

NEWSLETTER

CAW Local 127

www.cawlocal127.ca



April, 2009

WHAT IS HAPPENING AT OUR LOCAL

April 2nd, First Student ratified a new agreement. Congratulations to Brother Doug Richardson and his committee.

April 7th. I had a meeting with the new CAO for Chatham-Kent, Rob Browning. I met with the other local union presidents from across Chatham-Kent (OPSEU, Firefighters, Police Association, CUPE, IBEW). We discussed many issues with Browning but for our local specifically, asked about the municipalities lead negotiator in the Riverview Gardens negotiations. We got some answers and have committed to work with the other affiliates.

Mon April 13th, I want to thank all of the executive board officers who made it out on Easter Monday. We called an emergency meeting with our executive board and other Chatham Kent CAW locals to discuss the attack on the pension benefit guarantee fund and to strategize our rolling rallies at Pat Hoys office. Thanks to all active, laid off and retired members who supported these protests at Pat Hoy's office on April 15, and 17th.

April 17th I went down to CAW Council with Richard Laverty to hear Brother Lewenza's speech. It was as expected, full of passion, vigour and emotional. The National is calling on all of us at the local level to get involved in all of the rallies, protests, and to contact our MPP'S and MP'S.

April 23, - Thanks to those activists who attended the April 23rd rally in regards to the Pension Benefit Guarantee Fund claw back. It was a great response (15-20 thousand people) in front of Queen's Park. Only our union could pull that off.

April 28th – I want to thank everyone who went to the Day of Mourning Celebration. A special thanks to Alice LeBlanc who was present when we unveiled the bench in honour of Romeo .

Bargaining:

At this time of writing , we are currently bargaining with:
Riverview Gardens; Meritor; Navistar and soon A.P.Plasman.

Organizing:

We are still organizing

- 1) Dana – I have just issued another information bulletin to all Dana Chatham Workers. If you know anyone in this Unit please contact the hall.
- 2) MPP Blenheim- I have been out on Wed, Mar 25th, 2009 to do a gate drop. This is a CLAC unit that will soon be open
- 3) Penske – active drive on.
- 4) Chatham Kent Health Alliance (office workers, tech supporters and RPN).

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Local 127 Action Centre:

We will continue to try to work with all of our employers to secure more funding. Congratulations to Bro. Jason King for this initiative as he and his committee continue to work hard towards the opening of the centre, which is open to all of our members.

The official address is 462 Riverview Drive Unit #7.

Will be having an open house soon; please watch for notices in your workplace.

Meeting with Local 1941, 351:

Brothers Johnston; Kerrigan; McFadden and myself meet with the leadership of these Locals.

I was informed on Tuesday, April 28th, that Local 351 voted to join with Local 1941.

CAW Group Insurance Programs:

As I have mentioned before, the CAW Group Insurance Program is available to all active and retired CAW Members. Also eligible are spouses, dependent children and surviving spouses of these members.

The Program staff are licensed insurance professionals who are also fellow sisters and brothers of Local 1524.

To obtain a quote call 1-877-CAWINSR (1-877-229-4677).

Past Presidents:

We have decided to rename a few rooms in our Hall in the names of our past presidents:

- *Stan Green Building*
- *Ron Moon Hall*
- *Dick Charlton Lounge*
- *Harry Warner Board Room*
- *Charlie Formosa Committee Room*

We will have an unveiling and a proper dedication to these Brothers who have led our Local, in the next month. Please watch for the notices in your workplace.

Closing Thoughts:

I want to thank all of our members (active, laid off and retired) who have mobilized in this last month.

Our action has only started, please be ready when called upon.

We will continue to aggressively pursue new members through a re-newed commitment to organize the unorganized.

Did you know!

There is a significant wage gap between temporary workers and their permanent counterparts. Contract workers earn 8% less. Seasonal workers earn 28% less. Casual workers earn 24% less. Those working for employment agencies earn 40% less than their permanent counterparts.

Until next month!

I remain, In solidarity,

AARON NEAVES

President; CAW Local 127

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