

Due to the continued COVID-19 Pandemic, the 2022 MFL Convention is moving online



ONLINE CONVENTION CALL 2022

43rd Convention of the Manitoba Federation of Labour via Zoom

GROWING OUR
MOVEMENT

Manitoba
Federation
of Labour

January 18, 2022

TO: All MFL Affiliated Union Locals, Labour Councils, Provincial Organizations, and Joint Councils

GREETINGS!

CONVENTION GOES VIRTUAL

As you know, the Manitoba Federation of Labour's next Convention had been scheduled to take place at the Keystone Centre in Brandon, May 5–7, 2022. While we had really hoped to hold an in-person Convention, after much consideration, the MFL's Executive Council has decided to switch to an online / virtual format in order to ensure the health and safety of our delegates due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and new threats posed by the highly contagious Omicron variant.

We can assure you that this decision was not taken lightly; we know that most delegates prefer gathering in-person, and we do too!

However, because of the current surge in COVID-19 cases, the continuing acute pressure on Manitoba's healthcare system, and uncertainty about what public health restrictions and capacity limits may be in place, it was felt that an online Convention was the only practical choice for this spring. (We had already delayed Convention by one year in order to improve our chances of gathering in-person, so a further delay was not considered a practical option.)

THE MFL'S ONLINE CONVENTION WILL BE CONDENSED INTO TWO DAYS, MAY 5–6, 2022.

As affiliates register their delegates for Convention, detailed instructions will be provided about logging-in and participating virtually in the online Convention.

Since we won't be able to meet in-person this spring, the MFL's Executive Council has also made the decision to hold our subsequent Convention in two years' time (in 2024), instead of the normal three years, so we don't have to wait quite as long to get back together again in-person.

CONVENTION CREDENTIALS

On October 1, we mailed out Convention credentials to all MFL affiliates. If you have not received your credentials, please contact our office immediately at 204-947-1400. Please note that we will NOT be issuing new credentials to reflect the change in format to an online Convention.

The deadline for early bird credential registration is March 1 (cost: \$300), and the final deadline for credential registration is April 20 (cost: \$350). **Payment must be included with Credentials in order to register.** Please send filled-out Credentials and payment to:

ATTN. Convention Committee
Manitoba Federation of Labour
303-275 Broadway, Winnipeg, MB, R3C 4M6

Affiliates are encouraged to consider equity representation (women, Indigenous workers, workers of colour and racialized workers, workers with disabilities, LGBTQ2SI) and young workers (age 35 or younger) as part of their delegations.

IMPORTANT DEADLINES

The deadline for **EARLY BIRD CREDENTIAL REGISTRATION** is Tuesday, March 1, 2022.

The deadline for **CONVENTION AWARD NOMINATIONS** is Tuesday, March 1, 2022.

The deadline for submitting **RESOLUTIONS** is Sunday, March 6, 2022.

The final deadline for **OFFICER NOMINATIONS** is Tuesday, April 5, 2022.

The final deadline for **CREDENTIAL REGISTRATION** is Wednesday, April 20, 2022.

The deadline for **EMERGENCY RESOLUTIONS** is Monday, May 2, 2022 at 12:00 PM.



Other Convention Information:

Also included as part of this Updated Convention Booklet is information about:

- How to **WRITE & SUBMIT RESOLUTIONS**
- How to make **NOMINATIONS for CONVENTION AWARDS**, including:
 - The Dick Martin Award for Occupational Health & Safety
 - The Judy Cook Women of Achievement Award
 - The Young Member Achievement Award
- Process and deadlines for **NOMINATIONS FOR TABLE OFFICERS**
- Eligibility for **NOMINATIONS FOR EQUALITY VICE PRESIDENTS**
- Save the Date for **NEW DELEGATE ORIENTATION**
- Process for recognition in **IN MEMORIAM** section of Convention

A detailed Convention Agenda, Program and Resolutions Booklet will be made available to delegates closer to Convention, along with personalized virtual log-in information.

If you have any questions about MFL Convention 2022, please feel free to contact me (204-947-1400 / ARothney@mfl.mb.ca).

In solidarity / Stay safe,

Anna Rothney
Executive Director
Manitoba Federation of Labour



RESOLUTIONS

SUBMITTING YOUR RESOLUTIONS

- Any MFL affiliate can submit a resolution.
- All resolutions must be authorized by an Officer of the affiliate submitting the resolution.
- Please e-mail all resolutions to: Admin@mfl.mb.ca. Please specify the authorizing Officer.
- We kindly ask that resolutions be submitted as Microsoft Word documents to assist us with formatting.
- A resolution can only deal with one (1) subject and must outline a proposed action for the MFL to undertake.
- Clear language must be used in drafting all resolutions (see instructions below).
- A resolution will be no more than one hundred and fifty (150) words.
- **Resolutions must be submitted to the MFL no later than Sunday, March 6, 2022.**

EMERGENCY RESOLUTIONS

- Emergency resolutions will deal with important matters that have arisen since the deadline for regular resolutions (March 6, 2022). No other matters will not be considered as emergency resolutions.
- Emergency resolutions submitted by 12:00 PM on Monday, May 2, 2022 will be considered for acceptance.

