a lot more. MDA was a profitable company. They were already making money, but they would have made a lot more money if this deal had gone through. Basically, that's what it hinged on: all of the money invested in this technology was from our tax dollars and just a few people were going to benefit from that. It wasn't right.

A *After winning that battle, you said that stopping the sale was just the first step - that we now have to secure more investment, otherwise the company is on life support. What kind of investment is required?*

P MDA said, quite rightly, if they did not get investment and contracts here in Canada, especially government contracts, that they were not going to be able to continue and that's why they wanted to sell to the US. So in persuading the government to block the sale - I might add, the first time in history of this country under the Competition Act we were able to block a sale - we congratulated the government for making the right decision and said now you have to do three things: 1) appoint a permanent head for the Canadian Space Agency, 2) develop a space policy to provide some leadership, direction and security; and thirdly, you have to come through with contracts through the CSA so investment flows. There was commitment, for example, for the Constellation group of satellites at MDA but the money never came through. So it's actually following

through with the contracts and investment that's needed. We had a commitment to the Mars Rover but we missed that opportunity - the money never came through. MDA is a world leader in satellites and also in robotics - that's another reason why it grabbed people's attention. Everyone has seen the flag on the Canadarm, which of course is built right here in the GTA, and it makes Canadians proud. It is an iconic symbol of our participation in space and now the Dexter robots are another step forward for us. So we need to keep those contracts flowing. The company told us very clearly that if they are not getting funded for these contracts they are going to lose the incredibly high caliber of scientists and skilled technicians that make up the workforce at MDA.

A *With the degree of investment that is necessary to support the aerospace and space industry, what can we do to ensure that the government funding stays in Canada and is used to benefit Canadians? Are there strings that need to be attached to the funding?*

P Under the previous government they gave up the licenses for Radarsat and the Canadarm. They don't have to do that. They can keep the licenses for this technology, which is funded by Canadians, and just allow a company to utilize it and then the company pays for that license but it is still held by Canadians. Alexa MacDonald was the Foreign Affairs Critic at the time and she warned that when you lose control of those licenses it could end up in foreign hands and that almost happened. She actually predicted everything that happened with MDA; she fought against the privatization of those licenses under the Martin government. It goes back to that false idea that everything is done better in the private sector. Canada still needs to keep investing in science and technology so we are doing both pure and applied research and we need to keep helping the companies that commercialize that research to develop world quality products that we can produce here and sell to the rest of the world.

A *Why is funding aerospace and space R&D and skill development a good investment for Canada?*

P These are very highly competitive sectors with some of the most desired technology in the world, with some of the most skilled jobs in the world. Any country that's in the aerospace or space sector very much wants to be out front in getting new products to market. That's why Canada is so fortunate to see the launch of the new aircraft by Bombardier. It's a great advantage for us. We have to keep investing to make sure we have the top quality technicians here and so that the companies are able to be successful in selling domestically and around the world. It's a highly competitive market. These are some of the most desired jobs - good paying jobs that we want to keep here in Canada. Any investment that is made by Canadians through our tax dollars to the aerospace companies is repaid many times over back into the economy with the taxes those companies and workers pay, the social services and spin off industries they support.

A *Peggy it's clear that you are doing a great job in Parliament representing us. It looks like there will be an federal election called this week and we sure hope you are returned to the House with a strong mandate as a voice for working people and to continue to advocate for jobs in the embattled manufacturing sector. Do you think the election is a good opportunity to continue to raise the issue of the manufacturing job crisis.*

P Yes, if we are going into a federal election people should challenge all the candidates to as to what their strategy is to support the manufacturing sector. I am running for re-election and am determined to win the confidence of my constituents in Parkdale-High Park to continue to be a voice on their behalf and for good Canadian jobs.





MANUFACTURING MATTERS PHASE 2 WORKSHOP

Saturday, October, 25th, 2008

9:00 am to 4:00 pm

CAW Local 112 Union Hall

30 Tangiers Road, Toronto (Keele & Finch)

In the last few years 400,000 manufacturing jobs have been lost in Canada. In 2007, 360 jobs disappeared every day. This past July an additional 55,000 manufacturing jobs were lost. This number represents the single largest job loss in any month since the recession of 1991 and the crisis continues today.

