



AIRCRAFTER 70 Years!

JUNE 2012 • VOL.12 ISSUE 1

CHARTER International Union United Automobile, Aircraft and Agricultural Implement Workers of America UAW-CIO

To All Whom These Presents Shall Come

Know Ye, That the International Union, United Automobile, Aircraft, & Agricultural Implement Workers of America (U.A.W.-C.I.O.), affiliated with The Congress of Industrial Organizations, established for the purpose of effecting thorough organization of the automotive industry, and composed of Local Unions and members in different sections of the country, doth, upon proper application and under conditions herein provided, hereby grant unto

<u>E. V. Coulson</u>	<u>R. A. Chabaud</u>	<u>Earl Robertson</u>	<u>Ed Conroy</u>
<u>E. B. Trayer</u>	<u>Tom Harrison</u>	<u>Tom Spratt</u>	<u>F. L. Reine</u>
<u>David Gohar</u>	<u>Russ Christie</u>	<u>A. J. Brockie</u>	<u>Harold Saunders</u>
<u>Morris Jackson</u>	<u>R. A. Becker</u>	<u>W. Knower</u>	<u>D. J. Leigh</u>
<u>J. E. Dolan</u>		<u>J. Mayer</u>	

and to their successors this Charter for the establishment and future maintenance of a Local Union at Toronto, Ontario, Canada to be known as Local Union No. 112 of Le Havilland Aircraft of Canada Ltd.

Now, the conditions of this Charter are such: That said Union forever and under any and all circumstances shall be subordinate to and comply with all the requirements of the constitution, by-laws and general laws or other laws of the International Union, United Automobile, Aircraft, & Agricultural Implement Workers of America (U.A.W.-C.I.O.), as they may from time to time be altered or amended; That said Union shall, for all time, be guided and controlled by all acts and decisions of the International Union, United Automobile, Aircraft, & Agricultural Implement Workers of America (U.A.W.-C.I.O.), as they may from time to time be enacted; That should the Local Union above chartered take advantage of any powers, privileges or rights conferred under the laws as they may exist at any time, said action shall not prevent the International Union, United Automobile, Aircraft, & Agricultural Implement Workers of America (U.A.W.-C.I.O.) from recalling, amending, changing, or abolishing any such powers, privileges or rights.

So long as the said Union adheres to these conditions, this Charter to remain in full force; but upon infraction thereof, the International Union, United Automobile, Aircraft, & Agricultural Implement Workers of America (U.A.W.-C.I.O.) may revoke this Charter, thereby annulling all privileges secured hereunder.

We have hereunto set our hands and affixed the seal of the International Union, United Automobile, Aircraft, & Agricultural Implement Workers of America (U.A.W.-C.I.O.) this twentieth day of June 1946.

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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.



LEFT HAND SEAT

Hugh Lynar, Editor

Uplifting good news for the deHavilland unit, we've secured the WestJet order for a firm 20 aircraft with options for 25 more, lets hope that's the beginning of a landslide of orders. After all there's a lot more components lying around than one could reasonably expect, so, show us the orders!

It's now all but confirmed we've added two new units to 112, so I'll let our President cover the details and I'll go with "Welcome Aboard"

Hewitt has ratified, always a relief to have these things go as smoothly as possible.

We as a local have just reached our 70th anniversary, and if that doesn't give you pause and make you wonder.....

Recently we held a 50/50 draw at the deHavilland plant with proceeds going to the families of the migrant workers tragically killed in Hampstead. With a total of \$2047.66 raised between the tickets and the bake sale, the winner of the 50/50 draw magnanimously donated his winnings back into the pot.

So to Hardev Sehra a great big high five from all of us!

The discussion about the formation of a new union is ongoing and looking positive so see Nicks article for more details. When you have some time go to www.newunionproject.ca you'll want to be informed and involved. Just look for the logo below.

I want to take this opportunity to say that although it seems so very far away our 75th anniversary will be upon us before we know it. For such a massive milestone we'll be looking for ANY memorabilia that you may have kicking around, old Aircrafters for example, hell the FIRST Aircrafter. Older collective agreements, photos, trust me in this: nothing is trivial at this stage. Even as an example if your photos are damaged we'll have it brought back to archival quality. We'll also need a few dedicated, motivated and indefatigable individuals who understand that this is a monumental and somewhat unforgiving task. Having discussed this with Local 222 I was surprised to discover that this, for them, was a 3-year task. So if you've a willingness to help build this please contact any union representative and you'll be pointed in the right direction. Ⓜ



STRONGER TOGETHER: 70 YEARS OF SOLIDARITY

Roland Kiehne, President



On June 17, 2012, Local 112 will celebrate our 70th Anniversary. We have a proud and rich history that is well documented. From the early struggles of organizing the union at deHavilland Aircraft, to the many months we have spent on picket lines fighting for fair and equitable collective agreements, to the mass work refusals over health and safety conditions and our members mobilizing to take on all levels of government in the fight to retain jobs in Canada, our members understood then as they understand today, that sacrifice and hard work are required to impact change and to achieve victory. Brothers and Sisters, as we look back at our colourful history, we must acknowledge and thank our retirees for laying the foundation on which our great local union is built. Looking forward, we must learn and apply the lessons the struggles of the past have taught us as they are as relevant today as they were then. Workers united will never be defeated. Happy 70th Anniversary CAW Local 112!

Stronger Together - Negotiations 2012

On January 29, 2012, we held a first proposal meeting with our new unit of two-hundred and thirty workers at UTIL Canada Ltd in Vaughan. UTIL is a 2nd tier supplier in the auto-parts sector and manufacturer of brake parts. First contract negotiations are underway. The workers are determined to make progress. Seniority rights and health & safety are among the key issues. Congratulations to the newly elected bargaining committee led by Unit Chairperson Mathi Sithamparanadarajah.

In addition to UTIL, I want to on behalf of the membership welcome the fifty

workers at CUSCO in Richmond Hill that have also joined our local union. CUSCO manufactures mobile vacuum equipment for industrial, commercial and environmental applications. A proposal meeting was held on May 9, 2012 and first contract negotiations began on May 17, 2012. Congratulations to Ash Bocas and Paul LeDrew (Unit Chair) who were elected to the bargaining committee.

On February 5, 2012, the membership at Hewitt Material Handling ratified a new 3 year collective agreement. The bargaining committee was successful in resisting company demands to reduce benefit costs by adding substantial co-pays, to freeze COLA and for a change to wage progression. Progress was made in the areas of wages and pensions and improvements were made to contract language. I want to thank the membership at Hewitt for their solidarity and support throughout the bargaining process and acknowledge the hard work and determination of the bargaining committee led by Unit Chairperson Dwight Brown. Well done!

A proposal meeting was held on March 4, 2012 with our members at Bombardier and a strike vote meeting took place on May 27, 2012. In addition to seeking the traditional improvements to wages, pensions and benefits, our members have made it clear that they are not happy with the drug benefit plan in its current form. Some workers have had to reach deep into their own pockets to pay for expensive medications that are not covered by the plan. This issue will be front and centre during this round of bargaining.

The bargaining committee at Toromont (Concord) completed the process of reviewing bargaining surveys and has prepared proposals. A proposal meet-

ing is scheduled for June 3, 2012. Negotiations will commence on June 14, 2012. Bargaining with this employer has always been incredibly tough and I don't expect it to be any different this time around.

In August, bargaining will commence with L-3 SPAR Aerospace and in the fall, negotiations will open with both Toromont (Orenda) and Vitafoam.

2012 is shaping up to be the busiest year for collective bargaining in our local union's history. I am confident with the solidarity, support and determination of our membership we will make progress for our members and their families. I look forward to the challenges that lie ahead.

Aerospace Review

On February 27, 2012, Christian Paradis, the federal Minister of Industry announced the launch of the Aerospace Review. Six working groups are being established to undertake a comprehensive review of all policies and programs related to the aerospace/space industry in an effort to develop a federal policy framework for the sector. The working groups include Technology Development, Space, Market Access & Market Development, Aerospace-Related Public Procurement, Supply Chain Development and People & Skills. The groups will be composed of industry members, representatives of relevant stakeholders & representatives of relevant federal departments.

In 2004, our union launched "*Staying Aloft: A Sector Strategy for Canada's Aerospace Industry*". On the next page is the concluding excerpt of our strategy. It is as insightful today as it was eight years ago. This is a must read for all stakeholders involved in the review of Canada's aerospace industry.

President's Message *continued...*

CAW – CEP Discussions

As many of you know, our union and the Communications, Energy and Paperworkers Union of Canada (CEP) are exploring the possibility of building a new union together. A Joint Proposal Committee composed of leaders from both unions has been engaged in discussions since late February 2012. The Joint Proposal Committee's mandate is to investigate the possibility of forming a new union, and then present a report and recommendations to the upcoming constitutional conventions of the two unions (the CAW's convention in Toronto in August, and the CEP's in Quebec City in October). These conventions must approve any proposal to form a new union, before any subsequent steps are taken.

In this edition of the *Aircrafter*, Brother Nick D'Alicandro interviews CAW National Secretary Treasurer & Co-Chair of the Joint Proposal Committee Brother Peter Kennedy on the NEW UNION PROJECT. To follow the progress of the talks please visit www.newunionproject.ca.

On a personal note, I want to express my heartfelt appreciation for the many expressions of condolence my family and I received on the passing of my father. This emotional time was made easier by your warmth and kindness. As we approach the summer vacation period, take time away from work and spend it with family. ENJOY! In Solidarity. ⓐ



CONTRACT TIME!

Dan Alushi,
Vice President

As you know it's contract time again for the Bombardier and Tormont Units.

The Bombardier Unit Committee is already doing a Grievance burn down with negotiations set to start after the burn down procedure is finished.