WRITING INSTRUCTIONS

As part of efforts to promote more effective communications with our members, the MFL has adopted a Clear Language Format for resolutions.

Clear Language Format requires that a resolution begin with the specific action being requested of the MFL (the MFL will...), and then briefly explain the issue and rationale for taking the requested action (because...).

SAMPLE RESOLUTION

SUBJECT: Paid Domestic Violence Leave
SUBMITTED BY: Totally Awesome Union, Local 123

The MFL will lobby the provincial government to establish paid domestic violence leave.

Because Manitoba's labour movement is committed to ending domestic violence in all its forms, and

Because paid employment leave will make it easier for victims of violence to take the steps needed to escape violence, without worrying about losing their job or their income, and

Because research by the Canadian Labour Congress has shown that one in every three workers has experienced domestic violence, making it a serious workplace health and safety issue.

Authorizing Officer and Position

SAVE THE DATE:

NEW DELEGATE ORIENTATION (MAY 2)



Is this your first time being a delegate to an MFL Convention? If so, welcome! We're thrilled that you'll be joining us.

MFL President Kevin Rebeck will be hosting an informal New Delegate Orientation Session on Monday, May 2, at 6:00 pm (for approx. one hour) – information on how to register for the session will be available on the MFL's Convention web page (mfl.mb.ca/convention) by the end of March.

The New Delegate Orientation Session is intended to give new delegates a better sense of what to expect at Convention, how they can participate and vote, and how they can get the most out of the experience.

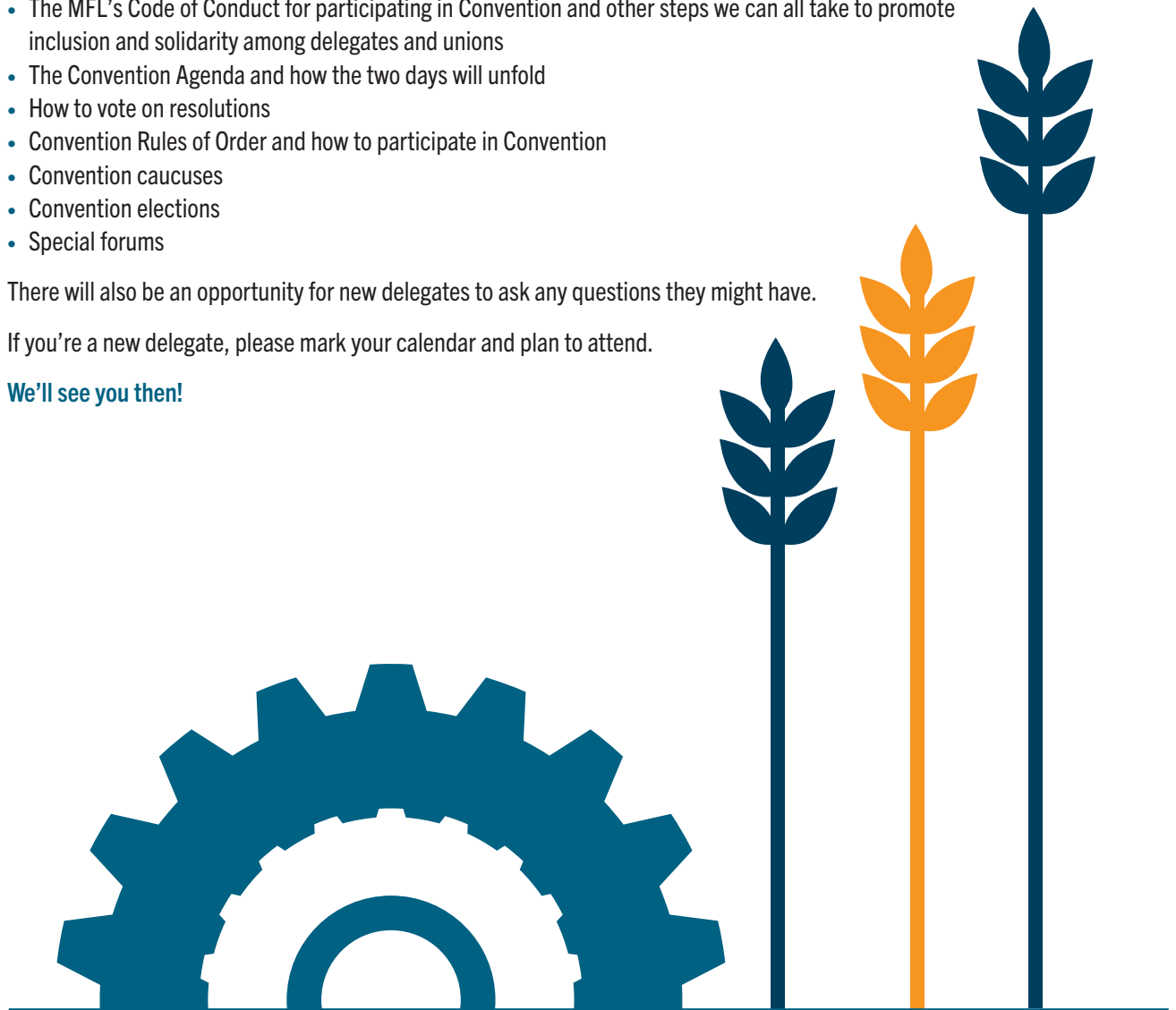
The session will provide an overview of:

