



This morning the company informed the Union that they were going to layoff the junior 79 members. At 10:30am the company started the process of sitting down with each individual affected by this. For the junior members the company is informing you of your layoff and paying you Short Work Week benefits for 2 weeks (80% pay),. They are going to call those members on A shift that were supposed to work this afternoon that are impacted by this, to inform them to stay home.

It is shocking and brutal how this is being handled. I am hearing this is a Detroit call – we have too many members for two shifts and instead of supplying proper notice and following the law of the Federal government they are approaching junior members and notifying them they are laid off and asking them to leave the plant.

Please know we are deeply sorry for the members and their families that these impacts.

We do not agree on how this is being done. You don't walk up to people working on the lines and lay them off and tell them to go home. This is devastating news. Many of these members have spouses or family members also working here and the ripple effect is terrible. There are rules in place by the Provincial government, regarding notice periods which GM is choosing to ignore.

We have language in our contract, including Letter 14 that states the company must offer programs to help mitigate job loss. We have brought up packages, volunteers – why not ask 80 members to stay home for year?

We have reached out to our National for assistance. They are working with Unifor legal and contacting GM head office. Notice time, programs to mitigate job loss, etc are all subjects that need to be addressed.

For the past 4 years we have worked on programs to help prevent people from long term layoffs. Now, the company won't even entertain any of our past ideas and yet at the same time, they refuse to acknowledge these as permanent layoffs even though they don't give a return-to work date.

We are extremely frustrated how this entire layoff is being handled. Our junior members should realize you have recall rights for the length of your service time – so everyone has a minimum of 7 years of recall. We will continue to meet with GM and do everything we can to help mitigate these job losses as well as set up programs to assist those seeking help during the upcoming layoff period.

We will update the membership on any new developments.

Unifor 88 Inplant.