The Tormont Bargaining Unit Committee is starting to meet to get their proposals in order for their set of negotiations. A proposal meeting will take place on June 3rd.

The membership has always shown strength and solidarity in the past and I am sure this time will be no different.

To our Bargaining Committees: be assured you have the full support of the members at these contract talks to do what's needed to negotiate fair and reasonable contracts. Best of luck! Happy 70th CAW Local 112!. ⓐ

Staying Aloft — Conclusion

We are a country that has struggled throughout its history to define a stronger economic role for ourselves, beyond just supplying natural resources to other, more economically advanced trading partners. Our geography, our size, and our history combine to make this struggle an uphill one. In recent years, some of our few industrial success stories have faced tough times – while the free trade agreements have reinforced our traditional role as a natural resource supplier. In short the challenge of Canada's industrial and technological development is as daunting as ever.

In the context, Canada aerospace industry is a precious jewel in our national industrial base. As a high tech industry in which Canada was able to develop world-class capabilities, aerospace is virtually unique. We have developed home grown technology, competitive skills and facilities and domestic head offices. And when times were good, we reaped the benefits of that success; exports, productivity, incomes, and spin off jobs that enhanced the welfare of tens of thousands of Canadians and their families.

Reasserting Canada's leadership in aerospace should be defined as a national project, and a major economic priority. This industry includes major production facilities in all regions and supports spin off jobs and tax revenues from coast to coast. It represents the best of Canadian know how, and reflects a unique Canadian vision of industrial partnership between private industry and government.

Since 2001 our aerospace industry has been hammered by unprecedented events, largely beyond its control. But how we respond to that challenge is entirely within our control. Canadians could stand back and conclude that this is a matter for private markets, let the economic chips fall where they may. In this case, our aerospace industry will lose thousands more jobs in the years to come, and Canada will be reduced to depending on the innovation and investments of other countries – from whom we will purchase all our own needs, just like we do today in other high tech industries like electronics, machinery, and pharmaceuticals

Alternatively, we could assert that Canadians have a right to share in the economic benefits of high technology, high value industries like aerospace. Given our expansive geography, aviation plays a vital role in Canada, and we spend billions of dollars annually on aerospace equipment. We have a right to enjoy the jobs, incomes and technology associated with producing that equipment, and in turn, sharing our knowledge and skills with the rest of the world through our exports.

Canada's aerospace industry wasn't built by accident. It was built thanks to powerful policy interventions, aimed at challenging the direction of private markets and channeling the innovation of Canadians in both private companies and public agencies, to create a domestic critical mass. Reasserting Canada's aerospace leadership, similarly, won't happen by accident. It will take similarly bold and powerful efforts, by companies, by governments and by workers to ensure that we continue to play a role in this high value industry that outstrips our usual lackluster industrial record. ⓐ

ANOTHER MILESTONE! 70 YEARS!

Scott McIlmoyle, Financial Secretary



Congratulations to our local union reaching another milestone! 70 years of being a local committed to it's members and the communities that we work and live in!

On June 17 1942, we were officially chartered as Local 112 under the International union of the UAW. The local executive board has a working committee to organize a 70th anniversary celebration of our rich history.

Bargaining/Strike Committees

As we head into spring the local has 2 sets of negotiations taking place. Bombardier's collective agreement expires on June 23 and Toromont expires on June 30. Both bargaining committees have had their proposal meetings.

There is a lot of work that happens away from the bargaining table in order for the local union to be prepared in the event of a labour dispute. The DH strike committee has had some meetings already and will be posting info at Bombardier as to picket captains, meetings and the like.

Toromont strike committee will be meeting in early June to cover and prepare as well and information about the strike preparation will also be posted in Toromont.

WSIB

Just when you think it can't get any worse for injured workers, at a recent WSIB meeting, the chair, Hon. Steve Mahoney announced that he will be stepping down at the end of May. He is an ex MPP from the liberal party. Premier Dalton McGuinty has appointed a Tory MPP to take over as chair. The Hon. Elizabeth Witmer has resigned

from her seat, which she has had since 1990 to take over the WSIB. This move is a political one by McGuinty. The liberals will try and win the by-election in Witmers riding to achieve a majority government.

The bigger problem is Witmer was one of Mike Harris top officials that helped to change the workers compensation system to an Insurance system in 1998. A system that cut workers benefits, subcontracted jobs out of the WSIB, and then to kick workers even more lowered the rates employers pay to WSIB.

As the Chair of the CAW Council committee, I along with other WSIB reps from the CAW have been meeting with the leader of the NDP, the Hon Andrea Horvath, labour critics, Minister of Labour and other MPP's.

We have requested a meeting with the WSIB board of directors. As well, we will request one with the new chair. We can't sit by and let them erode the gains we have made over the years.

Picnic

I first want to thank the 11 volunteers that stepped forward to organize and run this year's picnic at Heartlake Conservation area on Sat June 9. Marti Konto-Taylor was elected chair and has had several meetings and everything looks like it will be another great event. Make sure you register on time!!


Retirees

Our retirees chapter is one of the most active with many of them participating at demonstrations or lobbying when called upon. The retirees Christmas social was well attended with over 600 members and spouses held in early De-

cember. I look forward to more active members stepping into the retirement world but still remaining active with the local union.

Labour Day

CAW locals around the GTA have had meetings and have decided on a jacket. A picture will be on the posting at each unit. Sign up early so you are not disappointed and come out for a great day. It includes face painting, free admission into the CNE and a BBQ dinner following the parade back at the union hall.

At this time I want to wish all our members and your families a fun filled summer. 

	Mar 31, 12	Feb 29, 12
ASSETS		
Current Assets		
Chequing/Savings		
1000 - BANK		
1001 - Chequing at TD Canada Trust	124,705.54	91,820.54
1002 - Term Deposit	531,880.40	531,675.73
1000 - BANK - Other	-4,581.71	-4,501.71
Total 1000 - BANK	651,904.33	618,994.56
Total Chequing/Savings	651,904.33	618,994.56
Accounts Receivable		
1200 - ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE	8,875.82	7,691.20
Total Accounts Receivable	8,875.82	7,691.20
Other Current Assets		
1210 - Miscellaneous Receivables	115,997.67	115,997.67
1300 - Undeposited Funds	286.38	0.00
Total Other Current Assets	116,284.05	115,997.67
Total Current Assets	777,063.20	742,683.43
Fixed Assets		
1500 - BUILDING & LAND	650,000.00	650,000.00
Total Fixed Assets	650,000.00	650,000.00
TOTAL ASSETS	1,427,063.20	1,392,683.43
LIABILITIES & EQUITY		
Liabilities		
Current Liabilities		
Other Current Liabilities		
2400 - Payroll Liabilities	6,564.43	12,110.60
2420 - Accrued Expenses	95,300.02	95,300.02
Total Other Current Liabilities	101,954.45	107,410.62
Total Current Liabilities	101,954.45	107,410.62
Total Liabilities	101,954.45	107,410.62
Equity		
3150 - Perm. Restricted Net Assets	650,000.00	650,000.00
FUND BALANCES		
3201 - Education Fund	680.10	382.00
3202 - Human Rights Fund	-477.82	-537.44
3203 - New Members Orientation Fund	1,001.56	941.56
3204 - Political Fund	23,440.20	23,142.10
3205 - Recreation	-7,327.59	-4,290.92
3206 - Retirees Fund	-323.43	-192.98
3207 - Womens' Fund	-1,482.81	-1,542.43
3209 - Building Fund	7,514.56	6,054.96
Total 3200 - FUND BALANCES	23,024.77	23,967.25
3220 - General Fund	558,494.80	557,552.32
Net Income	93,589.18	53,753.24
Total Equity	1,325,108.75	1,285,272.81
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	1,427,063.20	1,392,683.43



70 YEARS OF STRUGGLE AND CELEBRATION

Merv Gray, Bombardier Plant Chair

Congratulations to our local, 70 years of proud tradition, a proud history and a proud membership.

I have watched our union closely since I started here with deHavilland some 30 plus years ago. The membership back then was approximately 2,300 strong and at that time we were under the banner of the UAW, which is still intact south of the border.

I remember getting involved in our union back in '78 along with a few other young individuals. We were full of energy and excitement as we were handed down a wealth of experience from our predecessors.

'81 brought a different structure to our union and looking back brought in a different membership in many ways as well.

Several lengthy strikes with long days and nights on the picket lines paved the way for many of us today to enjoy what was negotiated.

This trend continued over the years and although we did not always get what we wanted, we certainly did the membership proud in moving forward with difficult times

As I reflect on good times and bad it is certainly rewarding to have represented both the active employees and the current retirees.

To speak to the latter point our retirees have been the backbone of our local. They have paved the way for what we enjoy today. Without their dedication and commitment we would not be where we are, and I for one will certainly not forget what they achieved in setting the stage for our future. Thank

you for your countless efforts and loyalty.

Collectively we have spent over two years on picket lines in the past fifty years to achieve what has happened. Let us not forget and always remember you have to look at the past to see the future.

It is ironic that as I sit in negotiations right now with the company the issues and struggles continue. Our job is never done until a reasonable agreement has been negotiated and ratified by you the members we represent.

So another chapter has been written and I hope our next 70 years are as fruitful as the last. Let's not take things for granted, you earned it



United we stand, divided we fall, let's stick together, backs to the wall. Congratulations CAW Local 112! 

Photo Contest



Can you identify the make, model and year of both cars in this photo? Prize pack to include a CAW hat, toque, golf shirt, t-shirt and a leather jacket. In the event of a tie the tie breaking question is what year is this strike photo from? Email your answers to editor@caw112.on.ca. We will announce the winner in the next *Aircrafter*. 



