



News Release

**For Immediate Release
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Longshore Workers Union Rejoin the Newfoundland and Labrador Federation of Labour

St. John's, NL - Newfoundland and Labrador Federation of Labour (NLFL) President Mary Shortall welcomes Local President Chris Gosse, of the Longshoremen's Protective Union (ILA) Local 1953, back into the Federation, after a more than 25 year break.

The LSPU (ILA) local has been very active within their own union, addressing many of the same issues as the NLFL; including occupational health and safety, workers compensation benefits, labour and employment standards, equality, domestic violence at work, and violence at work.

As President Shortall noted, "Workers have many issues in common. Sharing common challenges allows us to better engage our members, our allies, the public and government. By our past experiences, and recent gains, we know that working together we can succeed in creating positive changes that benefit workers and create a more equal and fair society."

Recently, Local 1953 celebrated their first two women members in its 115-year history. "A very positive change, says Shortall, which shows a commitment from the union to address issues of equality and fairness."

Local LSPU (ILA) President Chris Gosse says that it is very important for unions to work together and speak with one united voice. "There is strength and solidarity in unity - that is why we are pleased to re-affiliate with the NLFL and join them in the struggle for workers' rights."

LSPU (ILA) Local 1952 started organizing on the St. John's Waterfront in 1890. Currently, they represent approximately 120 longshore workers at A. Harvey and Company, Oceanex, and M-I Swaco.



The NLFL represents 70,000 members who work in every community in Newfoundland & Labrador (NL), and in every sector of the NL economy.

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