

GM Canada and Unifor reach agreement to save hundreds of jobs with a C\$170 million investment in Oshawa

OSHAWA, Ont. (May 8, 2019) – General Motors Canada and Unifor today announced that they have reached a “Transformation Agreement” that will transition the GM Oshawa Assembly operations to parts manufacturing and advanced vehicle testing. The Agreement includes the following:

- The Company plans to invest in excess of C\$170 million to support a transition of operations at the Plant from vehicle assembly to one focused on stamping, related sub-assembly, and other miscellaneous activities for GM and other auto industry customers.
- GM will convert part of the Oshawa Plant property into a test track for autonomous and advanced technology vehicles – further expanding the capability of GM’s Canadian Technical Centre (CTC) in Ontario. ([link to Test Track Backgrounder](#))
- The new business will retain 300 Oshawa jobs with the potential to grow and generate significant additional jobs in the coming years, as the business attracts new customers.
- GM Canada will offer special relocations to Oshawa employees for jobs at some of its other Ontario operations.
- GM will offer enhanced retirement packages to retirement-eligible Oshawa Assembly employees including vouchers toward the purchase of new GM vehicles, a benefit that will support both retiring employees and GM dealerships in Durham Region and surrounding areas.
- A transition plan for other GM Oshawa Assembly employees. A “Jobs Action Centre” will be opened in June 2019, in Oshawa to enable employees to plan now for future career opportunities outside GM following the end of Oshawa vehicle production in December 2019. Supported by GM, Unifor and the Ontario government, the Jobs Action Centre will help match employee skills with new employers’ requirements.
- GM will offer retraining financial support for all qualified Oshawa Assembly hourly employees seeking new employment. ([link to Workforce Transition Backgrounder](#))

To further underscore its partnership and commitment to Oshawa’s sustainable future, GM also intends to donate the three-acre Fenelon Park and the 87-acre McLaughlin Bay wildlife preserve to the City of Oshawa for the permanent benefit of all its citizens. ([link to McLaughlin Bay Backgrounder](#))

GM Canada president and managing director Travis Hester said, “This transformation plan is very significant as it positions Oshawa for a sustainable future. This agreement maximizes the support for our people and their families, and further secures Oshawa as a key in developing vehicles of the future at our new test track.”

“By maintaining a footprint in Oshawa, and keeping the plant intact, we save hundreds of jobs and this gives us the ability to build and create new jobs in the future. We are in a much better position than we were five months ago when the plant was closing,” said Jerry Dias, Unifor National President.

About General Motors in Canada

General Motors of Canada markets Chevrolet, Buick, GMC and Cadillac vehicles through Canada's impressive dealer network, as well as OnStar and MAVEN services. Headquartered in Oshawa, Ontario, GM Canada employs more than 7,700 people across the country and is a recognized leader in advanced manufacturing, green operations, active safety, and autonomous and connected vehicle technology research and development. For more information about General Motors Canada, please visit www.gm.ca, or follow [@GMcanada](https://twitter.com/GMcanada) on Twitter.

Unifor

Unifor is Canada's largest union in the private sector, representing 315,000 workers in every major area of the economy. The union advocates for all working people and their rights, fights for equality and social justice in Canada and abroad, and strives to create progressive change for a better future.

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GM Oshawa Workforce Transition Plan and “Jobs Action Centre”

GM and Unifor will work together to establish a work transition plan for GM Oshawa Assembly employees. The Transformation Agreement supports Oshawa Assembly workers in several ways:

New Stamping Jobs at the Plant

- The Company plans to invest in excess of C\$170 million to support a transition of operations at the Plant from vehicle assembly to one focused on stamping, related sub-assembly, and other miscellaneous activities for GM and other auto industry customers.
- The new business will retain 300 Oshawa jobs with the potential to generate additional jobs in the coming years, as the business attracts new customers.

GM Employee Transfers and Retirement Supports

- GM Canada will offer the opportunity for qualified hourly employees to transfer from Oshawa to the St. Catharines Propulsion Plant or the Woodstock Parts Distribution Centre – openings created through accelerated retirement incentives
- Enhanced retirement packages to 1,300 retirement-eligible GM Oshawa hourly employees who will also receive vouchers toward the purchase of new GM vehicles, a benefit that will support both the employees and GM dealerships in Durham Region and surrounding areas.

