



PRAIRIE SCHOOL

for union women



JUNE 12-15, 2023
SASKATOON, SASKATCHEWAN

PRAIRIE SCHOOL FOR UNION WOMEN

The Prairie School for Union Women offers trade union women an intensive four days of learning and sharing in a supportive environment. The goals of the school are to develop women's personal and leadership skills and to build solidarity among women workers.

Whether you are a woman who is a long time activist or just starting to get involved in your union, this school is open to you. This year, the school will be held in-person in Saskatoon at the Saskatoon Inn and Conference Centre, 2002 Airport Drive, from June 12-15, 2023.

Enrolment for the 2023 Prairie School for Union Women is limited. Participants will be registered on a first-come, first-served basis. Your registration fee **MUST** accompany your registration form in order to qualify.



SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

The Prairie School for Union Women has established a Scholarship Fund for the purpose of encouraging women from equity-seeking groups and from non-unionized work settings to attend the school as participants.

Women from the following equity-seeking groups are eligible to apply: Indigenous women, women with disabilities, visible minority women, lesbian/bisexual/trans women and youth (29 and under). In addition, unemployed women and women working in non-unionized settings are eligible to apply.

The scholarship application form is available on the SFL website at www.sfl.sk.ca

Contact the SFL office at 306-525-0197 or email d.duff@sfl.sk.ca for more information.

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

Courses are scheduled over four days. When registering, please select one preferred course from the following options. We will do our best to register you in your preferred course however, courses are filled on a first-come, first-served basis.

A

Path to Reconciliation: From 2023 Onward

Want to strengthen your solidarity skills, as an Indigenous Ally? Want to be an effective leader for positive change for Indigenous People and in Indigenous issues in your union and are you willing to champion these causes from within? Do you want to plant the seeds of solidarity in your work and are you committed to nurturing them? Then this is the course for you!

This is not “Unionism on Turtle Island” - a great course taught at PSUW for many years. We will not be focusing on the historical process that brought us to where we are as a province and country today. In Path to Reconciliation: From 2023 Onward, we will be discussing the contemporary struggles of Indigenous People and communities in Western Canada.

Drawing from past issues supported by Labour, and also by news stories in the media, we will use the time we have together to discuss topics, and to analyze and share our combined knowledge, skills and strengths to build on the promises of a place where we can “live side by side, in mutual respect and harmony” as was intended by past Chiefs at the Treaty negotiation table.

We will also be discussing the importance of the provincial election in 2024 for Indigenous People in Saskatchewan.

Sound interesting? Join us for Path to Reconciliation: From 2023 Onward!

B

Popular Education - Level 2

In this hands-on course, we'll discuss and practice popular education philosophy, methods, and skills.

Special emphasis will be put on involving union members from equity seeking-groups in labour education and on addressing equity issues in the classroom.

The course is designed for women who want to work towards facilitating courses in their unions or at future Prairie Schools.

After this course, you will:

- Know the principles of popular education and the spiral model;
- Be able to write objectives for a learning activity;
- Have experience co-facilitating;
- Be empowered to integrate equity into union education.

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

C

Igniting the Spark

Women make the union strong!

This course offers union women an opportunity to develop and enhance their leadership skills, find their voice and ignite the spark to take on further challenges.

Course material will cover the key issues facing working women today and how unions can make a difference.

Participants will examine ideas around leadership, understand myths and the obstacles and challenges women leaders face.

We will explore ways of building upon our own skills so we are prepared to consider running for new positions or to support other women running for office.

In this course, you will...

- Learn about and practice public speaking and discuss how women in leadership deal with conflict;**
- Examine communications and campaigning strategies to help further women's economic and social equality;**
- Break barriers and elect more women in leadership positions and in public office.**

D

Union/Labour Basics

Making change is never easy. Women have struggled for equality through history, facing personal, political, and economic barriers.

We can't undo history, but we can control our future by finding our place in the union. We will learn about all aspects of unions in a friendly, fun environment.

You will learn how women's issues can be advanced from the grassroots to the bargaining table.

We will learn practical skills for becoming a union activist including public speaking, resolution writing, chairing and participating in meetings and conventions, and running for union office.

After this course, you will...

- Know the history of women's struggles in the workplace and the labour movement;**
- Understand how a union works and feel confident in your abilities to fully participate;**
- Build confidence in your skills to be a leader;**
- Be inspired to take your rightful place in the labour movement;**
- Be ready to take on the world.**

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

E

Feminism in the Labour Movement

Who were/are Canadian Feminists and how do they fit into the Labour Movement?

“As more and more women steadily moved into the paid workforce, many also became union members. Feminists active in the labour movement worked with other union women to put pressure on their unions and central labour bodies to take up issues such as affirmative action/employment equity, childcare, equal pay for work of equal value, maternity leave, and sexual harassment” (RiseUp Feminist Digital Archive).

Learn more about feminists and feminism via history, current events, art, music, activism, and self-reflection. This is a terrific opportunity to have discussions with incredible feminists about how we can build on battles won and the battles we are still working on!

Learn how union activists in the past dealt with hostile employers, media and governments, and understand where we are going by knowing where we have been!

F

Labour History

The real history of Canada has more to do with the daily struggle of workers and their families than with prime ministers, politicians or the wealthy few.

Find out what you never learned in school about the triumphs, sacrifices and tragedies that built the Canadian labour movement, as well as the role women played in building the movement.

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

G

Women, Work and Ability

This course is designed to explore myths, mistaken beliefs and assumptions regarding disabilities.

It will raise awareness of barriers that women with disabilities experience in the workplace and participants will develop action plans in breaking down the barriers.

Rights and responsibilities for “Duty to Accommodate” will be explored and examples of accommodations will be identified.

