



## Media Release

For Immediate Release  
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### **NLFL Convention Discusses Labour Reform and Applauds Advances in OHS, WCB Benefits, and Enforcement**

**St John's** – Day one of the Newfoundland and Labrador Federation of Labour (NLFL) concluded as 200 delegates celebrated gains made and discussed upcoming challenges for workers. Activists and labour leaders from across Canada talked about gains in labour reform in their provinces that more adequately reflect the realities faced by today's workers and unions. Also discussed were federal issues such as Pharmacare, EI and equality. A \$2500 donation towards the SKS Child Care Fund, in memory of long-time activist Susan Shiner was also presented.

During a panel on occupational health and safety (OHS) and workers compensation, delegates acknowledged the successful campaign that saw an increase to injured workers' Income Replacement Rate (IRR) from 80% to 85%, and outlined ongoing work with government and WorkplaceNL on other issues like Domestic Violence at Work leave. Delegates rose to their feet when RNC Chief Joe Boland presented plans to work with Government and to enforce the amendments of the Criminal Code of Canada, (The Westray Act) whereby employers may be held criminally liable in workplace deaths or serious injuries. "After a decade of pushing for this enforcement nation wide, this is a real positive step in the right direction, and a message to employers about the seriousness of their responsibility." said NLFL President Mary Shortall. " Chief Boland has shown great leadership on this important issue, and our Federation is very proud to work with the RNC in this area."

Today's agenda includes a panel on privatization and P3's, an update in the Federation's options for a strong economy in NL, and a noon-time rally in support of a \$15 Minimum Wage.

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