



23 MEL MYERS

LABOUR CONFERENCE

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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