OUR UNION IS FIGHTING BACK!

On October 25th, join leadership and activists from other Toronto and area local unions as we listen to guest speakers and strategize our next steps in this critical campaign.

FIGHTING BACK CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE!



Please contact Shan White today at 416-635-5988 to register. Lunch will be provided.



SPACE FOR RANT



BUY CANADIAN POLICY URGED BY KEY UNIONS

The Toronto Transit Commission has reopened the Request for Proposal process for a contract worth \$3 billion in taxpayers' money to manufacture 204 low-floor streetcars. Siemens of Germany, Alstom of France and Canada's Bombardier will be submitting bids to win the largest streetcar contract in the world.

Bombardier must be awarded this contract. Final assembly of these cars would be done in Thunder Bay. This nation is hemorrhaging manufacturing jobs – 400,000 jobs gone in the past five years. Last month we had the single largest job loss since the recession of 1991 – 55,000 in one month, 32,000 of those in Ontario.

The Canadian Auto Workers and Canadian Labour Congress are calling on all levels of government, including mu-

nicipalities, to adopt a Buy Canadian policy for purchases. The policy includes a minimum of 50 per cent Canadian content and domestic final assembly for public transit vehicle purchases. The Province of Quebec recently adopted a 60 per cent Canadian-content threshold for provincially funded transit projects.

Municipal councils across the country can help stop the massive loss of Canadian manufacturing jobs, address the dramatic loss in public funds and build strong communities by demanding strong Canadian content rules for publicly funded purchases. I strongly urge Mayor David Miller and TTC Commissioner Adam Giambrone to do the right thing and buy Canadian manufactured streetcars.

Roland Kiehne, President, CAW Local 112, Toronto



Local 112 executive board members lobbied TTC Commissioners and City Councillors, August 27, urging them not to re-open bidding on the \$3 bln streetcar contract awarded to Bombardier. We also demanded that they increase the level of Canadian content required as a condition of their procurement policy. In meetings with Bombardier officials during the day, we were successful in getting them to increase the level of Canadian content in their bid from the 27% in the original bid to “happily meeting 50%” as VP Mike Hart told the TTC in his deputation at the end of the day. Hopefully TTC will do the right thing and re-award the contract to Bombardier to keep the jobs in Canada.

Plan to attend the next membership meeting on October 28, 2008.



NOTABLE AND NOTEWORTHY CANADIAN AEROSPACE INDUSTRY FACTS

Reprinted from The Hill Times, August 18, 2008

STATISTICAL HIGHLIGHTS

Revenue	\$22.7	
Aircraft, aircraft parts and components	\$12.5 billion	55%
Domestic	\$4.1 billion	18%
Exports	\$18.6 billion	82%
U.S. Sales	\$12.6 billion	68%
Europe Sales	\$4.1 billion	22%
Civil Sales	\$17.7 billion	78%
Military Sales	\$5 billion	22%
Investment in Capital	\$0.4 billion	
Investment in R&D	\$1.2 billion	

COMPARATIVE ANNUAL REVIEW, 2002-2007

	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Revenue (\$ billions)	21.5	21.3	21.7	21.8	22.1	22.7
Exports (\$ billions)	16.6	16.2	18.3	18.5	17.7	18.6
Investment (\$ billions)	1.2	1.1	1.3	1.4	1.7	1.6
Employment (thousands)	78.8	75	73	75	79	82

REVENUES BY SUB-SECTOR

Aircraft, Aircraft parts and components	\$12.5 billion	55%
Maintenance, repair and overhaul	\$3.5 billion	16%
Engine and engine parts	\$3.3 billion	15%
Avionics, electro systems	\$1.3 billion	6%
Simulation and training	\$1 billion	4%
Space	\$0.497 billion	2%
Other products and services	\$0.497 billion	2%

CANADIAN EXPORTS BY REGION

United States	68%
Europe	22%
Asia	4%
South/Central America	3%
Middle East	2%
Africa/Oceania	1%

EMPLOYMENT

Total Aerospace-related employment reported by companies: 82,008
2008 Employment project: increase by 1,638

