

WORKSHOPS

Workshop 1 - Just Transition in a Time of Climate Crisis

Co-Facilitators, Steve Shallhorn, Working Green 2050 and Brad Evoy, Scarborough Community Legal Services, Mi'kmaq Nation

As temperatures rise and violent climate disasters strike the homes and families of workers of colour the world over, we have to ask: what would make a just transition to a better future for working people? Only through the power of workers together can we hope to confront the climate crisis created by the bosses and their politicians. Join us to walk through climate science, reducing emissions, and how workers can build towards a Just Transition. We'll talk about how a real Just Transition confronts colonialism, environmental racism, and the pitfalls created when Indigenous nations and workers are left out of the conversation.



Steve Shallhorn



Brad Evoy

Workshop 2 - Political Action from the Boardroom to the Grassroots

Co-Facilitators, Marie Clarke Walker, former CLC Exec VP, and Secty-Treasurer and Justin Kong, PSAC

In Political Action from the Boardroom to the Grassroots participants will discuss the pressing political issues facing BIWOC, explore collective solutions and identify their personal commitments to addressing these pressing issues. Join labour movement veteran Marie Clarke Walker who will share from her many decades of experience in the labour movement and labour activist Justin Kong in a discussion on how to build effective and intersectional political campaigns that can win for workers and the marginalized.



Maire Clarke Walker



Justin Kong

Workshop 3 - Justice for injured Migrant Workers

Facilitator, Sang-Hun Mung, Injured Workers Action for Justice (IWA4J)

Members of Injured Workers Action for Justice (IWA4J) will share their lived experience as injured migrant workers in organizing for collective action and power for change. We will be focusing on organizing with injured workers in precarious workplaces, like migrant agricultural workers, Spanish-speaking and Chinese-speaking workers.



Workshop 4 - The Sound of Struggle: History of Music in our Movement(s)

Facilitator, Rosina Kazi

Join our community-building workshop to explore the role of music in our collective experiences and connect with historical narratives worldwide. Together, we'll craft unique soundscapes, recording the journey as we delve into the intersection of labour and music. Rosina Kazi is lead singer of the protest electronic duo LAL and dance music duo ROSINA. She will guide participants through a creative workshop, collectively exploring the significance of sound in our stories and struggles. Your voice matters in exploring this musical journey. Join us to harmonize history and forge new connections through music and shared experiences.



Workshop 5 - Decolonizing our Movements across Seven Generations

Facilitator, Angele Alook

In this workshop we will briefly discuss Canada's colonial history, and the impact it had on women, and the possibility of a decolonial feminist future. You will be introduced to how the colonialism, capitalism and patriarchy work together as systems of oppression. Then we will discuss a Decolonial Just Transition and what that means for those in the labour movement, and why Indigenous sovereignty, land back, and restoring Indigenous economies of care, and Indigenous laws of caring are important to decolonize our lives and our economies.



Thanks to our Sponsors:



COPE 343



**SATURDAY
OCTOBER 14**

9:30 am - 4pm

SMWIA LOCAL 30

190 MILNER AVE

2023

@torontolabour #IWOC2023 labourcouncil.ca



Toronto & York Region Labour Council

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AGENDA

MCs



Camlin Vinayagamoorthy
CUPE 4948



Keith Menezes
United Steelworkers



**Indigenous Elder
Catherine Brooks**

Dr. Brooks is an Elder, and a member of the Nipissing First Nation

- **Welcome by Labour Council's Equity Committee**
- **Presentation** – The Union Advantage for Black and Racialized Workers
- **Panel** – Beyond Performance: What Power and Action Looks Like for BIWOC
- **Lunch - Master Chefman**
- **Workshops**
- **Wrap up**
- **Mini Farmers Market and Prizes**



Andria Babbington

President, Toronto & York Region Labour Council

PRESENTATION – THE UNION ADVANTAGE FOR BLACK AND RACIALIZED WORKERS

The Importance of Unions in Reducing Racial Wage Inequality: New Data and Best Practices

New Statistics Canada data on wage inequality according to racial and ethnic identity provides more detail on the extent of the racial wage gap in Canada, and the importance of unions and collective bargaining in combatting it. Analyzing this data in detail, a new report from the Centre for Future Work confirms that trade unions play a vital role in reducing wage inequality across both race and gender, but also that racialized workers are underrepresented in current union membership. The paper also compiles, on the basis of key informant interviews and review of existing research, a set of best practices that would help the union movement fulfil its potential as a powerful vehicle of racial equality.



