



MEDIA RELEASE

**For Immediate Release:
November 25th 2016**

Newfoundland and Labrador Federation of Labour 2nd Triennial Constitutional Convention

Celebrating 80 Years of Strong Unionism

ST. JOHN'S - The Newfoundland and Labrador Federation of Labour (NLFL) will be holding its 2nd Triennial Constitutional Convention at the Sheraton Hotel, November 28-30, 2016.

The convention also marks the 80th anniversary of the NLFL. Along with the regular convention business, there will be an 80th Anniversary Gala on Sunday evening, November 27th.

According to NLFL President Mary Shortall, the convention comes at a critical time for the labour movement in this province. "We have a lot of key issues to talk about during our convention. Our 300 delegates will put forth, discuss, and pass resolutions which will shape our work for the next three years. Workers have been under attack from employer's groups and right wing think tanks. While they have been looking to slash and burn and turn back the clock on what workers have accomplished through the years, we have been working to put forth our vision of a more equal society and an economy that works for all the people of this province."

"*A Class Act: An Illustrated History of the Labour Movement in Newfoundland and Labrador*", written by former journalist Bill Gillespie, will be launched on Tuesday morning at the Sheraton Hotel. The original edition was launched at the NLFL's 50th anniversary in 1986.

"Workers in Newfoundland and Labrador have a long and proud history of social unionism, and shaping the social fabric of our province," said Shortall. "We are proud of the struggle of those who came before us in the labour movement, and their stories inspire us to continue to work for a more equal, just, and fair society. That's what social unionism is all about."

The convention will also feature a number of guest speakers who will discuss a myriad of issues that impact workers, including the need for stronger labour legislation, occupational health and safety, violence in the workplace, workers compensation, gender equality, and privatization of public services.

The convention officially opens on Monday November 28th at 9 am and carries through to noon on Wednesday.

A full agenda for the Convention is available upon request.

Note: Media are asked to register at the NLFL convention office located in the Signal room, Sheraton Hotel



The following sessions are open to the media in the Fort William Ballroom at the Sheraton:

Monday, November 28th

- 10:00 am President's Address (Mary Shortall)
- 11:00 am Greetings: Barb Byers, Secretary-Treasurer – Canadian Labour Congress (CLC)
- 11:45 am Guest Speaker: Hans Rollman - Alternative Media:
- 2:15 pm Guest Speaker: Vicky Smallman, CLC - Domestic Violence at Work
- 3:15 pm Presentation on the NL Economy and Labour's Vision – PolicyLink
(Diana Gibson, Dave Thompson)

Tuesday, November 29th

- 10:50 am Book Launch/Press Conference: "A Class Act, An Illustrated History of the
Labour Movement in NL". – Bill Gillespie (author)
- 2:05 pm Guest Speaker: Earle McCurdy, Leader – NLNDP

Election of Officers and Executive Council will take place on Wednesday morning, November 30th.

The President and Executive will be available upon adjournment at noon.

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For further information, please contact:

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