

Thursday, March 4, 2010

SESSIONS A **10:30 - 12:00**

A1 Remedies

When preparing a grievance or an application to the Labour Board, it is as important to understand the type of remedies available as it is to recognize the violation of the collective agreement or legislation. The panel will discuss the forms of relief available from various sources, how to be creative in dealing with difficult situations, and how to deal with conflicts between the collective agreement and the legislation. Participants in this session will benefit from the experience of counsel when dealing with remedies available as well as the extensive expertise of Arne Peltz as both an arbitrator and Board Vice-Chair.

*Tony Marques and Kathy McIlroy, Myers Weinberg LLP
Arne Peltz, Orle Davidson Giesbrecht Bargen LLP*

A2 Tough times and tougher realities: Pensions & Other Rights

The panel will review recent caselaw on pensions as well as significant changes to the Companies' Creditors Arrangement Act and bankruptcy law. If you are dealing with these issues, you will be interested to hear how recent changes are affecting collective agreement rights.

Shannon Carson and Michelle Du Bourg, Myers Weinberg LLP

A3 Bargaining in a Recession

This panel will tackle the difficulties and challenges of negotiating collective agreements in times of recession, layoffs and plant closures. Our conference guest speaker, Jerry Dias, brings to this discussion a wealth of experience from negotiations in the automobile industry.

*Jerry Dias, CAW - Assistant to the National President
Dale Paterson, CAW Representative (retired)
John Jacobs, Myers Weinberg LLP
Paul McKenna, Myers Weinberg LLP, Moderator*

SESSIONS B **1:15 - 2:45**

B1 Remedies (same as A1)

B2 Keeping your House in Order: Managing Internal Union Issues

Every union has a Constitution. Many have one locally and another nationally or internationally. Most unions have also enacted local by-laws. This session will review and analyze how to best structure these important documents to deal with common and recurring internal problems such as: disciplining or even expelling your own members, running union meetings and member conduct at meetings, how to keep your bylaws up to date and relevant, collecting debts owed by members to the union, and what a union can and can't do legally.

Garth Smorang, Q.C. and Susan Dawes, Myers Weinberg LLP

B3 Bargaining in a Recession (same as A3)

Friday, March 5, 2010

SESSIONS C **8:30 - 10:15**

C1 Strikes/Lockouts/Injunctions and Picketing

What happens when a strike or lockout occurs? Are you prepared? Will you be able to control your members when people try to cross a legal picket line and what happens if you can't? Can the union and its executive be held responsible for the conduct of its members? What happens when the employer applies for an injunction? What is the process and what can you expect will result? Join this panel for a hands-on practical discussion about problems and issues that frequently arise when workers are locked-out or on strike.

Trevor Ray and John Harvie, Myers Weinberg LLP

C2 Keeping your House in Order: Managing Internal Union Issues (same as B2)

C3 Avoiding the Pitfalls—the Legal and Practical Issues of Representing Members Accused of Criminal Conduct in the Workplace

Join experienced union representatives, criminal and labour

counsel in a discussion about the practical and legal implications of representing members accused of (or charged with) criminal misconduct in the workplace. Topics will include a review of what to expect from the criminal process, how, when and whether to conduct an interview with the employer or the police, and how to best represent your members' interests in avoiding jail and remaining employed.

*Paul McKenna, Hymie Weinstein, and
Lisa Labossiere, Myers Weinberg LLP
Eldene Spencer, Manitoba Teachers' Society*

SESSIONS D **10:30 - 12:15**

D1 Labour Law 101: a primer

This session will provide a basic introduction to the legal framework governing a unionized workplace: the collective agreement, the Labour Relations Act, management rights, and employment-related statutes. It will also review the dispute resolution mechanisms in place. This session is designed to be a primer for newer stewards and representatives, but questions and comments from more seasoned representatives are always welcome.

*Shannon Carson, Myers Weinberg LLP
Helen Krahn, MGEU*

D2 Avoiding the Pitfalls—the Legal and Practical Issues of Representing Members Accused of Criminal Conduct in the Workplace (same as C3)

D3 Organizing the New Frontier: the part-time and casual workforce

This session will explore issues relating to organizing and certifying part-time and casual workers including the impact of rules and practices of the Manitoba Labour Board, freedom of association Charter arguments, and more. We will also discuss strategies for gaining bargaining rights for non-traditional workforces including in situations where the identity of the Employer may be blurred by the involvement of sub-contractors, temporary agencies, agents, or multiple corporations.

