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KEN LEWENZA
National President
Président national

JEAN-PIERRE FORTIN
Quebec Director
Directeur québécois

PETER KENNEDY
National Secretary-Treasurer
Secrétaire-trésorier national

205 PLACER COURT, TORONTO, ONTARIO M2H 3H9
PHONE (416) 497-4110 FAX: (416) 495-6559

March 26, 2012

WINDSOR, CHATHAM, LONDON, KITCHENER, HAMILTON, TORONTO CAW AREA LOCAL UNIONS

Sisters and Brothers,

Re: Navistar Demonstration

In July 2011, Navistar Corporation notified us officially of the closure of the Navistar facility in Chatham, affecting the members of CAW Local 35 and Local 127. We have had numerous meetings concerning a closure agreement on behalf of these members. The corporation's attitude has been absolutely unacceptable. To date, we have been unable to convince this corporation to treat these workers with respect and dignity.

At one point, in their history, this facility had over 2000 people. It is unconscionable that after many years, Navistar refuses to bargain a decent closure agreement. To date the issues revolve around pensions, severance pay and other matters. Given the corporation's recent responses, we have moved to launch a class action suit against Navistar and have written the Financial Services Commission of Ontario (FSCO) requesting they order Navistar to wind-up the pension plan.

We are determined to bring attention to this matter. Therefore, we are planning a mass demonstration for:

Saturday, April 21 at 12:00 p.m.
Truck World - Canada's National Truck Show
International Centre
6900 Airport Road, Toronto

We have selected the International Centre in Toronto because there is a National Truck Show from April 19 to 22 that is being sponsored by Navistar. For details concerning the truck show, please visit <http://www.truckworld.ca/>.

I have asked national staff representative Brother Jim Mitchell and national coordinator Brother Terry Farrell to work with my office on this matter. We are currently in the midst of organizing the final details on this important demonstration and I am requesting full participation from our Local Unions. These workers deserve our full support.

In closing, the above staff will be in contact with your local unions with full details as we move towards April 21.

In solidarity,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ken Lewenza". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Ken Lewenza
National President

RC/KL/kw:cope.343

cc: Front Office, Bob Chernecki, Sonny Galea, Chairperson, CAW Local 35, Cathy Wiebenga, Chairperson, CAW Local 127, Ontario Staff Representatives, National Coordinators, Len Harrison, Chair, National Retirees Executive, Shannon Devine, Director, CAW Communications Department