

YUKON FED NEWS

THE DIGITAL NEWSPAPER



Picture Caption: YFL has offered workshops on Worker Rights, Naloxone Training, Threads of Life, and offered trivia and networking events over the summer. Yukonfed.com/events

From the President’s Desk

Vote for a fair future for Yukon Workers

----- TERESA ACHESON

Like waiting for a watched pot to boil, the Yukon has been anticipating the call of a territorial election any day now. But rather than waiting, workers should already be actively vetting the candidates to ensure that worker’s priorities are front and centre for a future that allows Yukon workers to thrive and live in our great territory.



This means voting for a future that allows everyone to thrive on a living wage, not just a few elite business owners or out of territory corporations.

This means healthcare that respects the healthcare workers and keeps services open and accessible to communities.

Link to YFL published election priorities [here](#).

Yukoners will also vote on a plebiscite question this fall. This means you will be given a 2nd ballot to answer one specific question:

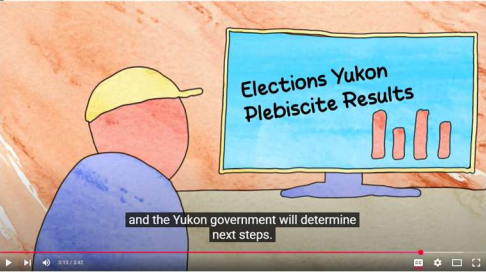
“Should the way Members of the Yukon Legislative Assembly are elected be changed from the current system of first past the post to a different system of ranked vote?”

If you answer yes, our voting system would change.

If you answer no, then our voting system stays the same.

Find out more at <https://electionsyukon.ca>

And watch this video to inform your vote.



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NjM1tPb4wAI>

In This Issue

CUPE makes History
International Labour news
CLC National Lobby Day
Yukon Election

----- TERESA ACHESON

As fall colours spread around us, we only have a few months left this year of 2025 and to our next Triennial Convention for the YFL. We celebrate 45 years this year, and it has been my great honour to steer the YFL over these past 3 years.

Every day in our office has reminded me why this work matters. Whether it was someone walking in with a workplace issue, a safety concern, or simply needing to talk about workplace issues—we’ve created a space where people feel heard, respected, and supported.

As I noted in a letter that went out with the convention call, I will not be seeking re-election as President of the Yukon Federation of Labour.

After 25 years in Yukon, I’m returning home to Manitoba to help care for my aging parents. I’ve offered to stay on till the end of this year to transition, and then in an administrative capacity, if the newly elected executive chooses to keep me on.

This role has been my dream job, and I will forever be grateful for the opportunity to serve the unions and workers both in the Yukon and across the country.



Picture Caption: Teresa Acheson, President of the Yukon Federation of Labour



Power Up!
A 6-week after school "trades sampler"
Girls and gender-diverse youth 13-17 are welcome! Runs weekly on Mondays
3:30 - 6p.m. at various locations.

Registration coming soon



Safe Tool Use 101
A YWITT Makers Club workshop with
Raven Recentre
Get comfortable using power tools in a
friendly space.

Registration coming soon



Picture Caption: YWITT (Yukon Women in Trades and Technologies) events coming up in October. RSVP for their events at <https://www.yukonwitt.org/calendar>.

CUPE Air Canada Flight Attendants Made History

----- TERESA ACHESON

CUPE's National President, Mark Hancock, took a historical stand when he tore up the back-to-work order, that thousands of CUPE flight attendants were fully behind.

When the system refuses fairness, defiance is democracy. It takes leadership to hold the line against those who tread on our fundamental rights as workers.

That's what we saw happen last month, when Air Canada flight attendants made headlines for striking when the employer left the bargaining table, and for refusing to follow back-to-work orders issued by the Carney government.

Leading the charge was Wesley Lesosky, a steadfast union leader and president of the CUPE Air Canada component. From his humble start among the rank-and-file to leading the rally for unanimous support among workers for the August 2025 strike, Lesosky's story is one of inspirational leadership against the odds.

On this episode of *Activists Make History*, host Peggy Nash talks to Lesosky about the momentous labour action and ongoing struggle against unpaid work.

Listen here

International Updates from LabourStart

----- SEPT 16, 2025

This week we were delighted to get some really excellent news from Belarus:

On 11 September, 52 political prisoners were released in Belarus. Among them were two key figures of the independent trade union movement: Aliaksandr Yarashuk, Chair of the Belarusian Congress of Democratic Trade Unions (BKDP), and Hennadz Fiadynich, former head of the Belarusian Radio and Electronics Industry Workers' Union (REP).

You can [read more here](#).

But we also learned this week about how global clothing brand NEXT has shut down the only unionised garment factory in Sri Lanka. The company sacked 1,416 workers -- by WhatsApp. Those workers are now asking for our solidarity.

We've just launched a new campaign -- [please take a moment to learn more and show your support](#).

And finally, thank you for following our stories. We have a lot of good news to share, and if you missed this one, [please have a look](#).

