



(Wo)mentorship: Advancing Women in the Union



CEP Western Region *6th Biennial Women's Conference*

Sunday, May 6 to Wednesday, May 9, 2012
The Renaissance Vancouver Harbourside Hotel
Vancouver, BC

The Merriam Webster dictionary defines a mentor as “a trusted counselor or guide.” This year’s Western Region Women’s Conference celebrates the role of mentors and seeks to provide support and encouragement for women of the union.

This conference is for activists of all levels of experience. Whether you are new and would like to have a mentor, or are seasoned and have some experience to share, this conference is designed for you. Together over the course of three and a half days we will share experiences and learn new skills and have a little fun.

Located in Vancouver the conference begins Sunday evening with a movie night. We begin on Monday with our Keynote Speaker Libby Davies, NDP MP for Vancouver East and Co-Deputy Leader of the NDP. In between will be workshops, a world café and other specially designed events that will challenge and inspire us as women and as union activists.

On Wednesday we will be finished at noon but not before holding elections for positions to the Western Region Women's Committee. For those who may be interested in running there is more information on page 3, and on the CEP website under [Western Region Women's Committee](#).

We will also be holding a raffle on Tuesday night with all proceeds being donated to a women's charity. We are gathering donations, so if you can, please bring a small gift that could help a sister with balancing family, work or health.

Don't miss the early-bird registration. See you in Vancouver!!

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When and Where?

Conference registration will occur from 4pm to 6pm on Sunday, May 6, 2012 and again Monday morning from 7:30 am to 9:00 am. The conference will begin at 7pm Sunday and run through to 12 noon Wednesday, May 9, 2012 at the Renaissance Vancouver Harbourside Hotel, 1133 West Hastings Street, Vancouver, BC.

How much?

If you register by March 27, the registration fee is \$175. Otherwise the registration fee is \$200. Registration closes **April 23, 2012**.

Travel

Travel arrangements can be made through WE Travel by calling 1-800-663-4703.

Hotel Registration

The CEP Western Region has booked a block of rooms at the Renaissance Vancouver Harbourside Hotel at a rate of \$189 per night for single or double. We ask that you make your own reservations by calling toll free at: 1.877.764.1997 or by email at heather@wetravel.net or on the website: www.wetravel.net. You must make your reservations prior to the deadline of **March 27, 2012** to qualify for the special rates. When booking, please specify that you are with the CEP Conference so that you will get the special rate.

Conference Registration

1. Complete the registration form, including the workshop selection.
2. Enclose your cheque payable to the CEP Western Region.
3. Mail the registration form and cheque to:
Western Region Women's Conference
CEP Western Region
540-1199 West Pender Street
Vancouver, BC V6E 2R1

Deadline

We would appreciate hearing from you as soon as possible. Registrations must be received at the above address by **April 23, 2012**.

Need more info?

Contact Jamie Ayres at the CEP Vancouver office by phone at 604.682.6501 or by e-mail at jayres@cep.ca

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WORKSHOPS

Delegates are allowed to attend only one workshop for the entire conference. Every attempt will be made to give you your first choice workshop.

How to Get Women Involved/How to be a Mentor

(women only)

Are you a “seasoned” union activist? Have you learned from your experiences? Then this workshop is for you. We will examine why it is important to have more women involved in the union. We want participants to take away concrete ideas on how they can achieve this by being a mentor to other members. We will look at who mentored you and how/why it worked.

CEP 101

(women and men)

This workshop is for all union activists in CEP. This workshop will be an overview of our union, how things work at both the National and Local levels. We will review why unions are important and discuss why and how members should become more involved.

Negotiating for Women in the Union

(women only)

Are you interested in the art and craft of negotiations? Perhaps you have sat at the bargaining table and want to polish your skills. The objectives of this workshop are to:

- Identify gains women have made through collective bargaining at CEP.
- Identify steps and players in a typical bargaining process.
- Develop and practice some strategies for involving more women in bargaining and influencing bargaining priorities.
- Suggest ways the union could strengthen women’s involvement in bargaining.

Elections for the Western Region Women's Committee will take place on Wednesday morning with the new Committee meeting that afternoon. The Committee is comprised of one delegate from each province. If you are interested in becoming a delegate please plan your travel accordingly. Delegates elected to this Committee will be reimbursed for one night hotel room expense to attend the first meeting.

For more information, e-mail Rhoda Cossar at: rcossar@cep.ca

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Registration Form

NAME: _____
last name first name

MAILING ADDRESS: _____

TELEPHONE: _____ LOCAL: _____

E-MAIL: _____

WORKSHOP SELECTION

First Choice: _____

Second Choice: _____

Gender: female: _____ male: _____

How did you hear about this conference? _____

Will you participate in the equity caucus? yes: _____ no: _____
(aboriginal, workers of colour, gay/lesbian/bisexual/transgendered, young workers, women in non-traditional jobs, disabilities)

If you require on site **child care** you must register no later than **March 27**. Please provide the following information:

name: _____ gender: _____ age: _____

special requirements: _____

name: _____ gender: _____ age: _____

special requirements: _____

Access and services for those with disabilities

What type of accommodation related to your disability do you require?
