

The Union Community: A Description

The Canadian Labour Congress (CLC)

The Canadian Labour Congress is the national voice of the labour movement (workers and their families) in Canada and beyond, representing 2.3 million workers.

The majority of national and international unions in Canada belong to the Congress, including 12 Provincial and Territorial Federations of Labour and 125 District Labour Councils. The Public Service PSAC of Canada is a member of the CLC.

The Congress is also actively involved with other social justice groups, including the women's movement, seniors, anti-poverty activists, human rights coalitions, churches, environmentalists, peace activists and groups seeking social and economic equality at the national, regional and community level.

The activities of the Congress include:

- ◇ promoting decent wages and working conditions, and improved health and safety laws;
- ◇ lobbying for fair taxes and strong social programs, including child care, Medicare and pensions;
- ◇ lobbying for and developing job training and job creation programs;
- ◇ working for social equality and to end racism and discrimination;
- ◇ increasing the solidarity between workers in Canada and other countries.

Federations of Labour

There are 12 Federations of Labour in Canada; one for each province, one for the Yukon and one for the Northern Territories which includes the Northwest Territories and Nunavut.

Federations of Labour are the Provincial or Territorial voice of workers. While each Federation has its own goals, objectives and

structures, all are united in the common goal of defending and expanding workers' rights in the workplace and the greater social, political and economic arenas.

Federations of Labour provide support, education and representation on a wide variety of issues including:

- ◇ occupational health and safety
- ◇ legislation and research
- ◇ women's rights
- ◇ public services
- ◇ community, social and political action
- ◇ the environment
- ◇ aboriginal affairs
- ◇ pensions
- ◇ human rights
- ◇ workers' compensation

District Labour Councils

Labour Councils provide a way to bring together unions in a specific geographic area, usually a city and the surrounding area.

Labour Councils play an integral role in promoting and carrying out the programs and policies of the Canadian Labour Congress at the Local community level.

Labour Councils also support Local unions in their efforts to improve the lives of workers and their families through:

- ◇ political and social action
- ◇ education
- ◇ picket line support
- ◇ lobbying civic and provincial governments
- ◇ coalitions with social justice groups and community networks

The Union Community: Web Sites

Canadian Labour Congress (CLC) <http://www.clc-ctc.ca>

Federations of Labour

Newfoundland & Labrador Federation of Labour	http://www.ffl.nf.ca
Prince Edward Island Federation of Labour	http://www.peifl.ca
Nova Scotia Federation of Labour	http://www.ns.ca
New Brunswick Federation of Labour	http://www.intellis.net/fttnbfl/
Quebec Federation of Labour	http://www.ftq.qc.ca
Ontario Federation of Labour	http://www.ofl-fto.on.ca
Manitoba Federation of Labour	http://www.mfl.mb.ca
Saskatchewan Federation of Labour	http://www.sfl.sk.ca
Alberta Federation of Labour	http://www.afl.org
British Columbia Federation of Labour	http://www.bcfed.com
Northwest Territories Federation of Labour	http://www.ntfl@yk.com
Yukon Federation of Labour (<i>includes Nunavut</i>)	http://www.yfl@yknet.yk.ca