BREAKDOWN OF AEROSPACE-RELATED REVENUES BY DOMESTIC AND EXPORT SALES:

Domestic Customers	\$4.1 billion	18%
Foreign Customers	\$18.6 billion	82%

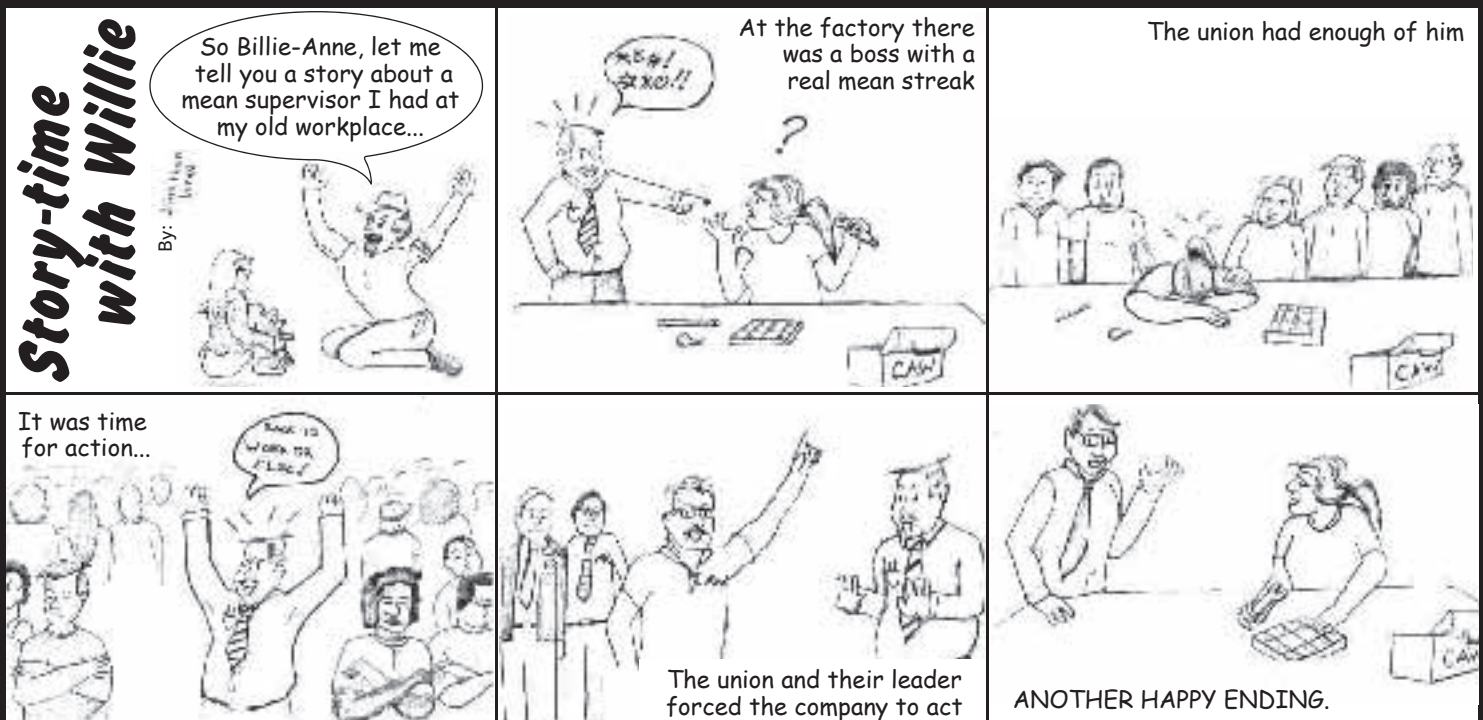
EMPLOYMENT 2007

Breakdown of Aerospace related employment by product application

Civil Application	\$65.6 million	20%
Military Application	\$16.4 million	80%

- Canada's aerospace industry comprises 400 plus firms in every region of the country: collectively they employ 80,000 Canadians
- Since 1990, Canadian aerospace industry sales have more than doubled, reaching \$22 billion 2002
- Aerospace is Canada's leading advanced technology exporter, exporting nearly 80% of its output.