SO YOU THINK THIS IS EASY?

Nick Shearman, Brinks Plant Chair, Toronto

Office day/day off

I've just got in from work, its 19:45 and I have just pulled in my driveway, the work/union phone rings and I answer the call. Its someone from work and they tell me of some very private issue they are having and I let them know that I will help them and get them the information and forms they are going to need. I let them know the phone is on 24/7 and should they need me don't hesitate to call me no matter what. I hang up, head into the house greet my dogs, pull a cold one out of the fridge thinking about the conversation I just had. Change out of the uniform, sit to enjoy the cold one and the phone rings again, this time its a situation at work, some one is being told to do something against their restrictions and what do they do? Hang up I will call base now and talk with the supervisor. Make the call, situation solved.

A steward then calls to let me know of two issues he dealt with and the paper work is on my desk and that another situation is looming, Ok thanks, check emails, I have two meetings set up for tomorrow one at 09:00 and one at 12:00, mental note to self, guaranteed they will run one into the other, better grab breakfast before it all starts.

21:00 I have managed to get half an hour of Law an Order in on the

TV and its time to pack it in for the night. Alarm set for 03:30 and the next thing I know is a text comes in and looking at the clock its 22:58, someone wants to know if they get paid if they don't work their full 8 hrs. I say something about the senders timing and attempt to get back to sleep. Doesn't work, slip out and take a poor unsuspecting dog for a walk around the block. Back to sleep. Morning starts at around 03:30 or so after a couple of snooze button hits and off we go.

On the way in to work, 06:30 incoming call from Rolly: "Nick I need to set up a meeting on the pre arb case and we are having a rally going on on Sat, can you be there?" Yes I can, will bring the camera. Two text messages come in and some one has to go home, not well.


Today is my office day or day off day as some have called it. Open the office door, several Sealed envelopes on the floor, sit and go through the mail and disciplines and two grievances, pick up the weekly schedules from dispatch and back to the office to grab breakfast and check two more emails that have just come in, and go over the schedule, company wants to lay off. I want to see the part time hours listed on the schedule. Someone sticks their head in the door, they have a quick question, 10 mins later they are satis-

fied with the response and leave, I do have to get back to them on part of the question.

A page comes in from dispatch. Nick heads up on a discipline coming down. Ok what has happened? Details are given, and the armoured steward can deal with it, I will brief him on the situation and give him my thoughts on it. Ok Nick, thanks, he says.

08:30 text message: 'Nick I am here for the meeting', Ok will meet you at the front. Meet with Rolly and go to the union office for briefing at 09:00 meeting to deal with the issues. I was correct as one ended the next meeting begins, so glad I ate breakfast.

12:00 return to work, Scott has arrived to deal with two return to work situations. Tour the areas selected for possible work locations and its now 15:30. Now every one leaves and I grab my lunch and figure I can get time with HR for a couple of issues and maybe get a response for a grievance or two. Back to the union office, file some papers, afternoon stewards are arriving, catch up on some questions, situations, grievances, and call it a day.

18:45 and heading home, phone rings, its a steward with an issue and wants my thoughts on the situation. I give them and we go from there. My day off at the union Office. 

On behalf of the Brinks Master Bargaining Committee and the 1000 members of Brinks Canada, we would like to extend our Congratulations on Local 112's 70th Anniversary. Your Local played an important role in the 1st round of negotiations in the CAW for this membership, and we reached a historic agreement with this employer. As we get set for another round of bargaining soon, we look forward to Local 112 providing leadership again, and moving the cause of Brinks workers forward. Again Congratulations.

In Solidarity, Mike Armstrong, National Representative



AGREEMENT REACHED

Dwight Brown, Hewitt Plant Chair

Greetings Sisters and Brothers, The start of 2012 has been very eventful for the members of local 112 at Hewitt.

The New Year began with the solidification of the proposals brought forward by the membership and the final preparations for the opening of contract bargaining before meeting with the company. The bargaining committee of David Cerasani, Ryan Archer and I had the unwavering support and direction of our Local Union President, Roland Kiehne along with our National Representative, Mike Reuter. With the resolve of the membership and dedication of the committee I

am happy to say that we bargained a 3-year agreement with Hewitt.

This agreement was highlighted by gains in wages and pensions along with some improvements to contract language. We also gained some protection for skilled trades apprentices which will allow an apprentice that “can see the finish line” of the required time in their trade, to avoid a layoff until that time has been attained.

We were also able to resist proposals by the company that would have caused substantial downloading of cost to our members in the current benefit plan.

Not long after this contract was ratified, tensions between the employees

and management started to escalate. After two separate membership meetings and with the galvanizing of the membership this came to a tipping point. It was at this time our General Manager called an impromptu meeting with the members in the area with the highest tensions. The result of this meeting, and the following open forum discussion was a better understanding on both sides of the situations contributing to the increased tensions.

Since this meeting, internal changes have already begun and in speaking with many of the membership a new-found sense of optimism is evident. Only time will tell. ⓐ



REFLECT ON STRENGTH

Dennis Borden, MDA Plant Chair

It is with great pride that I am able to offer congratulations to CAW Local 112 on reaching the remarkable achievement of its 70th anniversary. All members past and present should take time to reflect on the strength of this local that is the result of the solidarity and dedication of the leadership and the membership.

The outlook here at MDA remains unstable due to the uncertainty with both the Canadian governments plan for space exploration and the ongoing instability in the U.S. space program. The company has acquired some new business in other areas that are not related to our traditional product base, but it does fall short of the revenues required to sustain the current number of staff.

I want to wish everyone a great summer and hope to see a great turnout at this year’s family picnic. ⓐ

From the Beaver through to the Dash 7 and on to the current Q400 and Global Express, along with the Canada arm, Local 112 and the CAW has benchmarked quite a number of firsts in aerospace. With the addition of non-aero units and their unique experiences, Local 112 has established itself as a progressive local union with a reputation for challenging both employers and sitting governments. On behalf of its members, congratulations.

*Dawn Cartwright
Director for Aerospace
CAW Canada*



WORKING THROUGH UNCERTAINTY AT NORTHSTAR!

Graham Davies, Northstar Plant Chair

Since returning from our strike after last year's collective bargaining we have found out that the company is on shaky financial grounds. Late last year Northstar reported that they would be unable to meet their banking covenants as of Dec 31st 2011! This has resulted in challenges by the company at all our divisions to run the business on a day-to-day basis. Northstar had previously announced that they were seeking strategic alternatives for the company. It's my understanding that this will result in the sale of the company in the very near future. Hopefully this is the case and we will get some stability back and continue to manufacture and meet our customer's deliveries!

The uncertainty, along with changes to shift schedules has added to everyone's ongoing stress. Changes to the hours

of work as a result of the last round of collective bargaining has forced some of our members onto undesirable working hours and shifts. Your bargaining committee has been continually discussing with management to reassess areas where these changes don't make sense. Hopefully both parties can continue to work together and alleviate unnecessary workplace stress!

The company has also taken the direction of issuing warnings for what they deem careless workmanship. We have filed numerous grievances dealing with these issues and are particularly concerned that several of these were escalated straight to suspensions in some cases. We all understand the need to produce good quality products and the negative impact poor quality has on our shipments. Disciplines just add to further work place stress!

On a positive note it was nice to see nine of our members retiring earlier this year with the incentive package. Combined these members had close to 250 years of seniority both at Northstar and previously at Spar! I would like to wish those recently retired and all our retiree's a long and happy retirement.

Since returning from collective bargaining we have continued to have disputes with the company on outsourcing. With several of our members still on layoff we all must be concerned about the company's lack of regard for this very important clause in our collective agreement. We are scheduled to take this issue to arbitration in mid-May and will hopefully put this issue to rest. Ⓐ

To my fellow Brothers and Sisters from CAW Local 112

It is with enormous pride that I congratulate all of you on the 70th anniversary of our great Local. We have played a major role in making the Downsview area a vibrant community to raise our children.

The struggles and contributions of Local 112 to the broader trade union movement, and the CAW specifically, have not gone unnoticed. Our collective agreement with our employers was derived out of struggle. No one ever gave us anything, we earned it.

In the three times that government interfered in the denying a multi-national takeover, twice this feat was accomplished by members of CAW Local 112. The first was in the early 1990's, by our members at de Havilland Aircraft and more recently, by our members at MacDonald Dettwiler. Without our

determination and collective solidarity these work places would not exist today.

Today is a day that we remember our successes but more importantly, reflect on the challenges that lay ahead. Our sincere commitment must be to make our communities, workplaces and our movement stronger for the future livelihood of our families.

On a personal note, it has always been my honor to represent you as an elected representative for many years and it is with equal pride that I continue to serve you from the CAW National office. Congratulations to each and every one of you, and thank you for your continued contribution.

In solidarity,
Jerry Dias
Assistant to the President



A BROTHER REMEMBERED

Melrose Cornwall, Toromont Plant Chair

I would like to dedicate this portion of my article to my good friend and union brother, Nigel Watson, who sadly passed away on February 6th of this year. I have known Nigel Watson, as he been fondly referred to for the last 25 years, as a simple man who would often times leave his own task to lend a helping hand to any of his co-workers. His knowledge of the older versions of Caterpillar machines can only be matched by a select few. During our many conversations his talk quite often revolved around “the girls”, which was the way he referred to his daughters. It was quite obvious the joy his children brought him as he would often have the biggest smile as he spoke proudly of them.

As a union representative on occasion I would have to solicit donations from the members in aid and support for an unfortunate natural disaster. I would always remember Watson for his generous contributions towards any of these causes. Watson was a man of integrity with only love for his fellow


workers. He was well loved by all who were in contact with him in turn. This was made all the more evident at his funeral service when almost all of his co-workers, both current and retired were present. Even the company president paid his final respect. One can only conclude this was indeed, a special individual.