- The MFL and its affiliates
- The roles and responsibilities of the MFL
- The MFL's Code of Conduct for participating in Convention and other steps we can all take to promote inclusion and solidarity among delegates and unions
- The Convention Agenda and how the two days will unfold
- How to vote on resolutions
- Convention Rules of Order and how to participate in Convention
- Convention caucuses
- Convention elections
- Special forums

There will also be an opportunity for new delegates to ask any questions they might have.

If you're a new delegate, please mark your calendar and plan to attend.

We'll see you then!





CONVENTION AWARDS – CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

The MFL presents three (3) special awards at its triennial Conventions to recognize outstanding achievements in the areas of occupational health and safety, women’s rights and equality, and special achievements by young members:

The Dick Martin Award for Occupational Health & Safety recognizes exceptional dedication and commitment by union activists to improving workplace health and safety. The award honours the memory of Brother Dick Martin, former President of the Manitoba Federation of Labour, who championed the need for higher standards and better education in workplace health and safety, including leading efforts to establish the MFL Occupational Health Centre.

The Judy Cook Women of Achievement Award recognizes women trade unionists who have made significant contributions to the struggle for gender equality, and women’s and labour rights. The *Judy Cook Award* is awarded by the MFL Women’s Committee, and was created to honour Sister Judy Cook for her work as a strong feminist trade unionist, which greatly benefited our movement and the wider social justice community.

The Young Member Achievement Award recognizes that encouraging, supporting and celebrating the next generation of leaders is important to the labour movement. The *Young Member Achievement Award* is given to a young worker who demonstrates exceptional leadership skills and a deep commitment to the labour movement. The MFL is committed to raising awareness about the experiences of young workers and the importance of good jobs, workplace safety, fairness and social justice.

The deadline for nominations for these awards is **Tuesday, March 1, 2022**.

For more information about these awards and how you can nominate someone, please visit mfl.ca/convention.



NOMINATIONS FOR ELECTION FOR MFL TABLE OFFICER POSITIONS

The processes and deadlines related to the nomination and election of MFL Table Officers are outlined in Article 5 of the MFL’s Constitution, available at mfl.ca/convention.

Nominations for President, Treasurer, and two (2) Executive Vice Presidents must be received no later than **April 5, 2022** (30 days prior to the Convention call to order).

In order for a nominee to have their biography and photo circulated to delegates, their nomination must be received no later than **March 6, 2022** (60 days prior to Convention call to order).

A delegate may only let their name stand for one (1) Table Officer position.

Nominations must be submitted by the deadline to the MFL Office, 303-275 Broadway, Winnipeg, MB, R3C 4M6 or by E-mail to ARothney@mfl.mb.ca.

ELECTIONS FOR MFL EXECUTIVE COUNCIL EQUALITY VICE-PRESIDENTS



Elections will be held for the following Executive Council Vice President (VP) positions at Convention:

Workers of Colour VP

Indigenous Workers VP

Solidarity & Pride (2SLGBTQI) VP

Young Members VP

Caucus meetings will be held at Convention to elect these positions. The times/locations of these Caucus meetings will be announced closer to Convention. Delegates must register for Convention Caucuses by filling-out the appropriate section of their delegate credential.

In order to be eligible as a candidate for an Equality VP position, a person must:

- Be a delegate to Convention and a member in good standing of an MFL affiliated local.
- Self-identify with the caucus
- Provide a letter of support from their union endorsing their candidacy and committing to cover all costs associated with their participation on the MFL Executive Council.

IN MEMORIAM

It is customary at MFL Conventions to remember and pay tribute to workers and union activists who have passed away since the last Convention (May, 2018), including those who have lost their lives tragically on-the-job.

If you would like to have someone recognized as part of our “in memoriam” section, please e-mail the following information to Admin@mfl.mb.ca with the subject heading: In Memoriam

- Name of deceased
- Union/organizational affiliation
- Date of passing

We will be accepting in memoriam submissions until the end of the first day of Convention at 4:00 pm.



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