October 14th, 2026 – In plant Update

It has been just over one month since Local 88 members ratified a renewal collective agreement with General Motors. As members know, that agreement did not include an assigned vehicle program for our plant. However, the Bargaining Committee successfully extended income security benefits for members and received written commitments from the company that they will continue to explore plans and pathways for future work at our facility.

On September 30, a small group of Local 88 leadership, along with National Union staff, met with GM representatives in Ingersoll. The meeting was the first since ratification, and an opportunity for union leadership to ask questions about the plant's status, efforts to explore new product opportunities, and GM's pursuit of Canadian Armed Forces defense contracts.

On the defense side and given that company officials are bound by non-disclosure agreements, there was little they could share. They did provide a helpful overview of how Canadian government defense procurement generally works. It is a complex, multi-step process. There are also multiple defense vehicle contracts being tendered by the federal government. All we know right now is that GM Defense is pursuing opportunities, and there is currently no timeline for a final contract award.

The company also explained to us the notable differences in production of defense vehicles, as compared to commercial vehicles. Defense builds typically run at lower volumes, with highly customized vehicle configurations, and highly technical, security and data requirements. CAMI remains a plant of first consideration for any future GM Defense work in Canada, but specific details on employment, training, ramp-up time, etc. are simply not available to us yet. Also, no production allocation can be confirmed before a contract is awarded. We know this is top of mind for many of you. We can commit that as soon as more information is available to us, you will be the first to know.

Most importantly, the company reassured us that they continue exploring future, long-term opportunities for the plant, beyond just defense-related work. For our union, bringing vehicle assembly back to CAMI is a primary goal. Unfortunately, with the current economic climate strained by U.S. tariffs, the immediate future remains uncertain.

The company committed to ongoing conversations with our union and to provide further updates over the coming months. We will be sure to relay any relevant information to you, so that you stay informed.

In the meantime, please don't hesitate to reach out with any questions.

In solidarity,

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