



Regina & District  
LABOUR COUNCIL

# 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Equity and Human Rights Conference “Human Rights and Social Justice 2017”

Luther College - 3737 Wascana Parkway (U of R)  
Saturday February 4, 2017

Keynote Speaker

Trent Wotherspoon



Leader of the Official Opposition, NDP MLA for Regina Rosemont, Critic for Executive Council and Office of the Premier, Intergovernmental Affairs, the Economy and Youth.

Trent was first elected in 2007 and re-elected in 2011 and 2016. Trent is very involved and volunteers in the Community. Prior to politics, Trent helped to develop and manage innovative and nationally recognized programs for youth. He holds a Bachelor of Education from the U of R.

Kowalchuk Law Office: Areas of practice: Labour and Employment Law, Human Rights, Environment, Aboriginal and Constitutional Law.

Larry holds a Bachelor's degree from the U of R, and a Law Degree from U of S, and has served as a sessional lecturer at both. Larry has developed and facilitated courses for SFL/CLC Spring School in the areas of Labour Law, Collective Bargaining, Sexual Harassment, and Human Rights. He is the founding member of the Canadian Charter Committee on Poverty Issues, representing people in poverty in Canada on constitutional issues. In recent years Larry has moved towards working with people to stop climate change under both international and constitutional law.



enary Speaker

Larry Kowalchuk

**Friday, February 3, 2017**

**Meet & Greet: China Liang's at the Wingate Hotel**, 1700 Broad Street  
6:00 pm to 9:00 pm. Refreshments plus cash bar.

**Speaker: Larry Kowalchuk**, Kowalchuk Law Office

**Entertainment: Recording artist Tara Bast.** Tara has been singing and playing guitar since age 7. As well as performing solo, Tara plays in 2 bands; It's A Secret and Smokebreak. It's A Secret has opened for the Stampeders and has recorded 2 CDs. Tara regularly performs at the Craven country weekend.



**Saturday, February 4, 2017**

**Please select 2 of the following workshops:**

### **Turtle Island**

(2 parts: part 1 in the morning and part 2 continued in the afternoon)

Facilitators: Celeste Dixon, Hazel Dixon and Ester Dupperon

Condensed four-hour version of this course, to include some portion of Aboriginal history, through timelines and exercises; give us a better understanding of what Aboriginal and First Nations peoples experienced from colonization. Covering topics on the 60s scoop, residential schools and treaty language.

### **Poverty Simulation**

Facilitator: Kristin Wawro (United Way Regina)

United Way and its many community partners collaborate to seek out solutions to address intergenerational poverty in communities across the country. Unfortunately, 1 in 10 Canadians live in households below the poverty line. To raise awareness, the Poverty Simulation Exercise is designed to give a realistic portrayal of what it is like to make difficult choices and the stress associated with surviving the month on a very limited budget. The intent is to increase understanding of a real and pertinent issue in our community. What to expect; the facilitator walks participants through questions and scenarios that emulate what a person in poverty may face on a monthly basis. Each participant starts with a beginning bank account balance of \$1,250. If at any point during the simulation you run out of

money, you were not able to last the month in poverty. Following the exercise, the facilitator will lead an interactive, solutions-focused discussion.

## **Mental Health**

Facilitator: Andrea Howe

This workshop is a short introduction into looking at what is mental health. It will also focus on challenging stigma and what the union's role is in changing our workplace and union culture to support and include members with mental health issues.

## **Man Up Against Violence**

Facilitators: Roz Kelsey & Pat Patton

Man Up Against Violence (MUAV) raises awareness around healthy masculinity and provides opportunities for education with a goal of increasing involvement of men in the cause. With the support of male advocates, MUAV will continue to challenge the damaging effects of socialized hyper masculinity resulting in reducing violence in our communities. Strives to be year-round movement. In October focus to address violence against women and in March focus on bring attention to issues associated with unhealthy masculinities in sports and coaching practices.

## **Temporary Foreign Workers and Immigration**

Facilitator: Melody Stark

Participants will have the opportunity to examine how the current system concentrates on temporary foreign labour instead of focusing on nation building. The Canadian Labour Force will only continue to grow, according to Statistics Canada. Our country should be well positioned to ensure workers of all skill sets are able to enter Canada on the road towards permanent residency, while also ensuring that historically marginalized groups within our country with the necessary skill sets have access to those jobs that are genuinely temporary. Finally, we must ensure a robust training and education program is a central part of any immigration regime.

## **Domestic Violence**

Facilitators: Wendy Daku and Co-Facilitator TBA

When faced with an issue as big as violence against women, it's easy to feel like what you are doing can't make a difference. But even the smallest of actions can have a big impact. In this workshop, participants examine the findings of the Canadian Labour Congress and Western University survey on Domestic Violence and the Workplace, learn how domestic violence impacts workers and workplaces, discuss the union's role in keeping women safe at work, and develop strategies for making a difference through negotiations, member education, public awareness and political action.

## **Living Wage**

Facilitators: TBA

Living wage is not the same as minimum wage; the living wage sets a higher test - a living wage reflects what earners in a family need to bring home, based on the actual costs of living in a specific community. According to Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives, the Living Wage for Regina is \$16.46 and Saskatoon, \$16.77. Communities across Canada are experiencing increasingly high levels of low wage

poverty. Why are we seeing this trend? What and who are driving this trend? Why we should advocate for families to earn sufficient income for them to pay for the basic necessities of life; so that everyone can live with dignity and participate as active citizens in our society.

## 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Equity and Human Rights Conference

**Friday February 3, 2017** - Meet & Greet

1700 Broad Street at China Liang's 6:00pm to 9:00 pm

**Saturday February 4, 2017** – Conference: Luther College, 3737 Wascana Parkway

Registration at 8:30 am, Conference 9:00 am to 4:00 pm

Parking available at University of Regina in “Lot 13M” Gold area, as per map.

### Registration:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Union/Local: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Address (Home) Street: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ Postal Code \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: Home: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell: \_\_\_\_\_ Work: \_\_\_\_\_

Dietary/Allergies \_\_\_\_\_

The RDLC will do its best to accommodate dietary needs within the boundaries of our caterer

Lunch, coffee breaks and course materials are included in registration fee.

Please forward registrations with cheques to:

Regina & District Labour Council, 2709 - 12<sup>th</sup> Ave, Regina, SK, S4T 1J3

Please mark the envelope “Equity Conference”

### Courses\*:

1. Turtle Island \*\*
2. Poverty Simulation
3. Mental Health
4. Man Up Against Violence
5. Temporary Foreign Workers and Immigration
6. Domestic Violence
7. Living Wage

\*Delegates will have the opportunity to attend 2 workshops.

\*\*Turtle Island is a double workshop. Part 1 will be in the morning followed by part 2 in the afternoon.

**Early Bird Price: \$ 60.00 per delegate**

**After January 13, 2017: \$ 75.00 per delegate**

Course Choices: (in order of preference)

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_

**Registration Deadline: January 20, 2017**



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Canadian Labour Congress