Each year seems to have its own personality and this year was no exception and the year felt more like a science fiction movie. With its own heroes, villains, every day brings another twist to the plot and we still have no conclusion.

Each day since the shut down has been filled with “Uncertainty”. While businesses are trying to figure out what managing inside a pandemic means.

As our members pivoted, CAMM and Automate Canada made sure you were supported in an environment with little to no clarity. Meeting weekly and sometimes daily to manage the pandemic and its impact on our sector.

Its hard to believe that a virus changed the lives of every person and business on the planet. The changes that Covid-19 initiated are hard to put into words when the depth and shear magnitude is still not totally clear, but one fact that we do know, is that the effects were felt by all our members, their supply chain and their clients. No business, industry or sector was spared.

During this past 12 months in addition to the pandemic our members struggled with

Pending Steel and Aluminum tariffs and retaliatory tariffs on both sides of the border.

A change in U.S. Leadership and a trade WAR with our largest trading partner and their own largest trading partner, China.

A border that has now become an impediment, not an opportunity.

And an industry that we see as spotty at best. We see that shops are either very busy or very slow. Machinery sales are down, but steel sales seem to be starting to pick up again which is a good sign.

Die shops are seeing an uptick also which is a good confirmation that we are starting to dig out.

CAMM and Automate Canada are preparing for the eventual exit of this historical world changing event and are predicting growth thru good opportunities looking the shroud of Covid-19

We know that manufacturing is one sector that has already returned to pre-pandemic capacity and utilisation and new investments have landed and we believe more are to come.

We also know that the world economy will regains its momentum and the countries that show they are ready and stable will be the earliest and largest benefactors of the recovery.

We are preparing for this opportunity by consulting with our members and what we produced is our Mfg Strategy “Made in Canada, a SME perspective” where you, our members said, skills and talent, technology adoption and Rebranding are their three pillars for success.

Branding Canadian Manufacturing and SME’s are critical so our new promotional video and logo were at the top of the list.

Our Wage survey was a success with aprox 30 respondents and very eye opening information. Our plan is to expand the group to include more companies and ask again next year for survey responses. The larger the group the better for everyone.

Our members directory was a hit again going fully virtual.

CAMM and Automate Canada members are survivors and veterans of adversity and because we understand that adversity is part of the game. Like all things this pandemic will pass and the companies that are ready and able to capitalise on these new opportunities will exit the strongest, and our role as being your voice is to open as many doors as we can.

The future of CAMM is to continue to meet our mandates, to find a way to afford to hire a president, to continue to hold all levels of Government responsible. To use our study to prepare our industry and mobilize resources for our members to make their goals a reality.

Automate Canada is also making a name for itself and it is now time to get them looking to what is next. More members, more initiatives of its own that are specific to the Automation industry.

CAMM’S New structure is also still in transition and we are making additional changes based on what we learned in its first year which we will talk about tonight.

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