



## AFTER AN ENERGETIC OPENING DAY OF CONVENTION, THE ACTION CONTINUES.

Today we continue our work on debating resolutions and we are also being treated to a star-studded lineup of incredible speakers. We will also hear reports from Region 3 and Region 4, as well as the Canadian Equity Council.

Our keynote speaker today is Fae Johnstone, a trans woman, small business owner, a feminist, a writer and an award-winning 2SLGBTQIA+ and trans advocate. Fae regularly speaks, works, and travels across Canada, helping non-profits, health organizations and social services scale up their 2SLGBTQIA+ inclusions efforts, address gender-based violence, and strengthen community engagement, governance models and strategic directions.

We will also hear from Bea Bruske, President of the Canadian Labour Congress; Kevin Rebeck, President of the Manitoba Federation of Labour (MFL); Don Davies, interim leader of Canada's NDP; and Wab Kinew, Premier of Manitoba.

Bea Bruske was first elected as CLC President at the CLC's 29th Constitutional Convention in June 2021. In her extensive career, Bea has served workers and families as an activist, workers' advocate, negotiator, community organizer and union labour leader.

Kevin Rebeck has been a labour activist for over 30 years and has been a successful advocate for many progressive changes to Manitoba's laws and policies in his role as MFL president. This has included improvements to workplace injury prevention programs, better worker compensation board coverage, a higher minimum wage, and paid leave for survivors of domestic violence.

Don Davies was appointed as interim leader of Canada's NDP in May 2025. He has held many roles in his time in office, most recently as the NDP critic for finance. Among the other roles he has held include the NDP critic for Public Safety and National Security and the Official Opposition critic for Citizen, Immigration and Multiculturalism.

Wab Kinew is the 25th premier of Manitoba, Canada's first provincial premier of First Nations descent, and Manitoba's first Indigenous premier since Métis Premier John Norquay in 1887. Wab is from the Ojibways of Onigaming First Nation in Northwestern Ontario and is also a best-selling author and was a media personality prior to entering politics.



BEA BRUSKE



DON DAVIES



FAE JOHNSTONE



WAB KINEW



KEVIN REBECK

## PHOTO HIGHLIGHTS



## THE INSPIRATION BEHIND THE 2025 CONVENTION LOGO

“Building on our successes” means different things to different people. Our Convention 2025 logo reflects our national union’s unity and autonomy by bringing together our four regions—BC, the Prairies, Ontario, and Quebec.

The base of this year’s Convention logo uses the familiar COPE SEPB design but includes the imprint of a bison herd, honouring Manitoba, our 2025 host, but also symbolizing our members across the country moving together in solidarity.

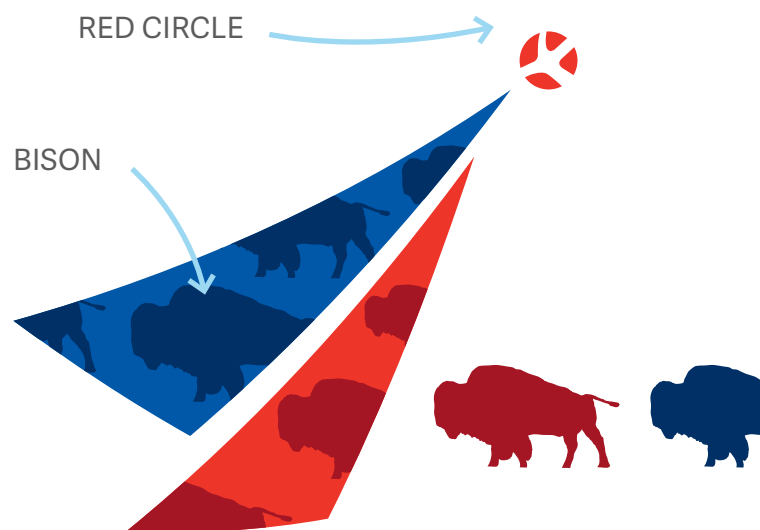
The red circle—divided into four sections—nods to both our regional unity and the iconic intersection of Portage and Main in Winnipeg, the site of the 1919 Winnipeg General Strike. That historic event began when employers tried to divide workers by refusing to negotiate collectively. Instead, workers stood together—union and non-union—to fight for fair wages and better working conditions.

The 1919 Winnipeg General Strike included veterans returning from World War I who found economic and social conditions that were even worse than before they enlisted. The strike began when employers refused to collectively bargain with trade councils that represented workers across their industry. But instead, these employers tried to divide workers and pit them against each other by negotiating separately with some unions and not with others.

The Winnipeg General Strike began on May 15, 1919, with Winnipeg workers with both union and non-union walking off the job to protest low wages, long working hours, and other poor working conditions, in addition to their employers’ refusal to negotiate. The first clash between strikers and Special Police took place on June 10, 1919, at the intersection of Portage Avenue and Main Street.

The strike was officially called off on June 26, 1919.

In some of our other Convention branding elements, you will also spot a nod to the Canadian Human Rights Museum, an acknowledgement of the City of Winnipeg and our union’s ongoing commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion.



## PHOTO HIGHLIGHTS