Overall, participants will gain tools on how to make the workplace accessible.

We will provide tools for:

- Participating in and developing return to work plans;
- Representing members who have disabilities;
- Developing disability friendly collective agreement language;
- Understanding duty to accommodate and human rights legislation; and
- Gaining a better understanding of issues and facts regarding disabilities.

H

Bridging the Gap: Building Solidarity in Hard Times

This course approaches conflict in a novel way. It recognizes that conflict is not always negative but that it is the outcome of the conflict that is negative or positive.

The course will teach participants how to listen to people involved in a conflict, get to the root causes of a conflict, and how to coach people involved in a conflict to identify shared interests.

Participants will learn how to use those shared interests to help people involved in conflict to find solutions and build solidarity skills for union activism and movement building.

We will provide tools on how we talk to members and coworkers who think differently than us (politics, racial and gender justice, membership, etc...)

Would you like to be a better leader in your workplace and a voice for change? These are such big issues – what can we actually do about it?

CONFERENCE INFORMATION

PLEASE READ THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION CAREFULLY.

Accommodation and Meals

Prairie School courses will take place at the Saskatoon Inn and Conference Centre, 2002 Airport Drive, Saskatoon. Participants must make their own reservations.

Reservations at the Saskatoon Inn can be made by calling 1-306-242-1440 or Toll Free at 1-800-667-8789.

Group Name: Prairie School for Union Women BP

Rates starting at: \$139 for Standard Two Queen or Superior Kings.

Reservations can also be made online at: <https://reservations.travelclick.com/6876?groupID=3794851>

Participant registration fees include lunch and dinner on Monday, breakfast, lunch and dinner on Tuesday and Wednesday, and breakfast on Thursday. Any other meals are the participant's responsibility.

Childcare

Childcare may be provided on-site to children age 12 and under by qualified childcare workers. This is for parents/guardians who have no alternate care available. Space is limited. Only pre-registered children will be accepted. The deadline to request childcare is May 5, 2023- no exceptions. All parents/guardians requesting childcare will be contacted prior to the school.

The cost for participants with children in childcare is \$500 for the first child, and \$200 for each additional child. Fees include meals, snacks, and other activities where costs are incurred.

2023 PRAIRIE SCHOOL FOR UNION WOMEN

CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

Monday, June 12	
Registration	9:30 a.m.-11:00 a.m.
Opening Plenary	11:00 am-12:00 p.m.
Lunch	Noon-1:00 p.m.
Courses	1:00 p.m.-4:30 p.m.
Tuesday, June 13	
Courses	8:30 a.m.-Noon
Lunch	Noon-1:00 p.m.
Courses Continue	1:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m.
Wednesday, June 14	
Courses	8:30 a.m.-Noon
Lunch	Noon-1:00 p.m.
Courses Continue	1:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m.
Thursday, June 15	
Courses	8:30 a.m.- 11:00 a.m.
Closing Plenary	11:00 a.m.-Noon
School Adjourns	12:00 Noon

Transportation

Transportation between the airport, hotel, and the school are the responsibility of the participant. Do not book flights out of Saskatoon earlier than 2:00 p.m. if possible.

Refund Policy

Up to May 5: full refund
May 6-May 31: refund minus \$100 admin fee
After May 31: no refund

Email Confirmation

Participants will be sent an information package in May confirming registration and more detailed information.

CONFERENCE REGISTRATION

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

NOTE: You can also fill out an online registration form at www.sfl.sk.ca.

Your registration will not be confirmed until payment is received.

Union _____ Local _____
Name _____
Address _____
City/Town _____
Province _____ Postal Code _____
Phone (h/c)(____) _____ (w)(____) _____
Email _____
(Email address is required)
Occupation _____
Number of PSUW conferences attended? _____

Accessibility Needs and Dietary Restrictions

Do you have any accessibility needs or dietary restrictions? Yes No
If yes, please specify. Please note we are unable to provide computers or other electronic equipment. If you require equipment, please contact your union.

Childcare

Do you require childcare on-site? Yes No
The deadline to request childcare is MAY 5- NO EXCEPTIONS. Must accompany completed paid registration. See conference information page for fee structure.

Child Name _____ Age _____
Child Name _____ Age _____
Child Name _____ Age _____

Do they have any accessibility needs or dietary restrictions? (Please specify):

Total amount included for childcare: _____

Accommodation and Transportation

Arrangements for accommodation and transportation are the responsibility of the participant. Conference location is the Saskatoon Inn. Please see the conference information page for more information.

Course Selection

We do our best to ensure you are enrolled in the course of your choice. However, each course enrolment is limited and registration will be on a first-come first-served basis. Please include your second and third choices! Indicate the course letters in the blanks below.

First: _____
Second: _____ Third: _____

PSUW Registration Fees

Is your union/local affiliated to your provincial/territorial federation of labour? Yes No

Deadline for Early Bird Registration is May 5, 2023.

Deadline for all registrations is May 31, 2023.

Payment MUST accompany completed registration form- no exceptions.

Affiliates: by May 5: \$1,000
 after May 5: \$1,100
Non-affiliates: by May 5: \$1,100
 after May 5: \$1,200

Note: Include applicable childcare fees.

Make cheque payable to SFL

Mail completed form and cheque to:

Saskatchewan Federation of Labour
220 – 2445 13th Ave., Regina, SK S4P0W1

Phone: (306) 525-0197
Email: event@sfl.sk.ca

Or, e-transfer funds to:
payment@sfl.sk.ca

Please include "PSUW Reg." in the memo area of the e-transfer.

Office Use Only

Chq # _____

Amt \$ _____

Date Received _____