— source: Aerospace Industries Association of Canada, 2007 figures



SHINING THROUGH WITH LOCAL 112

Eric Heuverswyn, Electrical Mechanic
Electrical Shop, Bay 6

My son Michael was diagnosed with autism when he was three years old and the teachers at his school, “Shining Through”, are doing a remarkable job with his progress.

Autism is a neurological disease, which affects the motor and social skills, affecting learning levels of children. Autism covers a very large umbrella from very severe-so that when they sleep at night they get seizures, to more mild where they speak very precisely and exact but cannot understand proper social behavior. Many are in between the extremes. Studies reveal that 1 in 150 kids will be diagnosed with autism, so here at deHavilland with 5,000 people working, somebody that you work near is affected somehow, whether its a family member or a friend.

It's sad to say, but true, that a regular school is absolutely not equipped to deal with kids with autism, unless they have a mild case. If you take a special needs kid with autism to school, the teachers or the principle won't know what to do. The school will get a teacher's assistant for your child, but they are not trained for this kind of teaching. This would be a baby-sitting service and nothing else. The only thing the kid will get out of this school is misery.

This is why intense behavior intervention, or IBI training is so important. This type of therapy is taught at special schools by therapists who have had very specialized training. Being an IBI therapist can be very rewarding but extremely stressful. The cost of this training is 60,000 per year per child.

After your child is diagnosed, he can be put on a government waiting list and apply for funding. Unfortunately the wait list is about 2 years or longer. These years that the child is on the waiting list are very important years, crucial for IBI training. If the therapy is started immediately after the diagnosis the chance for the child to be educated out of it is much greater than if he starts later. Like any disease the earlier the diagnosis and treatment the better.

Not all families are funded. The government funding depends on whether the child is diagnosed as severe and if progress can be made. Michael was on a waiting list for about 2 years before we got the funding. Before that we were on our own.

Autism is not like in the movies, where they are absolute geniuses or that they grow out of it after a certain age. Each child is different, and some kids may be educated out of it, but many don't. The IBI training deals with a reward principle, from the basics of putting on your shoes, to sitting down for meals, to speaking words and forming sentences. This training is very time consuming and expensive, but very important.

Every parent says the same thing: “What will happen when I can't look after him anymore? Who will look after him when I die?” Well I hope and pray that through proper training and education Michael will lead a full and productive life. That's why IBI training is so crucial at such a young age.



Without it his future is to live with my daughter and her family, which most likely won't happen. To be more realistic, a group home for autistic people is very much a reality, and if anyone has ever visited a group home for special needs people, you know that it's a very sad thing to deal with.

Some people may think that the kids don't know any better, and their lives are okay, but these kids know what they want. They want to reach out, but their bodies won't allow them. These are regular kids trapped in their own bodies. These kids want to speak, but can't. These kids want to show affection, but many can't. They want to be like regular kids. With education and training, they may be able to do all of these things.

Our school, Shining Through, hosted an annual charity golf tournament in early July and I was asked to help sell tickets. I have not been successful at fund raising and I wasn't sure how to go about doing it. I asked Jonny Agnew, our union rep, if the union could help out. Soon after Merv Gray came to see me and didn't hesitate. He put together a golf team, inquired about a sponsorship from our local and asked me to speak at our next membership meeting.

I'm pleased to say that the evening turned out better than I thought it would

UPS DENIES HUMAN RIGHTS

Nick D'Alicandro, Editor



Here is another case of a big corporation violating human rights because of phobias of anything or anyone different. This involved eight Muslim women who were working for UPS through a temporary agency. After their temporary positions were phased out as a result of collective bargaining, the women applied for permanent positions doing exactly the same work. The company said that their clothing posed a health and safety hazard, and that the permanent positions were conditional on raising the skirts to make them shorter. Not once during their period of previous employment did the company raise any issue with their clothing. The women refused to shorten their skirts on religious grounds and found themselves without jobs.

The women believed that they were being discriminated against, based

on their gender and religious views, and contacted the Workers Action Center(WAC).