Our collective agreement will expire at the end of June and we will be putting our proposals together. We will be having a proposal meeting on the 13th of May and hopefully we would start negotiations on or around the 11th of June.

The last three years have been extremely challenging for many of us who consider ourselves to be middle class. We have been constantly attacked by politicians, the media, and by many companies both locally and internationally. Politicians worldwide are implementing austerity programs an example of which takes away the fundamental right to join a union. Companies are attacking workers on a

daily basis trying to reduce wages, cut benefits, in some cases demands have been as high a 50% reduction. Just take a look at what Caterpillar did to those workers in London Ontario! Yet our government stood by and allowed these corporations to walk away with taxpayer’s money through incentives as well as tax cuts. Yet we’re told that these measures are designed to boost the economy?

Throughout this whole economic meltdown Caterpillar has done incredibly well. It will be interesting to see what they will come to the table with when we begin negotiations. I hope that they’ll not follow in the footsteps of others but will treat the workers with respect. We will not let them forget their own policy statement ‘Our people are our number one asset’

Throughout the bargaining process we will continue to update you on any progress so stay tuned. Your bargaining committee will be working in your best interest! 

CAW
Connected



Sign-up for CAW Connected to stay informed about important issues and events the CAW is involved with across the country. You’ll receive email updates on CAW campaigns and information about upcoming rallies and demonstrations! Please visit:

www.connected.caw.ca



**SIGN THE
PETITION**

Our communities need decent, well-paying, productive jobs, including in value-added export industries, like auto. Without good jobs, we can’t support local businesses, pay taxes to support public services, or offer our children a decent future. Good jobs are crucial to the well being of our communities – no matter what job you do. Creating and preserving good jobs into the future requires concerted effort by both business and government. It doesn’t happen without taking concrete action. Please visit www.rethinktheeconomy.ca



UPSWING FOR BUSINESS

Ahamad Nabi, Vitafoam Plant Chair

In the past there was always a downturn in business at Vita Foam in the first quarter of any given year. However for this very period in the last 3 years, 2012 included, the situation has been quite the opposite, and indications from management point towards this trend continuing throughout the remainder of the year.


The sewing department will be expanding while additional staff will be hired to compliment the second and third shifts.

One of the main reasons for this dramatic turn around is the fact that one of our major competitors is currently on shaky ground, and the sales staff did not hesitate to capitalize on the situation.

For the dedicated and tireless workers this upswing in business could not have come at a more opportune time, as contract negotiations are just around the corner.

Safety At Vita Foam

With the expected upswing in the coming months, coupled with the imminent arrival of summer and the change in schedule that this inevitably brings, remember our commitment to being a "Safe at all times".

As summer approaches allow me on behalf of my fellow workers here at Vitafoam to extend the very best wishes for a safe and enjoyable summer vacation. 

It is with much pleasure that I write to congratulate CAW Local 112 on your 70th anniversary of representing working people, improving working conditions and building stronger communities. Through the past 70 years your local has faced numerous challenges and your Leadership and Membership past and present has faced them with the same determination that has made your Local a strong champion of Social Unionism.

Once again congratulations on 70 years of Social Unionism and community Involvement.

Leon Rideout
President
CAW Local 1285

Congratulations Local 112

My warmest regards to members - past and present - of a union local that has made history for workers and the local Downsview community since its initial charter in 1942. A job well done!

Women in the plant, quality protocols, respect for retired workers, workplace safety, lobbying for improved labour legislation - I could go on and on. Local 112 - a proud and strong presence in the workplace and in the community.

Congratulations on 70 years of solidarity.

Sincerely,

Councillor Maria Augimeri
Ward 9 - York Centre



Maria Augimeri

City of Toronto Councillor
York Centre, Ward 9



Toronto City Hall
100 Queen Street West, Suite C53
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Get a quote and we'll donate on your behalf!

Share the good news: for every quote we receive, we'll donate \$1 to a CAW local charity.

Call for a quote today!
1-877-229-4677

As a member of the CAW, you're entitled to great coverage and preferred savings on your auto and home insurance. Call **1-877-229-4677** or visit cawinsurance.com today for your free, no-obligation quote and discover the insurance you deserve!

Our **Union**. Our **Insurance**. Our **Service Centre**.

CAW  TCA
CANADA

AUTO & HOME INSURANCE

Did you know? The CAW group auto and home insurance program is administered by your fellow members at CAW Local 1524.

Group insurance is brought to you by Breckles Insurance Brokers Ltd., and underwritten by Traders General Insurance Company, a subsidiary of Aviva Canada Inc.

FIGHTING CORPORATE GREED



Caterpillar Electromotive and Snowbear, just two names drawn from today's headlines, and you should know that they're not the only ones, simply the most current...



As the rhetoric amps up from the powers that be about how they can't survive paying these wages and that they want us to take a 50% pay cut, the hard truth of the matter is that their myopic shortsightedness will only cause their own downfall in the end.

See if, as a corporate baron, you liquidate your employees in an effort to outsource the work, usually to a foreign country in order to line your pockets with gold, it directly translates into a diminishing returns scenario.

If I lose my job, and as a result either get reemployed at a lower wage, or worse find nothing at all, then I'm forced to engage in belt tightening. When I'm engaged in belt tightening, I'm not buying superfluous products, which are usually yours by the way, therefore, your bottom line decreases. To compensate, you engage in *more* corporate restructuring, we lose *more* people to unemployment, which increases the load on the general taxpayer, who's quite frankly already up to his or her backside in alligators, and has long since forgotten that the idea was to drain the frikken swamp.

In the case of Cat they were howling about wages. Well, lets look at that, shall we? The average worker — you remember them, they're the ones the corporation was praising about how efficient they were, how good they were, and how they'd made Cat piles and piles of money — make somewhere in the vicinity of \$35 an hour. The CFO on the other hand, was/is making \$5,072 an hour. Yes you read that right \$5,072 an HOUR. If you took a mere \$875 an hour away that would cover the wages of 25 employees, at \$1750 you now have 50 employees, and if you took away a soul destroying \$2625 an hour away from our Mr. Oberhelman we could then reemploy 75 people. Now he's not alone there at the top and I'm quite sure I can find savings to not



only reemploy everyone that used to work there, but I might actually create a small hiring boom too!

If I apply this procedure to the top 100 companies I've just created enough liquid assets to reduce the unemployment situation dramatically. Then, wait for it, the economy will actually turn around and the tax burden just may decrease, then Canada becomes a good spot to invest in, and then, well, you can follow this line out as far as you'd like.



The request to reduce my wages so you can increase yours is, simply put, a non-starter. Lets decrease YOUR wages by 50% and you can cry ME a river while you have to wait till the end of 2 whole days before you can buy that Ferrari Enzo.



What you need to know is that there are people on the front lines fighting this, and yes sometimes the message gets muddled or lost and written off as more rhetoric, and our growing short term attention spans are actually aiding the enemy, but, what you need to know is that your local union is right there, right in the midst trying to get the real message out, and knowing that without some stalwart group leading the way this will only accelerate. *So ask yourself just what are you doing to help? Because when it happens to you, it's already too late.*





A HEALTHY ENVIRONMENT IS CRUCIAL

Maurice Coulter, Chair, Retirees Chapter

I was born and grew up on a farm. Along with my brothers and sisters we enjoyed fresh air, clean water, healthy home grown fruits and vegetables, alongside the staples derived from wheat and oats. I firmly believe the maintenance of a healthy environment is crucially important for the survival of future generations. The present conservative government appears to be heading in the opposite direction.

They're cutting funding for the food inspection agency to the tune of 5.6 million as well as scrapping the National Round Table on the environment and the economy, a panel that was created under the Mulroney years, of all things. They plan to cut 1,026 positions at the Canada Border Services Agency as well as eliminating 2,000 professionals and scientists, most of whom are currently engaged in efforts to protect the safety of Canadians in such fields as food, product testing and environmental monitoring.

The tar sands in Alberta and the proposed pipeline might adversely impact the environment. Harpers surprise decision to acquire the power to override the 53-year-old independent National Energy Board is very alarming. Clearly the Harper government is undoing decades of work that have a clear process which fulfills federal constitutional responsibilities for proper environmental review. What environmental legacy are we leaving for future generations?

Reminiscing

On the weekend an old friend, Helen, phoned me. We frequently have these phone visits. Helen, who is a deHavilland retiree, lives up Lindsay way, and although 5 years older than me is still managing to live on her own.

Helens clock number is 614, only 1 other retiree has a 3-digit number. When I first started in the electrical shop, some 50 years ago, after the union had won my grievance for a posted job. I worked on the coding machine beside Helens sister Terry.

Helen and I were reminiscing about the "Good ol' days" at deHavilland. What a great place it was to work. At that time the electrical shop was actually quite large and the workers had originally come from many different parts of the world, but we were like one big happy family. I enjoyed working there until my retirement in Feb of '89. And truth be told, I'm still enjoying my retirement years.

Vimy Ridge

On Monday April 9th 4,000 Canadian high school students took part in the silent march from Givenchy to Vimy in northern France to participate in the ceremonies marking the 95th anniversary of the battle for Vimy Ridge.

The goal of the battle was to break through the, up until that point, impenetrable German lines. The French

had tried to wrestle control of Vimy back in 1915 and were unsuccessful. The British tried in March of 1916 and they too were driven back.

On Easter Monday morning of April 9th, 1917 20,000 Canadian soldiers besieged the German lines atop Vimy. By April 12th 3598 lay dead and 700 wounded, but the Canadian corp were in firm control of Vimy Ridge

The students, after the march, participated in the service at the Canadian Vimy Ridge Memorial that stands on the highest point of the ridge. As a side note the last Canadian veteran of World War I passed away in 2010 at the ripe old age of 109.

