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**Wayne Gates**  
*President*

**Bruce Allen**  
*Vice President*

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**Local 199**

124 Bunting Road  
St. Catharines, Ontario, L2P 3G5  
Phone (905) 682-2611  
Fax (905) 682-9393

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**Malcolm Allen**  
*Financial Secretary*

**Mark Roy**  
*Recording Secretary*

April 30, 2007

Greetings,

One does not have to look far in the Niagara Region, to realize that manufacturing jobs are disappearing at a alarming rate. Layoffs and plant closures are now common place occurrences.

A year ago this past April Affinia announced it would close its St Catharines operations meaning that the Berryman Street Foundry would close its doors after nearly 100 years of business putting 229 of our members out of work despite being very profitable. Why? Because, even higher profits could be made by moving operations to China. At GM, 1200 jobs have been lost to attrition over the last four and a half years. Our government's response has been to sign a free trade agreement with South Korea. Brunner Manufacturing, Edscha, Iaftrate Machining, Neptunus, Seneca Manufacturing and Tora have all experienced layoffs to varying degrees. A direct result of these losses continues to put pressure on our car dealerships that are now beginning to face layoff situations. In short, **Manufacturing Matters.**

Your union wants answers. Our leadership has been raising the issue of manufacturing job losses going back as far as the purple Ribbon Campaign. More recently, with our "Buy Domestic" and "Korean Free Trade" campaigns and they still don't get it.

On May 11/07 at 3:30 pm CAW Local 199 will be holding a manufacturing Matters Forum. We are urging **all** local union representatives from **all** of our workplaces to make every effort to attend this important meeting. Your future depends on your participation. See you there.

In solidarity,

Mark Roy  
Recording Secretary  
Local 199, CAW

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