WAC worked together with the woman to retrieve unpaid wages from the temporary agency that had given them the assignment at UPS. They also met with the company on different occasions in order to find a solution, only to find the company unwilling to cooperate, and stand firm insisting that the women raise their skirts in order to get their jobs back.

The women realized then that there was no chance to get their jobs back, so they proceeded by filing a human rights complaint. The Canadian Human Rights Commission has seen this case go through its final stages. Over three years later now the case finds itself at the tribunal level. The process has been time consuming as well as costly.

UPS has hired a Bay Street lawyer to fight this case. The lawyer representing these women has volunteered her services, but even so, the costs continue to rise. A number of organizations got together and organized a fundraiser event to help the women fight this case. Local 112 has generously donated \$300 to the women, and added to a total of over \$15 thousand.

By supporting this case we have not only helped these eight women fight for their human rights, but also supported workers in temporary, contract, and unstable work, challenging the conditions of low wages and unsecure employment. Exposing these conditions is the first step to make positive changes that will help workers who come to this country to make a decent living.

Ⓐ

have. Not only was I able to finish speaking without passing out, but also the school received a very generous contribution from the membership, as well as the sponsorship. At the end of the meeting, people did greet me and tell me about family members with autism. Others came and gave me encouragement and support which I very much needed. My confidence rose that night and since then it has been easier for me to talk about my son having autism. I was able to ask a few friends in the electrical shop if they would be interested in playing in our golf tournament. I am pleased to say that some

of them are putting together their own team and those who don't play golf are attending the semi-formal sit down dinner later that evening.

This is the 2nd year that I have participated in the annual golf tournament. The first year I wasn't sure of how to ask for financial support. Coming to terms with having a child with autism and speaking about it was difficult. I was unsure of people's reaction, but this time I rolled up my sleeves and asked for help.

I would like to thank Merv Gray for helping me with the golf tournament and sponsorship. I thank the member-

ship for their generous contribution, those who were at the union meeting for the support and encouragement. Thank you to the people who are playing in the tournament and attending the dinner later that evening.

In closing, remember that if your child doesn't score a goal or run fast enough to get the ball, don't worry about it. Be glad he is able to join a team and have fun. You must always encourage your kids and set good examples. If he or she is trying, and giving an honest effort, sit back and stay cool.

My sincere thanks. Ⓐ



THE YOUTH OF THE NATION

Dear Youth members,

During the summer I was given the opportunity to join a small panel of youth activists from our union to speak on behalf of the youth to members of our union from all across Canada, who were participating in the Family Education Program at the CAW center in Port Elgin. We were asked to share some of the issues and concerns affecting youth in the workplace, and possible solutions to help solve them. Harassment, layoffs and racism were some of the most common ones that came up in our discussions. The audience was outstanding, taking part in discussions, asking questions, and offering support for the youth once back in their respective workplaces and communities. Every day youth from across the country enter the workforce, but unfortunately many of them face extremely harsh challenges. Young workers, or any other worker for that matter, should never feel they are not equal in a workplace. Senior workers should not use their seniority as a weapon against new, young workers, but use it to teach and guide them. Low seniority is another challenge that youth face, and it's directly linked to layoffs. It makes us act in a more conservative way when it comes to making long-term life decisions. Senior workers can share their experiences and ways to deal with such issues. Rather than create more fear, they should encourage youth to take action by contacting local MP's, or take part in demonstrations, and learning seminars. Join forces!

After each panel discussion at the Family Program, it was great to see that members, who are almost double my age and knowledge, were interested in our issues. It left me firmly believing that if three youth caught the attention of so many people, then it would be just amazing to see the effect a whole youth movement joining forces would have.

In Solidarity,
Nick D'Alicandro

YOUTH'S FUTURE CLOUDED BY PLANT CLOSURE

John MacDonald, CAW Local 222
(On Behalf of "Adam")



For Adam, life lately has been a real rollercoaster ride when it comes to his work in the manufacturing sector. An autoworker of 6 years Adam came from a mechanical technician background. He began his employment with General Motors Canada in 2002. A unionized job that provided good wages, benefits and the ability to be active in his community and union. Life was interesting at work and his young family is his long passion.