Employee Planning and Retraining for New Careers

- In June 2019, GM Canada, Unifor and the Ontario government will open a “Jobs Action Centre” in Oshawa with personalized transition counselling, a skills / jobs matching database and other supports.
- Durham College will support the Job Action Centre with a dedicated jobs portal and several job fairs planned for 2019.
- More than 40 GTA employers have approached GM expressing interest in hiring GM Oshawa’s high-quality workers for approximately 5,000 full-time GTA job opportunities.
- GM Canada has developed a database to match employee skills against employer requirements.
- New career opportunities range from apprenticeship-supported auto technician roles at GM dealerships, to new careers in the energy, manufacturing, services and other sectors.
- GM Canada will offer training support for qualified Oshawa Assembly hourly employees.
- Durham College, Centennial College, and Trent University Durham GTA will work together, as educational partners, to offer training tailored to regional and GTA-based partner employers.

Work Transition Innovations

The Oshawa Jobs Action Centre offers innovative advantages to help GM employees and their families plan now for the transition to new work opportunities following the end of Oshawa Assembly production in December 2019. The Oshawa Jobs Action Centre will:

- Enable Oshawa Assembly employees to plan and access training for new jobs starting next year.
- Support employees with personalized counsellors and a custom skills / jobs database.
- Offer eligible Oshawa employees GM funding for retraining at local colleges and universities.

For more information on the Oshawa Transformation Agreement, please click [here](#).

Media Backgrounder – Jobs Transition Visual



Test Track/Development Surface

The Oshawa Transformation Agreement will transform the plant and retain jobs, some of which will support a new Oshawa Test Track that GM plans to build at the southern end of the current Oshawa Assembly plant.

The Oshawa Test Track development surface will support GM Canada's Canadian Technical Centre (CTC), in particular its Oshawa and Markham campuses where the company now develops software and hardware for Autonomous Vehicle Systems, Embedded Controls, Active Safety Systems and Infotainment. These work streams all require extensive in-vehicle testing in a safe, effective and controlled environment.

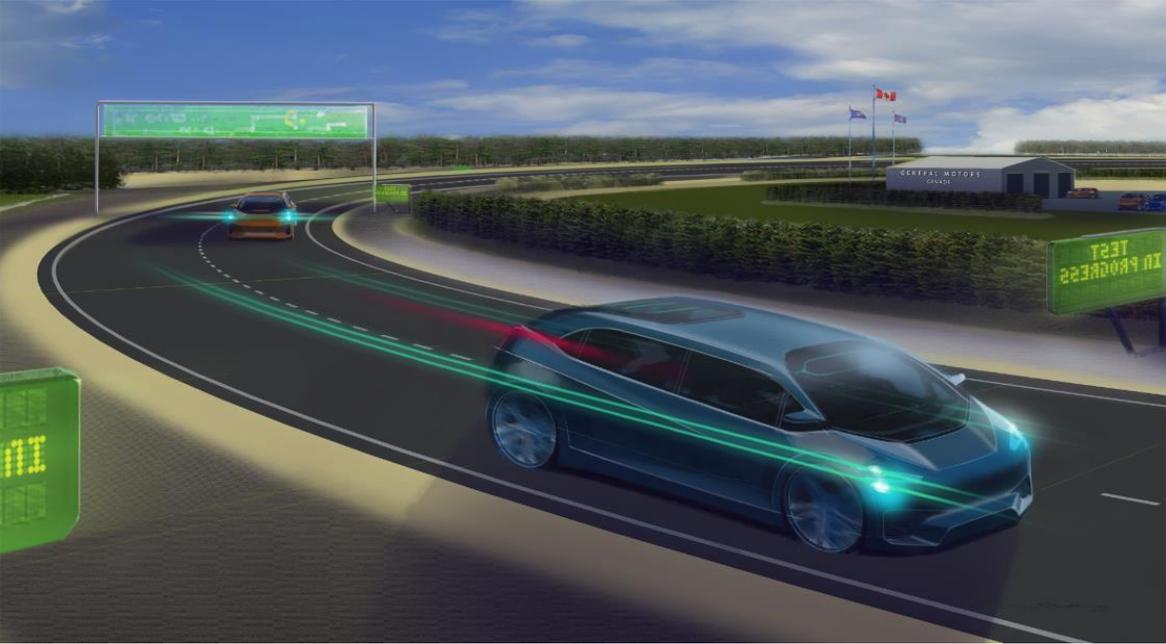
Currently, work at GM's Canadian Technical Centre annually requires more than 4,000 people hours of in-car testing on a GM-controlled vehicle development surface, a demand that is expected to expand as these operations grow to support 1,000 engineers. The new Oshawa Test Track will reduce costs and alleviate the current need to book GM facilities outside Canada for required development testing.