Garth Smorang, Q.C. and Susan Dawes, Myers Weinberg LLP

Deadline: Feb 18, 2010 \$315.00

FEE INCLUDES GST
Registration Fees include: breakfast, lunch and refreshment breaks on Thursday and Friday; wine and cheese reception on Thursday; and conference/session materials.

Confirmation will be sent upon receipt of completed registration form and payment. Cancellation received prior to February 25, 2010 will be subject to a \$25.00 administration fee. No refunds after February 25, 2010.

A block of rooms has been reserved at the Victoria Inn Winnipeg at the rate of \$ 115.00 per night. Please call the hotel at 786.4801 or toll free 1.877.VIC.INNS and quote ID# 343608 when reserving your room.

Name _____

Email _____

Please choose one workshop in each Breakout Session

Session A	Session B	Session C	Session D
<input type="checkbox"/> A1	<input type="checkbox"/> B1	<input type="checkbox"/> C1	<input type="checkbox"/> D1
<input type="checkbox"/> A2	<input type="checkbox"/> B2	<input type="checkbox"/> C2	<input type="checkbox"/> D2
<input type="checkbox"/> A3	<input type="checkbox"/> B3	<input type="checkbox"/> C3	<input type="checkbox"/> D3

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We will do our best to accommodate dietary or other special requirements. _____

Cheque Enclosed Mastercard Visa

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Make cheques payable to **Myers Weinberg LLP**
Send completed registration form with cheque to:
Rhonda Lorch, Conference Coordinator,
51 Leander Crescent, Winnipeg MB R3Y 1W5
P. 204.799.3782 E. conference@myersfirm.com

Every year we take photos throughout the conference for promotional purposes and these photos may be posted to our web site.

Check this box if you prefer not to have your photo used.

Thursday, March 4, 2010

When All the Rules Change: Effective Representation of Membership in Times of Recession and Restructure 8:45 - 10:15

While all of Canada recently experienced a major recession, it undoubtedly hit the hardest in southern Ontario. Jerry Dias, assistant to the CAW President, will speak on the efforts made by CAW in southern Ontario, and nationally, to assist members in situations of plant closure, bankruptcy, creditor protection and restructuring. Jerry will focus on some specific successes and failures experienced by the CAW in the recent recession.

Jerry Dias (CAW) Assistant to the National President

Assisting members in returning to work 3:00 - 4:30

Workers absent from the workplace for extended periods are often in a difficult situation. Returning them to work requires careful planning in order to avoid further related absences. Learn to recognize when a worker is ready to return, what type of information is necessary to make the decision, and to what information the employer is entitled.

*Tony Marques and Kathy McIlroy, Myers Weinberg LLP
Jodi Jowett, CUPE
Karin Linnebach, Teamsters Local 979
Mark Beatty, Sports Physiotherapy Centre*

Friday, March 5, 2010

Top Ten Cases 1:30 - 3:15

Don't miss this favourite session which will bring you up to date on the the latest and most significant cases which impact unions in their daily work of representing members.

*Garth Smorang, QC and Paul McKenna,
Myers Weinberg LLP*

Over the previous eight Mel Myers Labour Conferences, Myers Weinberg LLP has been proud to donate over \$80,000 in proceeds to nine charitable organizations in Manitoba.

2010 Recipients:

Main Street Project Inc
Sage House, Winnipeg

2009 Recipients

Addictions Foundation of Manitoba
Community Unemployed Help Centre



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724 - 240 Graham Avenue Winnipeg MB R3C 0J7
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**9th annual
Mel Myers
labour conference**

March 4 & 5, 2010
Victoria Inn Conference Centre
Winnipeg, Manitoba
1808 Wellington Ave

THURSDAY, MARCH 4, 2010

8:00 - 8:30	Hot Breakfast
8:30 - 8:45	Opening Welcome
8:45 - 10:15	PLENARY <i>When All the Rules Change</i>
10:15 - 10:30	BREAK
10:30 - 12:00	Breakout Sessions A1, A2, A3
12:00 - 1:15	LUNCH
1:15 - 2:45	Breakout Sessions B1, B2, B3
2:45 - 3:00	BREAK
3:00 - 4:30	PLENARY <i>Return to Work</i>
4:30	WINE & CHEESE RECEPTION

FRIDAY, MARCH 5, 2010

8:00 - 8:30	Hot Breakfast
8:30 - 10:15	Breakout Sessions C1, C2, C3
10:15 - 10:30	BREAK
10:30 - 12:15	Breakout Sessions D1, D2, D3
12:15 - 1:30	LUNCH
1:30 - 3:15	PLENARY <i>Top Ten Cases</i>
3:15	Wrap up