

CLC REPORT TO LABOUR COUNCILS - FEBRUARY 2017

CLC Convention 2017

The 28th Constitutional Convention of the Canadian Labour Congress will be held from Monday, May 8 to Friday, May 12, 2017 at the Metro Toronto Convention Centre.

The Canadian Labour Congress holds a Convention every 3 years. Local unions send delegates to the Convention with proposed resolutions they present to the floor. The resolutions are debated and policies are adopted.

At the end of the Convention the Congress develops an Action Plan based on the resolutions, committee reports and policies discussed amongst the members of the Labour movement. CLC officers are also elected by secret ballots during this week and serve a 3 year term.

This Action Plan is the basis of our work for the next three years. It provides a general guide to the activities of the Congress itself, the provincial and territorial federations of labour, local labour councils and affiliated unions.

Representation at Canadian Labour Congress Conventions, as well as the procedure for submitting policy resolutions, petitions, appeals and constitutional amendments are governed by Articles 10, 11, 12 and 23 of the CLC Constitution. Furthermore, Article 10 reads that: Federations and labour councils shall be entitled to a maximum of two delegates plus a youth delegate aged 30 or younger. These delegates must be members in good standing of an affiliated or directly chartered

local. All organizations are encouraged to consider equity representation (women, Aboriginal workers, workers of colour, workers with disabilities, LGBT) and young workers (age 30 or younger) as part of their delegations.

The registration fee for each delegate is \$400 (no fee is required for alternate delegates) and must be submitted along with the duplicate credential form (colour paper) no later than the deadline below. If additional credentials are required, we will provide them on request, provided the organization concerned is entitled.

The deadline for receiving resolutions is February 7, 2017.

The deadline for receiving credentials is April 7, 2017.

Resolutions (in the proper format) may be sent one of two ways:

1. by mail (at the address below); or
2. electronically, via the [special Convention portal](#) (please see instructions in the [Convention Call](#)).

Credentials (including payment) should be mailed to the Canadian Labour Congress, Attention Convention Office, 2841 Riverside Drive, Ottawa, Ontario, K1V 8X7.

For more detailed information, see the [full Convention Call](#).

TORONTO

Ottawa Citizen Editorial Board

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Yussuff and Hajdu: Why Canadians should care about mental health

By Hassan Yussuff and Patty Hajdu

Picture 500,000 Canadians. Picture the biggest hockey arena filled to maximum capacity and now multiply it by 25. Picture all those people, rows upon rows of people and now, picture the same space, but empty. Every week, this many Canadians, more than 500,000 people, will miss work due to mental illness. [Read more.....](#)

<http://ottawacitizen.com/opinion/columnists/yussuff-and-hajdu-why-canadians-should-care-about-mental-health>



Canadian Labour Congress

Congrès du travail du Canada

Child Care: Time to Visit Your MP

We know that families in Canada are struggling to find quality child care they can afford and that's why the labour movement has been working to establish a national child care system. Our Rethink Child Care campaign made a national child care system an election issue in 2015, securing a promise from the federal Liberal government to "meet with provinces, territories, and Indigenous communities to begin work on a new National Early Learning and Child Care Framework, to deliver affordable, high-quality, flexible, and fully inclusive child care for Canadian families."

Negotiations between the federal, provincial and territorial governments toward this National Early Learning and Child Care framework have begun. This presents an important opportunity for workers to hold the government to account and to ensure we build a system that gives every child a fair start and meets the needs of all families.

This is our chance to get child care right. And we need your help.

We are urging all union members to meet with their elected representatives and share with them their own stories and struggles with child care. There is not a more important time than now to make sure working families' voices are heard.

The Child Care Advocacy Association of Canada has taken the lead in coordinating local lobbies. Together with labour and child care organizations, the CCAAC has developed a common vision for a national child care system, including key principles which must drive any agreement between federal, provincial and territorial governments. The main priorities laid out in our Shared Framework include asking that the federal

budget include a long-term allocation for child care and that a national system ensures the right of all children to access a publicly funded, inclusive, quality, non-profit child care system. More information on the CCAAC's plan, as well as further research and background on Child Care can be found at ccaac.ca.