Specifications:

- The 55-acre outdoor Test Track will enable CTC engineers to efficiently and safely prove and develop advanced new vehicle systems.
- The track will include two straight sections of track 1,200 feet long that are joined by a banked curve on each end to allow continuing driving safely at high speeds.
- The Track's proximity to the CTC sites will allow for increased quality and efficiency in the testing and faster development of new technologies.
- In addition to AV testing; Product Development, Infotainment, Active Safety and Trailing teams would also use the track surface.
- The new facility will follow GM global operational and safety processes and leverage GM expertise from the Milford Proving Grounds and the Kapuskasing Cold Weather Development Centre.

For more information on the Oshawa Transformation Agreement, please click [here](#).

Media Backgrounder – Test Track/Development Surface Renderings



GM to Donate McLaughlin Bay Reserve and Fenelon Park to the City of Oshawa 'All Oshawa Citizens to Enjoy Open and Protected Park Access for the Future'

In announcing the Oshawa Transformation Agreement, GM Canada today reaffirmed its commitment to the Oshawa community, announcing that, subject to final approvals, it intends to donate approximately three-acres of Fenelon Park and 87-acres of parkland to the City, including the Lake Ontario waterfront "McLaughlin Bay Reserve," located in south Oshawa, east of the GM plant. GM will also partner with the City to help advance its sustainable development and investment plans for the future.

GM Canada president and managing director Travis Hester said, "We will work with the city of Oshawa on this large parkland donation that will join Oshawa's waterfront trail systems and provide open, protected park and waterfront access for all Oshawa citizens to enjoy. We are making these parkland donations as a symbol of GM's longstanding sustainability partnership with the Oshawa community. We plan to be here for many more years to come."

Oshawa Mayor Dan Carter said, "This generous donation of parkland including McLaughlin Bay Reserve and Fenelon Park strengthens our commitment to protecting the environment as well as providing greenspace for the community."

The McLaughlin Bay Wildlife Reserve provides almost seven km of walking and cycling trails that provide access to varied habitats and link to trails within Darlington Provincial Park and Oshawa's Second Marsh. Through the network of trails, visitors can also connect to the Waterfront Trail.

The area is home to more than 380 plant species, 305 bird species, and numerous species of mammals, reptiles, amphibians, fish and insects.

The Reserve features a number of walking trails, viewing platforms for photographers and birdwatchers, as well as the accessible Dogwood Trail, designed in consultation with the Canadian National Institute for the Blind for use by visitors who are partially-sighted or visually-impaired.

The Reserve is connected to Oshawa's Second Marsh (a Provincially Significant Wetland and a Provincially Significant Area of Natural and Scientific Interest) in the west and the Darlington Provincial Park in the east. Collectively, these natural heritage areas represent approximately 400 hectares and are one of the largest publicly accessible waterfront spaces available in the Greater Toronto Area.

GM Canada remains one of the largest private sector employers in Oshawa and Durham Region with its Canada Headquarters, sales and marketing offices, the Oshawa Canadian Technical Centre (CTC), a large "OnStar" customer service and call centre (staffed by employees of GM supplier Concentrix) and, as announced today, a new parts manufacturing business and automated vehicle test track at the Oshawa Assembly plant property.

For more information on the Oshawa Transformation Agreement, please click [here](#).

Media Backgrounder – McLaughlin Bay Visual