This was a moving experience for our students. It is very important that our young Canadians learn the history of our country, demonstrating to them the strength and resolve to overcome the many obstacles we all face in modern world.

To all our young Canadians from this old senior citizen 'To you from failing hands we throw the torch; be yours to hold it high'. Ⓐ

The Toronto & York Region Labour Council salutes CAW Local 112 on 70 years of great leadership in the labour movement and Canada's aerospace industry. Your members working in a wide variety of workplaces generate immense wealth every year - and contribute in so many ways to our economy and a more just society.

John Cartwright, President

THE NEW UNION PROJECT: AN INTERVIEW WITH PETER KENNEDY, SECRETARY TREASURER OF THE CAW

By: Nick D'Alicandro

Ⓐ *Tell us a bit about yourself?*

“**I HAVE BEEN** a proud member of the UAW -CAW for 40 years this August. I started working at 3M London UAW, now CAW Local 27 August 28 1972. I became involved in the Union almost immediately. I first served as a committeeperson, then elected as Plant Chair, then Recording Secretary, and lastly as Financial Secretary. Shortly after the split from the UAW, I was elected as Secretary Treasurer of CAW Council where I served for 3 years. In 1989 I was appointed on staff as Director of Education. In 1992 I was appointed as assistant to the CAW national Secretary Treasurer Jim O'Neill and served in that position for 17 years, a very long apprenticeship. When Jim O'Neill retired from office I was elected National Secretary treasurer, which have been the best four years of my life. There are no words to describe the way I feel about this organization.

Ⓐ *When did the New Union Project begin?*

“**THE GENESIS OF** it all started from “informal conversations” at the Canadian Labour Congress between Ken Lewenza and Dave Coles (CEP president) where they challenged themselves as to how to change things, how to make things really different! That led to a more formal meeting which occurred last fall between Ken Lewenza, myself and Jim Stanford (CAW economist) from the CAW side, and Dave Coles, Gaétan Ménard (CEP Secretary Treasurer) and Fred Wilson (CEP assistant to the president) from the CEP side. We spent a day and a half basically discussing the idea, if it made sense, and if there was enough of a consensus to continue elaborating.

After the first meeting there was general consent that this idea had potential so we met again, this time bringing in the Assistants to both Presidents and the Quebec Directors from both sides. This was to get a broader consent about the worth of doing this, recognizing the challenges, but acknowledging the possibilities and the great potential that this could have on the future of the labour movement in Canada.

The positive outcome of that meeting prompted us to set the stage for the message that was put out to our members and the labour movement about this project. Subsequently after that, both organizations structured a “proposal committee” which is made up of 8 members and 3 staff from each side who would begin to look and discuss some of the issues in a deeper fashion.

So far the proposal committee has met twice to discuss issues such as structure of the new Union, goals, direction and logistics. Our most critical obstacle will be the structure, what the Union will look like in terms of governing bodies, staff, memberships, locals, offices, all the back bones that will make up the New Union, basically all the constitutional requirements that will bring it all together. This final product will be presented at both the CAW convention in August, and the CEP convention in October, and if voted in favor by the delegates of the respective Unions, it will give the leadership the authority to move forward in creating the new Union.

Ⓐ *Have there been any stumbling blocks?*

“**I WOULD NOT** call them stumbling blocks. This is not about combining two Unions, this is about creating a new union, new goals, new ideas. Because of our history and principles as individual unions, there have been some issues that arose such as structure where ours is different from CEP. We have a more centralized structure around the national, where they have a more centralized structure around their locals. And these are differences that are to be discussed and come up with a means that the new union will be reflective of both structures without losing what made us successful throughout the years.

Ⓐ *What will be the key focus of the New Union?*

“**WELL, OVER THE** past 3 decades we have witnessed an unparalleled attack on working class people and Unions, and although we managed to stay afloat in resisting the attacks, we haven't been successful in moving forward. We've been fighting a battle in defense mode, while trying to hold on to what we have limit the damage. What we need

"The name does not define who we are; we define who we are by our actions."

to be doing more effectively is working towards building a better and more equitable and fair society. The challenge has been that we have not been successful in incorporating the union into society and encouraging society to better itself. If we look at countries where the labour movement is strong, in terms of numbers, one can see that things like income disparity are not as dramatic as ours. We need to be more visible not only in our workplaces, but in the community, by engaging community groups that have similar interests as ours, and working together to create networks that spread from our municipalities all the way across the country. This is where a more spread out presence, and greater membership numbers will come to play a big role when trying to mobilize the masses.

Ⓐ *Some members have identified that they are afraid of losing our identity if we move away from CAW, to the New Union. What would be your response to that?*

“THE NAME DOES not define who we are; we define who we are by our actions. I am confident that moving forward, we will be able to build a new structure that will preserve our best qualities as CAW and our culture, for example: the CAW sometimes gets criticized for meeting too many times with its members via Council throughout the year, well that to us is fundamental and important and something that will remain moving forward in the New Union. While we are all committed of doing this, just like everybody else I'm sure, we're not going to do this just for the sake of doing it! If we are going to do this, it will be to create something better than we already have, not something bigger!

Ⓐ *Any thoughts on the new union name?*

“NO, THERE HASN'T been any thoughts or even suggestions so far, but the general consensus is that given the nature of what we are creating here, it would be something that would be reflective of our objective and goals rather than the sectors or areas we represent. The only thing that has been discussed is the reflective process of how



we get the membership involved. I would imagine the name decision being one of the final items in the process that we will deal with.

Ⓐ *Given the number of years you have served the union, I imagine you have some attachments to the CAW. How do you describe your own feelings about the merger?*

“PERSONALLY, MY BIGGEST obstacle is not necessarily moving away from the name, but that I will find it to be hard to move away from the logo. The CAW/TCA, that's what is probably going to be my biggest personal obstacle.

Aside from that, it's quite exciting, and I am very pleased to play a part of this process. Although, this might sound a little too cliché, what we are doing here is making history, not only for our organization, the CEP and the whole labour movement, but also for Canadian citizens. It's an historic moment!

This not only has the potential to reshape the Canadian labour movement, but ultimately reshape the Country!

But let's not forget, although many think, it's a done deal, or the fix is in, that is not the case by any stretch of the imagination. There is still lots of work ahead. In my personal opinion, can it be done? Absolutely. Is it going to be easy? No! But I am very optimistic.



HEALTH & SAFETY: A UNION PRIORITY

Joe Rudnick, Health & Safety Representative, Bombardier

Dear Brothers & Sisters,
I'd just like to take the opportunity to wish Local 112 a happy 70th anniversary, and a sincere hope for 70 more.

Although it is disappointing that it has taken us two years to complete the Health and Safety Awareness Training, thanks to the push and consistency of myself, my alternate, our Joint Health and Safety Committee and our Health and Safety Instructors, it is finally complete.

For a company that talks and says that Health and Safety is #1, I can't understand this. If this were a priority with the company, it never should have taken us so long to complete.

In saying this, we should be commending the Bill 168 Training soon. I guess we can only hope that this training is done in a timely manner and doesn't take us two years, or worse more, to finish.

Bill 168 is violence and harassment in the workplace. We were supposed to be trained on this by June 15th, 2010!

We, with your cooperation, will continue to do our part in achieving this training.

On a positive note, some big construction projects are planned for the near future. Please remember that these areas are considered construction sites. If you have any questions or safety concerns during this construction, please do not hesitate to contact me. As you are aware, I try to stay on top of these projects to make sure that they don't endanger any of our people.

Unfortunately, we have some Project Coordinators who feel that it is all right to have disregard for our safety and daily operations; doing major concrete cutting during the middle of the day or huge painting projects, which cause disruption and heartache. If these Coordinators would only live up to the agreements that they have made, we would be able to get these projects done in harmony. I appreciate your patience during all of this work and thank those of you who keep me informed when you see issues.

We've just had a new issue arise, in Bay

9 with the men's locker room where full sized lockers are being replaced with half sized lockers. This issue was dealt with years ago and it was agreed at that time to go with full size lockers, so you have a place for you to store your coat, boots and your bag – not these half sized lockers. This initiative is being driven by one manager, even though it has been pointed out to him that it was already agreed that they were to be full size lockers. All that I can say is; I remind everyone that you need a place for your clean clothes, and a place for contaminated clothes. I've asked, along with the areas' committee person, that management look into this. At the time of putting this letter together there has been no change in plans and they are going ahead with the half lockers. I have forwarded our concerns on to our bargaining committee and hopefully they can resolve this.

On behalf of my alternate, Steve Szekelely and myself, I would like to wish you and your families a safe and relaxed summer. Ⓐ

It is with great pleasure and pride that I congratulate CAW Local 112 on your 70th anniversary. Your Local union has the well deserved reputation as being in the forefront on activism. You have made great progress at the bargaining table and have shown the way on issues such as health and safety. It is well recognized that your challenge on chemicals in the workplace brought about WHMIS in our workplaces.

Our fight for a fairer society does not end in the workplace and Local 112 has demonstrated this. Your progressive stands on human rights and your involvement at the political level is a model for all.

On a personal note, I thank you for your support on our Local's dispute against Caterpillar.

In Solidarity, Tim Carrie, President CAW Local 27 & President CAW Council

JOB SECURITY MATTERS

Phil Fryer, Bombardier Skilled Trades

It has been some time since I have last written an article for the *Aircrafter*. As this year being our 70th anniversary I think that it appropriate that I share a few thoughts with you.

I have had the pleasure of representing you for the last 12 years, some of which has been far more challenging than others.

