



> **March 19 & 20th / 2026**

VICTORIA INN HOTEL & CONVENTION CENTRE
1808 Wellington Ave., Winnipeg, MB

23RD ANNUAL MEL MYERS LABOUR CONFERENCE AGENDA

> **THURSDAY MARCH 19, 2026**

Conference location is the South Centennial room.
Please refer to each Session block for correct locations.

7:45AM – 8:45AM: **REGISTRATION AND BREAKFAST**

8:45AM – 9:00AM: **CONFERENCE WELCOME/OPENING**

9:00AM – 10:15AM: **Plenary Session:** Skills for Difficult Conversations: Effective Strategies and Practical Tips
Moderator: Kristen Worbanski, Myers LLP
Keynote Speaker: David Falk, Partner, Facilitated Solutions

10:15AM – 10:30AM: **REFRESHMENT BREAK**

10:30AM – 12:00PM: SESSION A

SESSION A	PRESENTERS	LOCATION
A1: WCB Claims and Appeals	Shannon Carson, Myers LLP Jodi Plenert, Myers LLP David Popke, MGEU, WCB Specialist	Centennial 1
A2: Organizing Dos and Don'ts	Susan Dawes, Myers LLP Victoria Hodge, Myers LLP	Centennial 3
A3: Dealing with Difficult Grievors	Greg Bartel, Myers LLP Mike Segstro, Myers LLP	Centennial 5
A4: Ask a Labour Lawyer	Paul McKenna, Myers LLP Trevor Ray, Myers LLP Paul McDonald, MGEU	Centennial 6

12:00PM – 1:15PM: **LUNCH**

1:15PM – 2:45PM: SESSION B

SESSION B	PRESENTERS	LOCATION
B1: Workplace Safety and Health Update	Shannon Carson, Myers LLP Amanda Cheys, Myers LLP	Centennial 1
B2: Off-Duty Conduct	Greg Bartel, Myers LLP Victoria Hodge, Myers LLP	Centennial 3
B3: Medical Privacy	Paul McKenna, Myers LLP Michael Merner, Myers LLP	Centennial 5
B4: Unions 101	Joel Deeley, Myers LLP Jodi Plenert, Myers LLP	Centennial 6

2:45PM – 3:00PM: **REFRESHMENT BREAK**

3:00PM – 4:30PM: **SESSION C**

SESSION C	PRESENTERS	LOCATION
C1: Discipline Fundamentals	Jeff Smorang, Myers LLP Amanda Cheys, Myers LLP	Centennial 1
C2: Family Status Accommodation	Joel Deeley, Myers LLP Clair Cerilli, Myers LLP	Centennial 3
C3: Unions 101 (Repeat of B4)	Greg Bartel, Myers LLP Jodi Plenert, Myers LLP	Centennial 5
C4: Ask a Labour Lawyer (Repeat of A4)	Paul McKenna, Myers LLP Trevor Ray, Myers LLP Paul McDonald, MGEU	Centennial 6

4:30PM – 6:30PM: **RECEPTION LOCATION IN THE SOUTH CENTENNIAL ROOM**

> **FRIDAY MARCH 20, 2026**

8:00AM – 9:00AM: **REGISTRATION & BREAKFAST**

9:00AM – 10:15AM: **Plenary Session:** Essential Services Fundamentals: How Does It Look A Year In?
Moderator: Susan Dawes, Myers LLP
Panelists: Antonio Barraza Luna, CUPE National Representative
Raymond MacIsaac, Registrar, Manitoba Labour Board

10:15AM – 10:30AM: **REFRESHMENT BREAK**

10:30AM – 12:00PM: **SESSION D**

SESSION D	PRESENTERS	LOCATION
D1: Union Communication Beyond the Hearing Room	Shannon Carson, Myers LLP Jeff Smorang, Myers LLP Mike Sutherland, Manitoba Nurses Union Brandi Johnson, Manitoba Nurses Union	Centennial 1
D2: Social Media and the Workplace	Kristen Worbanski, Myers LLP Clair Cerilli, Myers LLP	Centennial 3
D3: Drug and Alcohol Testing in the Workplace	Trevor Ray, Myers LLP Mike Segstro, Myers LLP	Centennial 5
D4: Interest Arbitration	Joel Deeley, Myers LLP Michael Merner, Myers LLP	Centennial 6

12:00PM – 1:00PM: **LUNCH**

1:00PM – 2:30PM: **Top 10 Cases**
Presenters: Myers LLP Labour Group

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