On June 6th 2008 a big piece of everyday life changed. General Motors had

announced the closure of the Truck plant in Oshawa, Ontario. Being an employee of General Motors he began to question the hard and uncertain times ahead for him in the coming months and years. A lot of decisions regarding his everyday working and family life had come into play. The new uncertainty with where his seniority would put him with the closure announcement concerned him deeply.

Recently the loss of jobs both in his community and workplace had affected many people he worked alongside with. Many who had recently joined him in their careers in the automotive and manufacturing industry?

There continued to be losses in the manufacturing sector of the Ontario economy. Adam followed these stories in the paper and hear of the closures at work, but up to this point he had not felt the effect directly on himself.

It wasn't a case of shady quality or an unskilled workforce; it was a number of issues that had contributed to this butterfly effect. A high Canadian dollar, higher oil price (stimulated from speculators) and a collapsing US economy that continues to push both American and Canadian workers to a race to the bottom competition against one ano-

ther and throughout the world.

As a father of two young boys and the partner of a loving wife, Adam began to start thinking about the unstable labour environment and the consumer oriented environment that he was rising his young family in. Do I save now for the uncertainty of the future? Begin a transition into a new sector of the workforce? Or continue to live life and move within the roller coaster ups and downs of an unstable economy?

Adam had recently begun some of the necessary repairs to his home. New windows, doors and general maintenance to the home his family loves so very much. Only time will tell what decision his family will make. One thing is for sure ... Adam will continue to support his local economy, not through big box stores or large agricultural farmers. Adam prides himself that he takes the time to support local business, local farmers and Canadian products that are out there. "It is a matter of Canadian values to support your neighbors and your community. It's dedication to our country and community!"

The local Youth committee has also been affected with the workplace. Many of the young active members in the union have been forced to find difficult decisions such as Adam's. The fight for manufacturing, Canadian jobs continues and has only increased their passion to product good jobs for their community. ①

INVESTING FOR YOUR FUTURE



Fred Schwertner
Editorial Committee

Before I start, I would like to state that by no means am I an expert on investments. Neither the CAW nor Local 112 endorses or recommends any particular investment strategy (unless otherwise stated by them) including what follows.

Investment Advice

One of the best ways to determine what you can manage is by going to the bank and meeting with an investment manager. They will provide you with a questionnaire that will determine what types of investments are most suitable for you and which avenue you wish to pursue.

There are basically three ways financial institutions provide investment services: Firstly, a self-directed portfolio where you make all the decisions about investments. Secondly, “limited” financial advice portfolio whereby the financial institution provides guidance based on your risk tolerance profile at no additional fee. Normally these are restricted to mutual/bond funds and GICs. (Be aware that any mutual fund has MERs, management fees range from 0.5% to 3.5% and higher even if the fund loses money. Also note that some funds may have front and/or back-end load costs associated with them). Thirdly, a full-service financial advice portfolio is available at an additional fee. Your portfolio, in most cases, must be a minimum \$100,000 for an investment advisor to show any interest.

RRSP or NON-RRSP?

A good question! RRSPs (Registered Retirement Savings Plan) are considered one of the few tax “breaks” the go-

vernment gives us. (However, you are just postponing the inevitable). By investing now in RRSPs you get a tax rebate from the government. This is what they call tax deferral. You will eventually be able to draw on these funds during your retirement years. An RRSP must be changed to a RIF (Retirement Income Fund) at 71 years of age. The combined income from the OAS (Old Age Security) and G.I.S. (Guaranteed Income Supplement) plans pay well below the poverty line when you finally reach the qualifying age of sixty-five. You may draw from these plans earlier but there are penalties associated with them. Where would we be if we didn't have a company pension? How timely of the government to recently lift the “mandatory” retirement age ever since concerns were raised there may not be enough money to pay all those baby-boomers. (Should have set this aside for the “Space for Rant” section). By then you will likely be in a lower tax bracket.