As always the most repetitive and annoying issue remains the sub contracting of our work. After a very long, but success-

ful, arbitration on this issue, which concluded in December of 2010, I had hopes that we could have put this all behind us. However the fight for job security never ends. I can assure you that I will be ever vigilant when it comes to job security, now and in the future.

At the time of this writing I, and the other members of the committee, are now in the bargaining process and will be presenting our proposals to the company. As always

our goal is to complete this process with a fair deal for our members as we have in the past.

Our union has a rich history of representing our members to the best of our abilities, and in this anniversary year, it is our goal to continue this practice

So in closing congratulations to both our active members and our retirees for all your solidarity over the years and a job well done. Ⓐ

OUR LOCAL UNITED WILL NEVER BE DEFEATED!

Nick D'Alicandro, Alternate Committeeperson Zone 1

Dear Local 112 members, I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a happy 70th anniversary. Although I have not been in the local for all those years, looking through past *Aircrafters* at all your personal stories and the ones of our retirees teaches me about our rich history as a Local. Fightbacks and victories have brought us the gains we have today. Throughout the 70-year history there have been many tough battles, sacrifices and numerous days on

the picket line, standing up for our rights and a better future for ourselves, and new generations to come.

I would like to ask you, Local 112 Bombardier unit members, to keep this thought in your mind and close to your hearts, over the next month or so. Our Bargaining Committee is currently at the table with the company trying to negotiate the best possible collective agreement for us. Remember how we got what we have,

it was through solidarity and support for each other and our leadership that represented us at the bargaining table.

Our strike vote is May 27th 2012. I urge each and every one of you to make your voice heard. For us, for those who fought for us in the past, and for those yet to come. Let's let our Bargaining team know that we are fully behind them and give them the 100 percent strike mandate that they need! Ⓐ

LOCAL FINANCES HEALTHY

Terry Howes, Brad McConnell, Mary Vukman, CAW Local 112 Trustees

We recently completed our 2011 year end audit of the union's finances. We met with the President, Financial Secretary, and Executive Assistant to review our findings and would like to commend the hall staff on their professional conduct in addressing any inquiries or suggestions we may have had. We have determined that our Local's finances are in an exemplary state of health.

We also wish to welcome two new members to the Local 112 family. UTIL are currently in the process of bargaining

their first collective agreement and the Cusco Unit will be joining us in the near future with only the formality of approval at the next General Membership meeting.

Several current Units in our Local will be commencing, or have already begun, negotiations with management of their respective companies. Both the Toromont and Bombardier Bargaining Committees will be facing many challenges and are ready for whatever comes their way. Strike vote meetings are just around the corner and we encourage everyone to attend. Your full support for your

Bargaining Committee representatives is greatly appreciated. Also, coming out to membership meetings on the last Tuesday of every month is a great way to stay current as to the goings on in our union and community, and provides you the opportunity to voice any suggestions or concerns you may have.

In conclusion, the Trustees want to take a moment and wish the membership all the best in the coming months. The labour movement continues to face many trials and tribulations in the foreseeable future but our members are a resilient group. Ⓐ



BENEFITS/TRAINING REPORT

Gord McAlpine, Bombardier Training & Benefits Representative

Something new

In the past, if your spouse's benefits stopped with her/his employer you had to inform Bombardier's Employee Service Center (ESC) by way of a letter from their employer stating when their benefits would end. The ESC would then inform Green Shield and Industrial Alliance that your spouse no longer has benefits, and no co-ordination would exist. Now, you, the employee, has to make the call to the benefits carrier and inform them that your spouse does not have benefits from a specific date. Please remember that when you are calling Green Shield you should have your card ready as they will ask for your ID NUMBER. The same applies when you are informing Industrial Alliance — have your card ready as you will be asked for your policy and Certificate numbers. Note: You should also inform your pharmacy that your spouse no longer has coverage with their last carrier.

Over-age Dependant

I have a number of employees with children turning age 21. These children will no longer be eligible for benefits. If your child is a full-time student, however, you can supply the ESC with an Over-age Dependant Form and apply to have them put back on. The form must be stamped by the school where the child is attending full-time. The Over-age Dependant form must be handed in at the beginning of the school year (September), and the benefits will run to August. Remember, over-age dependants run out of benefits at the age of 25. There is one exception: if your child is being claimed as a handicap child before the age of 19. You can get the Over-age Dependant Forms from the Employee Service

Center that is located across from the Credit Union.

Address Change

It is the responsibility of the employee to inform the company of any change in address. The ESC will inform payroll, Green Shield, Industrial Alliance, and if you are a retiree, they will inform RBC. You should make sure your address is current so that you get T-4 statements, Green Shield and Industrial Alliance payments, recall notices and sub fund payments.

Training update

The company has now opened the new Learning Center! We have already completed 3 two week sessions and the feedback has been good. Even though only one classroom is being used right now, by the time you read this, the 2nd classroom should be in use. I would like to thank the instructors for their many hours of work getting the school up and running, alongside the Training Department.

The Health and Safety course that has been going on for 1½ years is finally coming to an end, it was originally only supposed to take 6 months. The company H.R. Department and the Training Department have faced many challenges trying to put so many people through a course that was planned to be completed in 6 months. I would like to thank Steve Parker for helping Joe Rudnick and myself stay on track. I would also like to thank the H&S instructors for switching to the afternoon shift with sometimes only one day notice, or for instructing when the class had only one participant.

The next course that is to be completed before the end of the Collective

Agreement (June 23, 2012) is a four hour harassment course. There is also a government mandated Bill 168 Violence and Harassment in the Workplace course that is to be completed in December 2012.

There is also training for the new way that paint is going to be coming into the company. It will be coming in cartridge form, and will require the use of a hand pistol mixer.

In bay 2 there is a new air float system that will soon be used to do the marry up on the Q400 center fuse to the empennage, and also to do the marry up of the tail cone. The training on this has taken longer to get done because the company rushed to get the line up and running (no surprise)!

I have to remember what I was told in a meeting: "I, the Union Training Representative, do not run the training program, the company does".

On behalf of Local 707 and it's membership, we would like to congratulate Local 112 on their 70th Anniversary in representing their members.

Gary Beck
President, Local 707
Member, CAW
National Executive Board



REUTER BROTHERS PAVED THE WAY

Kimberley A. Lloyd, Bombardier Women's Advocate

It's that time again when a new contract is being negotiated at Bombardier. Our Bargaining Committee is already working through the grievances. Disputes arise during the life of a contract and therefore unsettled grievances accumulate. Collective bargaining agreements were an important first step toward the goal of justice for workers in history.

The accomplishments and benefits obtained because of our union and the process of collective bargaining and solidarity among workers is the reason that we have what we do today. Most of us are aware that in history labour relations were unregulated by government and considered private between company and employees. Trade Unions became popular during the Industrial Revolution. Employers often mistreated and underpaid their workers.

The UAW, the origin of our CAW, and the dedication of the Reuter family is part of our beginnings. In the 1930's Canadians became part of the UAW.

Due to national environments and different economic conditions they faced, the CAW was formed.

The UAW did not belong to the Reuter brothers, but they had major influence on the direction in collective bargaining, political action and international activities. The Reuter family immigrated to Wheeling USA in 1812, a growing industrial center. Walter Reuter's father, Val, was employed as a laborer in an Ironworks factory where he worked 72 hours a week, six days a week of 12 hour shifts for \$1.50 a shift. His work in the union was the major interest of his life. Val Reuter was the union spokesperson with the brewer's owners. There was a mutual respect between each side. He said that negotiations should always be conducted with courtesy and consideration for the other party's view. He helped the coal miners, who were beginning to organize, who, controlled by the mine operators and were subject to brutal oppression. He also spoke at legislature to ban child labour. "I saw

a child 12 years old leading a mule into the mine. I saw them bring that child out, his body crushed and mutilated from falling stone. I saw the mother of that child hold his mutilated body, and I swore that I would fight child exploitation." (Val Reuter).

Walter Reuter the president of the United Automobile Workers, from 1946 until his death 1970, used collective bargaining to fight for fair pay for workers, benefits and decent hours.

"If you make \$258 an hour, they give you a pension, but if you make \$1.65 an hour they say you don't need it, you are not entitled to it" (Walter Reuter at a Ford rally). The first pension agreement in the industry, signed with UAW in 1949.

So, we wait for the collective Bargaining Committee in solidarity. We wait knowing that we have elected them and that in good faith with their experience and commitment, decisions made are in our best interest. Ⓜ

GIVING BACK

Local 112 and Local 673 community service committees were successful with our charity drives. The "Share the Warmth" drive for coats, hats and mitt was successful in delivering much-needed items to Ancaster Public School. Concurrently we held our food Drive for North York Harvest Food Bank and delivered another 162 pounds of food!

The toy drive at Bombardier was successful with the Children's Aid Society picking up the many toys that were

donated prior to Christmas. A special thank you to the workers who gave their time collecting donations and purchasing toys for the drive. Your kind contributions have brought smiles to children's faces. Thank you all.

With Ancaster in need of a new Interactive White Board, and no money in their budget to purchase one, we had a raffle to win great prizes including a camera, iPod, Nintendo 3DS and 2 laptops. We were able to present Ancaster Public School a cheque for \$1905.

Thank you all so much for your help! Ⓜ



FIRST WOMEN'S COMMITTEE ORGANIZED IN THE 60s

Kimberley A. Lloyd, Bombardier Women's Advocate




With December 6th, Canada's National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women, in mind, the Women's committee hosted a successful dinner with 48 local 112 women attending. The purpose of this gathering was to reach out to the women in the membership and distribute information regarding the history of the Women's Committee and encourage involvement with our union and our committee.

