



## **In-plant Update - March 6, 2023**

Today the company announced 4 more weeks of layoff. I think most people suspected there may be some speed bumps along the way until full launch is achieved, however this is another big blow for our membership. Money is already tight for most and this won't help.

We had all hoped to be two shifts by now. However, without parts the ramp up comes to a standstill. All the other major auto plants having been taking weeks out of their production because of semi-conductor shortages, amongst other parts' issues. We may not have noticed the intermittent layoff weeks as we have been down during the retooling. We have now run into parts issues for our Brightdrop.

There have been many questions from the floor and we will try to answer some of the most-frequent items.

### **Trades**

We have been meeting with the company to look at what items the trades can perform during this time. Talks continue as we look at projects that need to be done, or work that can be done ahead of time.

### **Production**

We have asked the company to look at the repairs and see if the repair teams can come in during this period and help get the plant caught up. We have also asked the company to look at hot spots, or teams that need extra attention to maintain the expected production cycle time. We believe that we should take advantage of this downtime and try to get these hot spot issues rectified. Team leaders and some p.a.'s would be helpful in figuring out these hotspots and any possible adjustments needed.

### **Schedule**

We will maintain the current operating schedule. The set schedule has allowed people to set up their lives.

Right now, if you take out April, the number of weeks worked by each shift from start of production up to summer shutdown; A - 6 weeks, B - 5 weeks, C - 7 weeks. A shift will return the week after summer shutdown and B shift will work the following 2 weeks.

Therefore, as of Aug 4, each shift will each have worked 7 weeks, since our return to production January 30.

If downtime is limited to the 4 weeks in April, all 3 shifts will each work 7 weeks by August 4. As the 6-week cycle would continue with C shift achieving 9 weeks first, then A shift, then B shift, etc.

### **Dental**

We have requested the company continue the dental coverage for everyone for the month of May, as most won't work in April to qualify. We are awaiting their response.

### **Paid Vacation Time**

Paid vacation time is calculated by hours worked, not laid off hours. Using paid vacation time does help. If you have full weeks of vacation not yet scheduled, the company has the right to force your vacation into these April down weeks.

### **Union Reps**

The majority of the Union reps will be laid off in April, however the 3 benefit reps will be activated. The vast majority of the time they will likely be set up at the Union Hall and able to meet members face to face.

For some members this will be your first layoff in over a year, for others you may need to serve an EI waiting week. We will have more information out on what to expect and what will be required prior to the layoff period.