



New Brunswick Federation of Labour's Statement for International Worker's Day

For Immediate Release

April 27, 2017

The New Brunswick Federation of Labour, is pleased to mark May 1st, International Worker's Day.

May Day is recognized around the world. It traces its origins to the mid 1880s when a movement of workers protested to get an eight-hour workday. At that time, most people worked between 10 to 12 hours a day, six days a week. This movement witnessed many sacrifices; some labour activists even lost their lives as a result, in order to obtain justice for all workers.

“This year on May 1st, let's take a moment to remember that the rights that we enjoy today came about as the result of the hard work and sacrifices made by activists that came before us,” says Patrick Colford, President of the New Brunswick Federation of Labour, “These rights include: minimum wage, equal pay for men and women, maternity and parental leave benefits and retirement security. If we want to leave a better world for our children, it is important for us to continue to work to improve working and social conditions in the province.”

Some of the files that the New Brunswick Federation of Labour is working on include: improving workplace health and safety provisions and compensation benefits in the province, adopting first contract legislation and investing in high quality non-profit child care.

Patrick Colford concludes by saying: “The struggle for better wages, working conditions and safe workplaces continues to this day. Unions are working to improve rights and privileges enjoyed by all New Brunswickers, not just for union members. The labour movement in New Brunswick has a long history working to improve working conditions, health and safety in the workplace and social justice for society's most vulnerable.”

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The NBFL is the central voice of organized labour in the province. We represent over 40,000 workers from every sector of the economy and from every community in the province.

For more information, please contact

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