The following information, from the International Labour Organization, depicts how the first women's committee was organized. In 1961, a local wage agreement between UAW Local 222 and GM in Oshawa set the hiring rate for a male assembler at \$2.16 and hour, while for women, it was set at \$1.87. This was not challenged until the late 1960's when a small group of active and outspoken women unionists began to look beyond the scope of

their union and organized a women's committee. In the 1960's the women were devastated by layoffs because they were put on separate seniority list. These women were determined to fight for their jobs and seniority. In 1969, the local 222 Women's Committee worked with their local union to draw public attention to the issue. In December 1970, the bill became law. The members of 222's Women's Committee could take pride in knowing that union women brought progress to all women of Ontario. That same year in General Motors plants across Canada, women moved into line jobs for the first time in the company's history. They secured equal rights and benefits with men at this time, under the terms of the Collective Agreement.

The women's Committee of Local 112 works to identify and break down barriers for women's participation in the work place, society and in the union. We are a respectful committee that will

keep women informed about the work that we do and pass on any new information and knowledge that we obtain. We will set goals, get things done, while collecting ideas and advice. At all times we are inclusive, and encourage women to be supportive of each other. My hopes are that women will want to be a part of this group of women, that we represent strength, unity and pride.

The International Labour Organization included the Canadian Auto Workers union into it's recent compilation of 25 good practices entitled, *Gender Equality and Decent Work, Good Practices at Workplace* (Bureau for Gender Equality, Geneva 2004) Our CAW has had a long standing reputation in promoting gender equality, advocating for women's rights and fostering women's activism ILO, (Press and media center, 2001). 

On your 70th Anniversary, CAW ETOP Local 673 and all our members congratulate you. This date has found you in the center of the Labour movement within the Toronto Area. You continue to show progressive social unionism that has benefited your members, their families and the community. You continue to move forward with your activism, increasing your membership, as well as the solidarity and support you provide to all sectors of the CAW and affiliated unions.

We have stood together flag to flag on many united struggles, Local 112. Congratulations on achieving your 70th anniversary.

In Solidarity on behalf of the entire membership of local 673.

Maryellen McIlmoyle
President, CAW ETOP Local 673

RESPECT FOR OUR RETIREES

I'm sitting here at the retirees' luncheon and although most would see some past their prime, I do not. I see the youthful probationary employee out to change the world, I see the assembler who helped build legendary aircraft. I see the spark who ran all that wiring, I see those that were daring enough to take these birds out for the first time.

But more than anything else I sit here and marvel at all that I now have, the wonders that I enjoy, and all that I can look forward to based on their drive and indefatigable desire to simply make things better.

And for that I thank you...



If people forget the sacrifices and courage of our union pioneers, who risked their livelihoods—and sometimes their lives—to build this Union, then they'll start to take the Union for granted.

They'll forget that without a union, individual workers have no chance of resisting the demands and power of corporations, big and small.

On behalf of CAW Local 222, happy 70th anniversary to CAW Local 112 President Roland Kiehne, the Executive Board and entire membership. Thank you for the contribution you have made to our Union and your community. All the very best wishes for your next 70 years.

Chris Buckley
Member CAW National Executive Board
Chairperson CAW/GM Master Bargaining Committee
President, CAW Local 222

SPACE FOR RANT

I want out

To be honest, I wasn't big on the idea of moving from the cheque system to direct deposit, knowing full well that the company, in this case Bombardier, is notorious for the left hand not having a clue as to what the right hand is doing, but that they're often closer to the left hand doesn't even know that there is a right hand.

Enter the draconian approach to payroll. We're moving to direct deposit, and so are you, whether you like it or not. Fine, I can live with it, like I have a choice? But I do not like it, however as long as it's a smooth transition and there's no chaos I'll adapt.

Couldn't organize a pea if they swallowed it, screw up a one-man parade in the desert and can't find their backside with both hands and a map.

I've been stiffed twice now, once because everything was so screwed up they simply stopped all payments to everyone and the second time, well I have no idea why, and neither do they. Truth be told I'm by no means the worst offended either. I understand there's some that've yet to be paid in three weeks!

I'm thinking there are evil machinations at work here, and here's why. A certain unnamed Union Representative in an attempt to get someone's issues straightened out called the payroll hotline, pushed a multitude of menu buttons till they got to the point where it says 'Leave a message...'

Then the system hung up on him. Thinking that this was just a glitch he tried again, and under the definition of insanity it happened exactly the same way again. This individual is not one

to take things like this lying down and decided to rattle some cages. Enter H.R who tried the same thing as the rep. same result, twice in fact. I know, I know, I was surprised too!

Here's where the story gets ugly. The H.R type says that he speaks French and tried the French line. A couple of rings and he gets... "Bonjour..."

Again with the shocked I am.

Now you tell me there's not a system wide bias at work here, because there's plenty of evidence to the contrary. Still I'll remain open minded enough that if someone from the Reichstag wishes to explain all this, logically, and put their job on the line if it all goes pear shaped again, I'm willing to at least listen. In the meantime I've got a real opportunity to buy this bridge in Brooklyn that I simply cannot pass up so I have to go... Ⓜ

Mine Mill 598/CAW would like to congratulate CAW Local 112 in reaching a milestone. 70 years of existence is remarkable proof that the Local and all its leadership are doing the right things in order to protect its members and its community from the injustices that are always appearing from nowhere. Congratulations on your 70 years of being there and keep up the fight.

Thank you / Merci

Richard Paquin
President, Mine Mill 598/CAW



RECREATION REPORT

Dan Alushi, Recreation Chairperson

Fishing Derby

The Local 112 fishing derby was once again a great success as told by the participating fishermen. Thanks to Bros. Ernie Spasov and his helpers for making it a great time for the regulars and the new folks who attended. The weather was a mix of the elements that Mother Nature takes care of.

Congratulations to the winners:

- 1st - Nathaniel Pangilinan- 10lbs 4oz
- 2nd - Nick Kubicki - 8lbs 2oz
- 3rd - Allen Preston - 7lbs 12oz
- 4th - Dezmond Singh - 7lbs 8oz
- 5th - Glen Barrett - 6lbs, 15oz

Hockey Nationals Championships:

Congratulations to the Open Division Local 112 Devils who placed 2nd in the Gold Division Finals losing to the Champion 1285 Hornsby Flyers.

Also Congratulations to the Local 112 Blues who came 3rd in the over 45 Gold Division losing in the Semi Finals.

National Bowling Tournament

Congratulations to Ryan Della Cruz on his 6th place finish at the National Bowling tournament.

2012 Golf Tournament

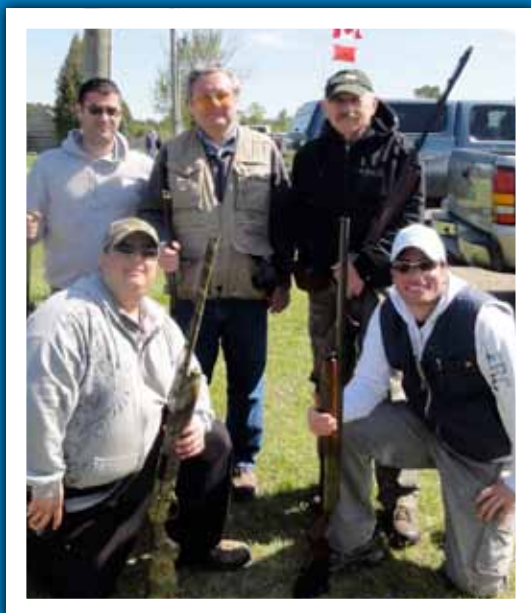
Saturday, June 2nd at Bradford Highlands.

Register with tournament coordinator Brother Dave Connolly. Hurry up as the tournament fills up quickly.

Local 112 Picnic

Saturday, June 9th at Heartlake Conservation Park.

We have a new Picnic Committee in place this year with lots of new ideas. Grab your family and attend this year's picnic! Make it a day to remember, meet old friends and make new friends. Come out and enjoy. 🍷



National Trap Competition

Every year the national holds its annual trap competition on the last weekend of April or the first weekend of May. Locals from all over Ontario are encouraged to send their top marksmen to compete in this event. This year our local sent 4 teams to this event!

The day began and there were some slight bumps that needed to be adjusted. All day long the wind would move the clays making it very difficult to hit the target. Although a very difficult day, the Silver Guns managed to place second in division B only losing first place by 3 points!

Thank you to all members who participated! It was a very fun filled day with many laughs and memories! Congratulations to all teams, good luck in next years competition! 🎯

Silver Guns — Top left to right: George Arraj, David Sulsky, and Yuriy Kalevych. Kneeling: Peter Barbuto and Greg Cirillo



EARTH HOUR 2012

The evening started when the volunteer students arrived at 5:30. They jumped right in and started unloading items for the night. All the kids had been assigned duties for the event. People began arriving around 6:30.

Nick DeCarlo started the night off speaking about the CAW's involvement and its importance now, more than ever, to the Environment and all the issues that production and processing affects health, safety and the environment.

Next up was Gideon Forman who spoke of wind vs. nuclear and coal, and what the differences and health effects are of each. In the long run, renewable energy mixes such as wind, solar, tidal and geothermal are the better sources of energy.

Paul Charbonneau spoke about solar energy and the different technology that is available as sound alternatives. Being the producer of the Solar Idol contest Paul is engaging individuals to submit ideas that could be the next big thing in energy efficiency.

Dave Renaud spoke about water conservation and the small things every one can do to cut down their water usage. Dave is the president of the Durham Region Environment council and is selling rain barrels as a fundraiser for breast cancer.

The committee would like to thank the student volunteers that helped to make the night. Julia, Christopher, Austin, Shobith, Justin, Jacques, Brittany, Laura, Hanna, Bradley and a special thanks to Philippe Lavoie for taking the great photographs of the night. All the students were accredited 8 hrs. each toward their mandatory volunteer hours.

