

CAW and Boeing Toronto Renew Agreement to Help Secure Plant's Future

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The following is a joint news release from the Canadian Auto Workers union and The Boeing Company:

The Canadian Auto Workers union and Boeing Toronto have taken an innovative step and renewed a three-year collective agreement early in an effort to position the Toronto aerospace manufacturing plant for additional work.

Under the agreement, existing wages and benefits remain the same, except the COLA continues to accumulate. The agreement also outlines significant pension increases for current and future retirees and also establishes a joint union-management committee that will look at ways to improve production processes.

"Our members at Boeing have done their part to build a more secure future for this plant by authorizing this renewal agreement," said CAW National Secretary Treasurer Jim O'Neil. "Now it's time for all levels of government to also take concrete steps to help ensure a strong future for the 2,000 highly skilled employees of Boeing Toronto." O'Neil pointed to the positive role governments around the world have played in helping to build the aerospace sector in their respective countries. He said that top officials from the CAW plan to meet with all levels of government to convince them that they must be involved in securing the future success of this operation.

Steve Fisher, president Boeing Toronto, lauded the agreement as historic in its provisions and content and pledged management's full support in executing the letter and intent of the agreement. Fisher added, "While there are no guarantees, this agreement allows us to jointly build a strong business case to bring new work to the facility."

Recognizing the difficult situation facing the Boeing Toronto facility, the membership of CAW Locals 1967 and 673 on May 21 authorized the bargaining committee to negotiate the renewal agreement. The new agreement was negotiated and approved months before the current agreement was due to expire and the traditional round of collective bargaining was due to get under way.

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