Winnie Ng is a union organizer, anti-racism activist and a feminist. She is Chair Emeritus, Unifor-Sam Gindin Chair in Social Justice and Democracy at Toronto Metropolitan University.



Jim Stanford is Economist and Director of the Centre for Future Work. Jim is one of Canada's best-known economic commentators, and from a progressive perspective. He served for over 20 years as Economist and Director of Policy with Unifor, Canada's largest private-sector trade union (formerly the Canadian Auto Workers).



Salmaan Khan is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Criminology at Toronto Metropolitan University. Prior to this he was Research Program Manager in the office of the Chair in Social Justice and Democracy at TMU.

PANEL - BEYOND PERFORMANCE: WHAT POWER AND ACTION LOOKS LIKE FOR BIWOC

Moderator: Yvette Blackburn

Yvette is a long-standing community advocate and leader, sitting on various Boards of Directors, task forces, and committees. She has been a counselor for at-risk and underserved students and an employment counselor assisting racialized and new Canadian women having difficulty attaining and retaining employment. Yvette is a member of ETT.



Panelist: Angele Alook

Angele Alook is an assistant professor in the School of Gender, Sexuality & Women's Studies at York University. She is a proud member of Bigstone Cree nation in Treaty 8 territory, where she has researched issues of sociology of family and work, resource extraction, school-to-work transitions, Indigenous identity, and seeking the good life (miyo-pimatisiwin) in work-life balance. She is co-author of a best-seller book entitled "The End of This World: Climate Justice in so-called Canada" published by Between the Line Publishing (2023).



Panelist: Rokhaya Gueye

Rokhaya Gueye, known as "Rok", is the Community Partnership Coordinator at Carpenters Regional Council and the Ontario Chair of the Sisters in the Brotherhood (SIB). Rok wears many hats: Carpenter, inaugural Toronto Chair SIB, certified coach and mentor, community organizer, interpreter and public speaker, and a volunteer at the Board level and in many hands-on roles. Rok is passionate about social change, women & youth empowerment, construction, technology, community economic development and philanthropy.



Panelist: Joseanne Job

Joseanne Job is a true "Kid from Scarborough," having moved from the town of Scarborough in Tobago to Scarborough, Canada at the age of 10. Joseanne has always lived a life of service, from volunteering at her elementary school, at her church and in the community at large. Her passion for social justice and human rights led her to be elected President of OPSEU Local 527 in 2016, become the Young Worker Representative for her region in OPSEU, and always fighting for working people, equity and human rights.



Panelist: Chris Ramsaroop

Chris Ramsaroop is Assistant Professor, New College, University of Toronto, as well as the Coordinator for the Community-Engaged Learning program. Chris is an organizer with Justicia for Migrant Workers and also on the executive of the Asian Canadian Labour Alliance and on the board of the Food Chain Workers Alliance. He is also an instructor in the U of T's Caribbean Studies Program and Co-director of the Migrant Worker Legal Clinic at the University of Windsor. Chris has had opinion pieces published in several publications.



Panelist: Tina Stevens

Tina Stevens is President of the Co-operative Housing Federation of Canada, President of OPSEU Local 102, and First VP of the London & District Labour Council. Tina is a Director of OPSEU's Indigenous Circle. A member of the Loon clan, and of the Kitigan Zibi First Nation, Tina draws strength from her Ojibway roots and believes living in the spirit of the seven Grandfather teachings is key to maintaining healthy communities.