



December 21, 2017

Greetings Sisters and Brothers,

CUPE Alberta Division is hosting a Bargaining Conference on Saturday February 3, 2018 IN Edmonton. It will be held at the: Coast Edmonton Plaza Hotel - 10155 105 Street

A block of rooms has been set aside at the Coast Edmonton Plaza at a rate of \$139.00 per night.

GROUP Reservation Code: CUPE Alberta Division Group
Phone: 780-423-4811

REGISTRATION FEE: \$125.00 per Delegate (see attached)

Deadline for Registration is: January 20, 2018.

The Theme of this Conference is:

“MAKING GAINS!”

The goal of the conference is to provide information in some specific areas to Locals that can assist them at their own bargaining tables.

There will be an interactive Panel Discussion in the morning and after lunch Delegates will break out into smaller groups.



Panel Topics for the Breakout Sessions will be:

PRIVATIZATION & HOW TO BRING WORK BACK IN-HOUSE

Panelist: Gaëtan Royer

Labour negotiations should strive to create positive conditions that endure. Non-cash policies adopted as a result of negotiations or outside collective agreements can have an impact well beyond today’s political matters. For instance, measures that help organizations, directly or indirectly, to keep public services public can out perform short term gains that may weaken job security. Gaëtan Royer will share his mantra: the public sector has unbeatable competitive advantages and offers the most economical means of delivering public services.

PENSIONS

Panelist: Peter Marsden

With life expectancy increasing it isn’t uncommon for a member to belong to a pension plan for over seventy years and draw a pension for over thirty years. A member’s pension is likely their most valuable asset and worth more than their home. Peter will share his views on how to protect and strengthen pension plans during negotiations.

GOVERNMENT LEGISLATION

Panelist: Alejandro Pachon

In 2017, the provincial government legislated several changes to the Labour Relations Code, the Employment Standards Code, the Occupational Health and Safety Act, and the Workers Compensation Act. These changes updated most areas of the labour legislation in Alberta, and clarified the rights and responsibilities of employers and employees. What are these changes? How will they affect labour relations in the province? Alejandro will discuss some of the most important elements of the new labour legislation and their implication for workers and unions.

BUILDING COALITIONS & CO-ORDINATED BARGAINING

Panelist: Sasha Wallis

Successful Coalitions are built on mutual respect and common goals. To build these relationships we need to recognize the unique differences and limitations each party brings to the table and then focus on what we have in common. The parties need to determine what their intention of the coalition will be. Will it be for political action or to gain solidarity across bargaining units with a common employer? Considering these factors are crucial in establishing a successful coalition.

Panelist: John Vradenburgh

Coordinated Bargaining can occur when all unions in the same organization bargain simultaneously as a joint body to form common bargaining goals or to negotiate similar terms with the employer by sharing information relating to bargaining.

Coordinated bargaining can also take place between multiple employers.

One of the objectives of unions to utilize coordinated bargaining is to increase their bargaining power. Also coordinated bargaining helps in achieving more uniform terms and conditions in the same industry.

In Solidarity,



Marle Roberts
President, CUPE Alberta