Eric Lee

LabourStart



Picture Caption: Students line the YVR pier waiting for job interviews for a new local clothing warehouse, June 2025.

The Carol McGregor CLC Disability Rights Award 2025

This award is named in honour of Carol McGregor, an outstanding disability rights activist, who was much loved by all those who worked with her. Carol passed away in 2006, and this award lives on in her name to recognize the incredible disability justice activism in our communities. 2025 marks the fourteenth anniversary of this award. Nominations must be received by Nov 3, 2025.



Picture Caption: Yukon Federation of Labour will be celebrating 45 years at the Triennial Convention on December 6, 2025 at the Gold Rush Inn, Whitehorse, Yukon. Registration is now open at <https://yukonfed.com/events/convention2025/>.

Pan-Canadian survey on harassment and violence at Work.

CLC national survey launched on September 18.

----- BEA BRUSKE

The survey, which is being conducted with researchers at Western University and the University of Toronto, is a follow-up to CLC’s groundbreaking study launched in 2020. The 2020 survey and subsequent [Respect at Work reports](#) released in 2022, revealed the scope and severe impacts of violence and harassment at work, including that:

- 7 in 10 workers surveyed across Canada have experienced some form of harassment and violence at work.
- Third parties, such as clients, patients and customers, were one of the largest groups of perpetrators (28%).
- Eighty-eight percent of workers who experienced harassment and violence or sexual harassment and violence were transferred, suspended, fired, or lost a shift as a result.
- Most workers who reported said that nothing changed after reporting, and approximately one in four workers who chose to report found that reporting made things worse.

The CLC is excited to announce the release of our second pan-Canadian survey on harassment and violence at work.

It launched online [here](#) on **September 18**.

YOUR PART: The support of leaders and union activists was crucial to the success of the first survey, and we need your help in ensuring strong worker participation. We are counting on all affiliates, federations, and labour councils to help spread the word, and encourage your members to participate.

The survey is open to workers 18 years of age or older who have worked within the past 12 months. It takes approximately 10 to 15 minutes to complete. All respondents will remain anonymous.

We need all workers to fill it out, regardless of whether they have experienced or witnessed workplace violence or harassment. This is how we will get a clearer picture of workers’ experiences in workplaces across the country.

Click on the images below for resources to share this survey with your co-workers and friends. Survey is online at canadianlabour.ca/respect-at-work.

SOCIAL MEDIA



DOWNLOAD TEMPLATES TO SHARE ON YOUR SOCIAL MEDIA.

SAMPLE TEXT



DOWNLOAD TEMPLATES TO SEND A MESSAGE TO YOUR LOCAL OR MEMBERS.

PRINTABLE



PRINT AND POST IN YOUR WORKPLACES, COMMUNITY CENTRES, AND COFFEE SHOPS.



Lobby on the Hill Nov. 25

Register before November 1, 2025

----- TERESA ACHESON

With a new Parliament now in place — and Mark Carney leading a minority government — the months ahead will be critical to ensuring that workers’ priorities are front and centre in the new government’s agenda. As Parliament prepares to rise for the summer, the CLC is organizing a national lobby day for the fall session, scheduled for November 25, 2025.

As with past lobby events, a mandatory training session will be held on November 24, 2025, at 6:00 p.m. at the [Rogers Centre](#), with registration opening at 5:00 p.m. Virtual training sessions (i.e. webinars) will also be organized in advance and we will share the dates and times with you in the near future.

This fall, our lobby efforts will focus on ensuring the new Parliament takes immediate action to deliver for working people. Our key priorities include:

Trade that puts workers first: As Canada reopens CUSMA negotiations and looks to expand access to foreign markets, we’ll be calling for a trade agenda that protects good jobs, strengthens labour standards, and prevents corporations from undermining workers’ rights.

Infrastructure that builds up Canada: We’ll push for major investments in public infrastructure—from transit and housing to energy and transportation—tied to union jobs, fair wages, and local procurement policies that benefit Canadian communities.

Services that make life more affordable: We’ll demand real progress on expanding and strengthening public health care, fixing Employment Insurance to protect more workers, and investing in care work and social services that help families and communities thrive.

- To organize a lobby of this scale, we need three things from you:
1. The contact information of a point person from your union. This person will act as our contact for organizing this lobby day. Let us know as soon as possible by email who your point person is for this lobby day: pac@clcctc.ca
 2. Identify who from your union will be participating in the lobby day. All affiliate participants must register through [our online form](#) to participate in the lobby. Please ensure as much regional diversity as possible in your delegation. We want to ensure that at least one person in every lobby meeting is a constituent of the MP being lobbied. Once again, the deadline to register participants is November 1, 2025. [Register Now!](#)
 3. Reserve the travel and accommodation for your participants. A block of hotel rooms has been reserved and a flight discount secured for your participants. Details can be found in our [Accommodations Guide](#). Space is limited, so secure your hotel rooms swiftly.



Picture Caption: From L to R: CLC Vice President Siobhan Vipond, CLC President Bea Bruske, YFL President Teresa Acheson, and CLC Vice President Larry Rousseau.