An RRSP does have one major advantage and that is lowering your present tax bracket. Tax brackets are broken into (All figures are approximate) \$40,000 annual income increments. The first \$40,000 is taxed at 24%. Between \$40,000 and \$80,000 is 35%. And between \$80,000 and \$120,000 the tax rate is 42%. The highest tax rate of 46.5% is for income earned over \$120,000. (That's almost half going to the government) For example, if you monitor your income at year end and find it to be \$85,000 a RRSP contribution (made before the end of February of the following year and only if it's within your deduction limit) of \$6,000 would drop you into the next

lower bracket. In effect, not only will you get a refund from the government of approximately \$2,000 but also the difference percentage – wise of the lower income bracket - 7% in this case.

If you decide going the non-RRSP route then your capital gains (investment or real estate that is not your principal residence) will be taxed on an on-going basis. This has some advantages as taxes need only be paid on 50% of the actual capital gains with a lifetime maximum of \$750,000. Note that a gain is not realized until the asset is sold.

Other Investments

Saving for your child's future education costs by investing in a RESP is another government tax break. You are allowed to contribute to this plan up to a maximum of \$4,000 per year. The money grows tax free until your child uses it for tuition, residence and other education related expenses. If the funds are not used for education, the government will come looking for you.

Whole life insurance is a wise investment. Premiums are usually paid in to this plan until you reach sixty-five. You then have a choice of withdrawing these funds, allow them to continue to grow, or leave them to your beneficiary (spouse, children, or favorite pet) for when you “kick the bucket”. The younger you are when you start paying these premiums, the lower the annual cost is. Term life insurance is a great deal less costly, for the same amount of coverage, than whole life insurance. Rates increase every ten years and this usually ends when the maximum qualifying age of seventy-five is reached. With the increased longevity of today's average male and female, the odds are

VOTE FOR: **JOBS & JUSTICE**

No wonder Stephen Harper was desperate to call an election. The economic crisis is deepening, with lay-offs announced every week as more good jobs are being outsourced or off-shored. His economic model is failing – because it is based on bad trade deals, deregulation, outsourcing, and pumping away raw resources.

The government refuses to have a “Made in Canada” policy for its purchases, but demands that all new infrastructure projects be open to privatization.

It's clear where their loyalties lie. While working families are falling behind, big oil gouges prices and celebrates record profits.

But Canadians want a different set of priorities – starting with decent jobs in a sustainable economy.

Let's keep our eyes on the real prize, and **VOTE FOR JOBS AND JUSTICE.**

Authorized by the Toronto & York Region Labour Council

FIRE HARPER!

VOTE FOR

JOBS & JUSTICE

labourcouncil.ca

- Challenge unfair trade deals that are killing jobs and undermining Canada's sovereignty
- Bring in legislation to protect workers rights, curb plant closures and outsourcing
- Invest in a green economy
- Strengthen our vital public services
- Protect our social wealth – healthcare, childcare, and unemployment insurance
- Uphold principles of peace and global justice

you will exceed that age. After that, you will have nothing to show for the money you've contributed all those years. Either way, having life insurance is important especially if you have children.

Something as simple as a payroll deduction plan into your credit union savings account can rapidly grow over an extended period of time. (Few would notice the difference on a pay cheque if \$50 were deducted weekly. In one year, the savings amount to \$2,600 excluding any compounded interest.

In the previous Aircrafter (December, 2007) edition I mentioned paying off the mortgage ASAP to save on interest. Upon retirement, this is when you

will reap the benefits as it comes time to downsize. The best return on your investment has and always will be your home. Your principal residence is totally tax free no matter how much it has increased in value. Estimates are that in twenty years the average price of a home will top a million dollars. I personally don't recommend getting a reverse mortgage.

Protect Yourself

Buying a paper shredder is money well spent in protecting your wealth and your credit rating. Protecting the equity in your home is another precaution everyone should take. Buying Title insurance (This averages around \$375 depending on the value of the property

and is a one time expense) is a small price to pay for piece of mind.

Education

Never stop learning. Your union's Education Committee has made available the tools you need to prepare for those “golden years”. These one day pre-retirement training seminars are provided, free of charge, on a regular basis.

So there you have it! I've barely scratched the surface but I sincerely hope that this helps you. I'm certain that many will come to me and say I missed something or that I made an incorrect statement. It's good you noticed. It means you're fully aware the future is in your hands. Ⓐ

2008 CAW WOMEN'S CONFERENCE

Is This What Equality Looks Like?

