

President's Report

May/June 2026

Manitoba Federation of Labour
Strong Unions. Strong Manitoba.



MFL PRESIDENT KEVIN REBECK MARCHES IN WINNIPEG'S PRIDE PARADE AS PART OF MANITOBA'S UNIONS WALKING GROUP.

Happy Pride Month!

It has been great to see so many unions participating in Pride events across our province this June. Whether it was in Brandon, Selkirk, The Pas, Dauphin, Gimli, Winnipeg or the first ever Pride Parade in Winkler, workers and their unions have been marching in solidarity for a more inclusive and equitable Manitoba.

Our Brothers, Sisters and Friends in the 2SLGBTQIA+ community are facing continued attacks and it is important for unions to continue to stand up for a Manitoba where everyone belongs.

Manitoba employers receive another windfall from the WCB despite concerning health and safety trends

This May, Manitoba employers received their annual gift from the WCB: \$90 million in WCB rebates paid out to employers regardless of their workplace health and safety records.

The WCB has been paying out these annual rebates to employers since 2019. But since then, Manitoba has had the highest workplace injury rate in the country, we have experienced an explosion of workers facing violence on the job and 128 Manitobans have died because of work.

This surplus scheme isn't making workplaces any safer for Manitobans, and there is a lot of evidence that workplace health and safety has gotten worse since it was created.

That is why the MFL is calling on the provincial government to legislate an end to these annual WCB surplus payouts to employers until Manitoba's concerning workplace health and safety trends are reversed. Manitoba's WCB premiums are already the lowest in the country, so why is the WCB choosing to distribute tens of millions of dollars to employers when it is clear that the WCB needs to do

a lot more to prevent workplace injuries and deaths? The WCB has distributed over \$600 million in employer rebates since 2019.

Prior to 2019, workplace injuries had been trending down, but that trend has now reversed. Workplace injuries have increased by four per cent over the same period in which WCB has been sending these windfall payments to employers. In fact, Manitoba has had the highest workplace

injury rate of any province every year since 2019, according to [data compiled by the Association of Workers Compensation Boards of Canada](#).

And Manitoba workers have faced a 50 per cent increase in workplace violence in that same timeframe, especially pronounced for workers in sectors like health care, retail, cannabis, emergency response, public transit, education and security.

To add insult to injury, employers receive this surplus payout regardless of their safety record. This means that the employers whose workplaces saw workers die on the job last year will receive the same level of payout as employers who take workplace health and safety more seriously. It is time for the government to put an end to this surplus scheme and refocus the WCB on making workplaces safer and healthier.



PRESIDENT REBECK JOINS IBEW COUNCIL 11'S PICKET LINE.

Solidarity with striking IBEW Council 11 members

As of publication, around 60 members from IBEW Council 11 in Manitoba and 300 workers across Canada are currently on strike against Canadian Pacific Kansas City Limited railway. The work these IBEW members do is vital - helping to keep the railway moving by installing, maintaining and repairing communication and signal machinery across Canada. They deserve a fair deal, and we encourage MFL affiliate unions to show your solidarity with them.



PRESIDENT REBECK AND WINNIPEG LABOUR COUNCIL PRESIDENT MELISSA DVORAK SPEAK AT CLC CONVENTION.

Canada's labour movement gathers in Winnipeg for CLC Convention

This May, we welcomed thousands of workers to Winnipeg for the Canadian Labour Congress' 31st Constitutional Convention. The theme of the Convention was: We Build. We Care. We Fight.

Over the course of the convention, delegates passed a number of important resolutions to protect public services and fight for good union jobs, setting the direction for the CLC over the next few years.