Here's how you can help:

- Meet your MP. Share your story and urge them to support the principles spelled out in the Child Care Advocacy Association of Canada's Shared Framework for Building an Early Childhood Education and Care System for All;
- Ask that the MP push the Federal Finance Minister to include in the 2017 federal budget a multi-year funding allocation for child care. This federal funding contribution should be transferred to the provinces and territories on the condition that they use it to start building a child care system that provides affordable, high quality child care for all;
- Write the CCAAC at coordinator@ccaac.ca and tell them about your meeting;
- Have your Labour Council or local endorse the Shared Framework.



Working While Black Webinar Series



On February 13, 2017 in honour of Black History Month, the Canadian Labour Congress is launching "Working While Black", an educational and interactive webinar series for workers of colour and allies.

The series will celebrate the contributions of Black activists and organizers in Canada, strengthen solidarity across movements, and build skills and knowledge for confronting anti-Black racism in workplaces and communities today. Participants will be able to engage with speakers and share lived experiences with each other.

By the end of the series, participants will have developed tools and strategies that work towards our goal: building workplaces and communities that are inclusive and free from racism and discrimination.

continued.....

Working While Black Webinar Series (Continued...)

Black History Month Webinar Series

Workers of colour and allies are invited to join our interactive webinar series. By taking part, participants develop a better understanding of anti-Black racism, strengthen solidarity across movements, and build skills and knowledge to confront racism in workplaces and communities.

Start Date: February 13, 2017

Topic 1: **Webinar #1: Anti-Black Racism and Labour (English only)**

February 13, 2017 (7pm - 8pm EST)

Topic 2: **Webinar #2: Recognizing Systemic Barriers and Work (English only)**

February 22, 2016 (7pm - 8pm EST)

Topic 3: **Webinar #3: Collective and Community Organizing (English only)**

February 27, 2017 (7pm - 8pm EST)

Webinar #4: **Working While Black (French only)**

TBD (7pm - 8pm EST) **Register by February 12, 2017. Register URL (TBD)**

Canadian Unions Continue to Organize for Justice and Equity

As Canadian unions build on the three victories of expanding pensions, banning asbestos, and stopping the TPP, we have more reasons to continue to organize.

On February 7, 2017, Canadian unions are organized to hit the Hill with another lobby day on three key issues: Pay Equity, Pharmacare, and Bill C-27.

Our fight for fairness continues with Pay Equity

The CLC continues to push the government on Pay Equity. The federal government has acknowledged that equal pay for work of equal value is a human right. So, why delay any action until 2018, despite the special committee on Pay Equity's recommendations?

Women in Canada are over represented in the precarious labour market and wages and terms of employment are far more exploitative for Indigenous and women of colour.

Canadian unions are asking the government to take action today on the recommendations submitted by the Pay Equity Task Force 12 years ago. Working women have been waited for too long and deserve justice now.

Unfinished Business: Pharmacare

Canada is one of the only OECD countries without Pharmacare and pays some of the highest drug costs in the world.

There are 3.5 million Canadians not taking life-saving medicines because of cost.

Prescription drugs save lives and are a necessity. Canadian unions are asking the government to create a

quality national Pharmacare programs which is publicly administered and publicly delivered.

Nine-in ten Canadians support a universal National Pharmacare Program. Canadian unions want a National Pharmacare Program integrated with our Medicare system.

Broken Promises: Bill C-27 Must Be Stopped

Bill C-27, An Act to amend the Pension Benefits Standards Act, 1985, was introduced in the House of Commons on October 19, 2016 without consultation with the public.

Bill C-27 would allow employers to undermine Defined Benefit pensions, and replace them with Target Benefit plans that carry far less risk, legal obligation, and cost for employers.

The legislation will fuel labour disputes as it shifts risks to members and Canadian unions want Prime Minister Trudeau to follow through with his pre-election promises.

Hundreds of members across Canada will be lobbying for fairness and equity on February 7, 2017. Stay tuned for an update.