Sherry Hillman, Editorial Committee



"This conference inspired me to the point that I want to get the Local and members involved more on the issues – to spread the word. Carol Phillips is a great role model. Her strength, courage, spirit and determination are inspiring!"

*Maxine DeCunha
Local 112 Recording Secretary*

The 2008 CAW Women's conference attracted overflow attendance with delegates from across the country, including four from Local 112: the three sisters on our Executive Board – Maxine Decunha, Mary Vukman, Sherry Hillman and activist on many committees, Angela Bresolin.

The theme this year was: Is this what equality looks like? Harper's Conservatives have turned back the clock on equality: cancelling the Liberal's planned universal childcare program, gutting women's services and cutting equality programs.

Conference workshops took stock of the gains we've made and challenges we still face in the realm of economic and political equality. Today, in one of the world's richest nations 2.4 million Canadian women live in poverty, still only making 70.5% as much as men – unless you are in a union – that narrows the gap considerably. Being a union member is the single greatest determining factor in obtaining equality. Canada ranks 38th in world on the gender pay gap.

There is also a long way to go politically. "We live in a country today, where

poverty has a woman's face, and power has a man's," delegates were told. Although women comprise 50% of population we are still under represented in the political arena – only 21% of our Members of Parliament are women – placing us 54th in world.

Unfortunately, it's not much better in our union's top leadership. Although over 35% of CAW members are now women, none of the three National officers and only one of seven Assistants is a woman. Women are joining unions in record numbers and if they are going

"Watching our sisters take the podium, I was inspired realizing that change is really possible... Perfect timing for this conference – just before a federal election. Now I feel well educated on the issues to pass on what I've learned to co-workers and neighbours."


*Mary Vukman
Local 112 Trustee*

to choose the CAW they will have to see that there is a place for them at all levels of the political structure within our union.

The closing keynote plenary address was given by Carol Phillips, Assistant to the National President, who had recently announced her candidacy for the position of National Secretary Treasurer. When Sister Phillips took the podium, members gave her a sustained, thunderous standing ovation before she even started to speak. There had been an undercurrent building in the preceding days of the conference as de-

legates informally talked about Carol's candidacy and courage. The conference was clearly in Carol's corner! Although Carol restricted her remarks to the conference's theme and didn't speak directly about the upcoming CAW elections, the connection between the issue of under-representation in the broader political arena and within the CAW was evident to all, and her speech was interrupted by enthusiastic applause through out.

Carol posed the question: "Do we want a piece of the pie or do we want to bake a whole new cake?" She suggested that affirmative action policies have *not* worked and that we need to look at making political structures more democratic and inclusive. Continuing with the baking metaphor, she said, "we're not talking about Betty Crocker feminism: just add women and stir. We're talking about changing political leadership and structures in order that political priorities change."

Carol concluded saying, "We need to engage our collective imaginations, put forward a vision of a world of true equality for all working people, and fight for the measures needed to bring it about." 

"We are capable, intelligent and independent, and with the support of our sisters we can attain any goals...Harper is like the trickster - he implies a false reality about women."

*Angela Bresolin
Picnic Committee Chair*



AND THE WINNER IS...

Congratulations to Jeffrey Lim, winner of this year's picnic photo contest. This photo truly shows this year's picnic spirit "children having a blast" as well as Reaford getting soaked! Well-done Jeffrey. The prize is a \$100 gift certificate at Blacks.



Second Place!



On July 5th Local 112 members, families and friends gathered at the Toronto island park to participate in the annual family picnic. As usual it was a great event with a superb turnout in the vicinity of fifteen hundred. Wow! It was a wonderful sunny day, the type that many would describe as a perfect day for a picnic. And so it was. The kids were the ones that benefited the most from the event, having to choose from a great deal of fun, games and events. There was also a special appearance from a kids favorite "Dora the Explorer" and her best friend, Diego. This picnic is the result of long planning and hard work. So a special thanks goes out to all the members of the picnic committee, and all the volunteers that helped on the day of the event, in order for this day to become reality. Great job!!

We'll see you all next year, until then have a safe and great year...

Nick D'Alicandro, Editor



FAMILY PICNIC 2008