The lights out musical session with Des and Bob was fantastic with all the solar powered flashlights, glow sticks, glow bands and a ton of tea lights – it was truly amazing. People had the chance to discuss the topics that the speakers had talked about, and have a bite to eat. The displays from regional municipalities and environmental Toronto were full of give-a-ways and information on a wide range of programs and services.

The rain barrel raffle raised \$230.00 which will be going towards tree saplings for green spaces. The elementary school environmental competition was fierce. The first prize of \$150.00 went to Ancaster PS, second prize of \$100.00 went to Downsview PS, and the third prize of \$50.00 went to Ancaster PS. Congratulations to all the students.

From the Local 112 Environmental Committee we would like to thank every one for thier support and help to make this Earth Hour Event a success.

Thanks from Angela Bresolin, Maxine DeCunha, Des Rodrigues, John Curran. ☺



OUR HOME: PLANET EARTH

We do not inherit the earth from our ancestors, we borrow it from our children.

~Native Proverb

This past Earth day I took time to reflect on the events of the past year and ask myself, as stewards of our home, are we doing a good job of protecting and maintaining the environment which sustains us? The only answer I could think of is no, not really. I know we could do better but, with out good leadership we are only making small improvements at a very basic level. Unfortunately the very people who have the greatest influence on the protection of our environment, our wonderful political leaders, are the very same people who have put corporate interests ahead of protecting and sustaining the very thing that makes all life possible on this planet. When I look back at the events of the past year since last Earth Day I find that no progress has been made. In fact, we have actually regressed.

Last year our Environment Minister, along with the Environment Ministers and NGOs from many other countries, attended the climate talks in Durban,

South Africa. The talks, also known as COP17, were a continuation of an ongoing series of talks aimed at finding a successor agreement to the Kyoto protocol that ends this year. Given that Mr. Harper has been opposed to the implementation of the Kyoto protocol before we even signed on, it was certainly no surprise that we would once again do our best to stop any progress. During this conference our Environment Minister did his best to create the impression that we really were interested in finding a solution as long as, and only if, China, India and the U.S. would also get onboard. However, as we soon discovered, upon the Environment Ministers return home, just 2 hours after he arrived in Ottawa, that in fact we had already decided to pull out of the Kyoto accord before we had even gone to Durban. Kyoto wasn't a perfect or even a complete solution to the question of how to deal with the anthropomorphic contribution to

global warming, but at least it was a start.

Then the recent federal budget was tabled, and will soon be passed. The "omnibus" budget dedicates 150 pages of 400 total pages to outlining how the environmental approval process will be "streamlined." The fact that they refer to the process as an approval process rather than an assessment process says it all. The budget also gives the federal cabinet the final say over approval or denial regardless of the assessment agencies final decision. In effect the Harper government has replaced the assessment process with a giant "politized" rubber approval stamp.

Leaving the continuing debate about whether global warming is human caused or not aside, it is up to us to protect the environment. To ensure that corporations and governments don't destroy the land we live on, the water we drink and the air we breathe. ☹

Dear sisters & brothers of CAW Local 112,

I have had the honour for 8 years representing members at Hewitt Material Handling and Toromont-CAT. I want to wish you all the best in the celebration of your 70-year milestone.

Your local union Executive Board, workplace representatives, rank & file and retirees have made Local 112 one of the most progressive locals in our union when representing the membership but more important, all Canadians.

I wish you the best. Congratulations on 70 years of solidarity!

Mike Reuter, CAW National Representative

CAW Local 444 of the Canadian Auto Workers Union representing 17,500 active and retired members located in Windsor and Essex County, are pleased to recognize CAW Local 112 on its milestone of 70 years. Many decades have passed since CAW Local 112 was chartered on June 17th, 1942 and over the years CAW Local 112 has created a long rich history of remarkable achievements that should not go unrecognized. It has shown 70 years of constant union representation for its members and a deep concern for the community over the past decades. CAW Local 444 would like to congratulate

CAW Local 112 and the entire Local 112 membership for maintaining the integrity and the core values that are fundamental to the Union from the very beginning. CAW 112 is truly a dynamic and unwavering union that continues to forge ahead in good times and in bad. Moreover, it is a pleasure to be part of celebrating your Anniversary of 70 Years. And we wish you all the best in your future and may you have another successful 70 years representing workers in the greater Toronto region.

In Community Partnership!
Dino Chiodo
President, CAW Local 444



REMEMBERING VIMY – 95 YEARS LATER

Fred Schwertner, Editorial Committee

Recently my wife and I travelled to Normandy in northern France. For years we had planned to visit the small town of Arras not for its beauty, which is evident, but to pay our respects for those Canadian soldiers that had lost their lives in a war that was to end all wars - the First World War. We were overwhelmed by the magnificence of the war memorial that was erected on what was then designated by the French, British, and Canadians as “Hill 145”. It is better known to us as Vimy Ridge.



In 1914 and 1915 several attempts had been made, by both the British and the French, to take this Ridge from the enemy but were unsuccessful. Hundreds of thousands of casualties would be the end result of these failed attempts. This high ground was made up of a complex network of tunnels and trenches and was defended by highly trained and well-armed German soldiers.

In the early morning of April the 9th, 1917 a new plan was carried out by four Canadian divisions to capture this strategically important military position. Within twenty four hours of relentless artillery fire, the first wave of Canadians captured this stronghold and by the fourth day, they had successfully taken the entire ridge. The securing of this German defensive position was pivotal and many believe to be the turning point in the war. Four Canadians would be awarded the highest honour for their bravery – the Victoria Cross.

But the cost was high – of the more than 30,000 Canadians that took part,

10,602 were casualties. Of these, almost 3,600 were fatal. This ultimate sacrifice came from a nation of less than eight million. By the end of the war, over 600,000 Canadians would see service with more than 66,000 losing their lives. A staggering ratio that exceeded one in ten.

Up to this point in our history Canada was treated as a British colony. When the British declared war in 1914, it was inevitable that Canada would do the same. With the immense military contributions made by the Canadians in this, and many subsequent battles, we as a new nation, had finally come of age. International recognition and respect was such that we earned a separate signature on the Treaty of Versailles which brought World War I to an end.


The respect for this region carried into the Second World War, when occupying German soldiers were posted at the monument to guard against any possibility of vandalism. The French expressed their gratitude by proclaiming that one hundred and seven hectares

of the ridge would become Canadian soil. In turn the Canadian government would later declare this a Parks Canada site. Other than some reforestation to prevent erosion, it remains as it was ninety five years ago with all the pock marks and artillery bombardment craters. Currently sheep graze in fenced sections of these fields as active bombs and mines still remain underground.

The Vimy Ridge monument took eleven years to complete and was dedicated in 1936. It was later restored in 2007. Over 6,000 tons of limestone was brought from an abandoned Roman quarry located in present day Croatia. The memorial has been engraved with the names of 11,285 Canadian soldiers whose final resting place remains unknown. The stone terrace and two massive engraved towers proudly stand over one hundred and fifty feet in height and the view from the platform overlooks the French country side for many miles. One can see why this ridge was so strategic to the allies.

The Vimy Ridge National Historic Site is a place of honour and great pride for all Canadians. If ever you have an opportunity to visit this region I encourage you to do so. Furthermore, just to the north-west is Juno Beach where in the late spring of 1944, Canada took part in the allied Normandy invasion known as D-Day.

While dining at a restaurant in Paris our elderly waiter asked, in broken English, where we were from? After I replied that we were Canadian, his face lit up when he told us he was from Arras – Vimy Ridge! I will always recall his final words of appreciation to us upon our departure. He said ... thank you.

Never in my life have I ever felt so proud to be Canadian. 



KEN LEWENZA
National President
Président national

JEAN-PIERRE FORTIN
Quebec Director
Directeur québécois

PETER KENNEDY
National Secretary-Treasurer
Secrétaire-trésorier national

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Message from CAW President Ken Lewenza and Secretary-Treasurer Peter Kennedy

Greetings,

CAW Local 112 70th Anniversary

On behalf of CAW members across the country, we want to extend our heartfelt congratulations to Local 112 as you celebrate your 70th anniversary.

You are marking the rich and storied history of a local union that has epitomized the spirit of activism in the trade union movement. CAW Local 112 has been a relentless force for progress for workers, highlighted in key struggles to advance workers' rights, including the first ever aircraft worker strike in Canada in 1955. We'll never forget the historic 1986 work stoppage at the de Havilland facility that paved the way for groundbreaking health and safety protections and training requirements that have benefitted all workers.

Local 112 has been a constant voice for the greater good of all – a testament to the legacy of social unionism in Canada. Local 112 is a well-respected community partner and social justice advocate in Downsview, Ontario. This local understands the importance of reaching out to those who are disadvantaged in meaningful ways. Whether supporting community youth programs, engaging in anti-poverty work, winning landmark 'Buy-Canadian' policies through city government, or other initiatives, you've demonstrated the spirit of what a truly "local" union should be.

Local 112 is a diverse and dynamic organization that has experienced tumultuous relationships with some of the most difficult employers, but has ultimately prevailed. History shows that, if not for transformative and visionary leadership of Local 112 to lead a fight to protect Canada's aerospace interests in 1992, this vital industry might not have survived in Toronto.

To the sisters and brothers of this wonderful local union, we encourage you, on this occasion, to stand proud of your accomplishments, and to the accomplishments of those before you.

Congratulations on 70 years. Keep up the fight for workplace and social justice.

In solidarity,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ken Lewenza".

Ken Lewenza
National President
CAW-Canada

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "P. Kennedy".

Peter Kennedy
National Secretary-Treasurer
CAW-Canada