



# Managing Unionized Environments

Living the Collective Agreement



## Why Choose Queen's IRC?

Queen's IRC focuses on developing and delivering human resources, labour relations, and organizational development programs for busy practitioners.

### Get the Queen's IRC advantage:

- 80 years of evidence-based training
- Custom solutions delivered across Canada
- Coaching from industry leaders with real-world experience
- Practical simulations and tools that apply to your work environment

Collective bargaining may get all the attention of the outside world but smart, day-to-day relationship management determines the effectiveness of managers and unionized workers. It is the ongoing resolution of issues and problems that arise daily that will either create a culture of success or one of resistance and fear. In this skills-building program designed for both supervisors and union representatives, the use and application of the collective agreement is placed into an intensely practical context.

Learn both management and union best practices on challenging issues such as discipline, performance management, and job competition. Develop interest-based skills to help eliminate positional behaviour and engage difficult people, be they managers or workers. Reduce friction arising from the daily interpretation of the collective labour agreement. Start using the collective agreement as a platform for productivity and achievement.

## Transforming Knowledge into Action

By the end of this program, you will be better positioned to:

- Identify the hot spots of collective agreements and how to address them effectively
- Employ the appropriate processes and approaches that will support the integrity of the collective labour agreement
- Set expectations and give feedback that will build trust with management and motivate workers

## Organizational and Union Benefits

- Stronger labour management relations to enhance competitive capabilities
- Aligned labour relations systems that promote worker satisfaction and high performance
- Poised and well-grounded responses to the changing face of labour law and legal issues
- Reduced time and costs spent on grievance arbitration
- Better understanding of how shop stewards and managers shape the union-management dynamic

### Essentials

#### 3 Days / 3 Credits

#### Date & Location

Nov. 26-28, 2019: **Toronto**

Mar. 3-5, 2020: **Toronto**

Jul. 7-9, 2020: **Halifax**

Oct. 6-8, 2020: **Toronto**

Nov. 17-19, 2020: **Victoria**

**Fee:** \$3,695

#### Who Should Attend

Supervisors and managers who oversee unionized staff, as well as union officials, shop stewards, and others who represent workers

#### Takeaway Tools

Practical conflict management tools such as the Dynamics of Building Trust and the Triangle of Satisfaction

Please refer to our website, [irc.queensu.ca](http://irc.queensu.ca) for the latest information on venues.

# Learn. Design.

## a) Interests, Rights, and Power

We first distinguish three related yet distinct concepts in how all of us approach problem solving:

- A focus on interests, which calls for engaging, motivating, and coaching
- A focus on rights, which involves setting boundaries, rights, and obligations
- A focus on power, which calls for discipline, accountability, and enforcement of boundaries

Understanding the distinctions, and knowing when and how to pull on each of these levers, is a crucial initial learning. How can managers and union representatives effectively use these processes? How can you get management's attention on important issues?

We then do a deep dive into interests, using the Triangle of Satisfaction as a means to understand three types of interests. This will help you to better diagnose people's behaviour in the workplace and resolve workplace issues. In many cases, union representatives are focused on one set of these interests, while managers are focused on a completely different area, often leading to frustration. Managers and union reps will learn how to engage on the full range of key interests.

## b) Understanding Human Rights in the Workplace

With the help of a case study, we examine the law, rights, and obligations governing the workplace, with a focus on both human rights legislation as well as recent developments, such as Ontario's Bill 168. We work through the following themes:

- How to recognize harassment and discrimination
- The DNA of a poisoned work environment
- How to manage issues that arise related to harassment

- How managing performance is related to human rights in the workplace
- What obligations that management and unions have in relation to human rights issues

## c) Dissecting the Collective Agreement

You'll learn all about the laws, rights, and obligations embedded in collective agreements that touch all parties. What are the key provisions and hot spots in the collective labour agreement that front-line managers need to know?

You'll also be briefed on the grievance process. What is the front-line's role in this process? What is the anatomy of a grievance? What are the best interventions from both a management and union perspective?

You'll have an opportunity to identify the key areas for your own collective agreement, and develop strategies for starting to address those issues.

## d) Managing Relations in the Unionized Environment

In this module, learn how to work effectively to build trust in the unionized environment, and how to apply power without causing long-term problems. Participate in a spirited discussion of the union's role in building and maintaining a productive work environment.

## e) Applying Key Interest-Based Skills - The Dynamics of Trust

Even when working with "rights" and "power", you still need to engage people and build productive and sustainable workplace relationships. Trust is a key component of every relationship, workplaces included. What creates and builds trust, both on a personal and impersonal level? When trust is low or broken, what can help repair and rebuild it? How do we weave trust into everything we do, even when not everyone is getting what they want?

# Implement.

You'll be given a clear and easy-to-implement template for building and managing trust in the workplace.

Build your skills in:

- Eliminating positional behaviour
- Effective listening in search of the "why"
- Reality testing to engage difficult staff and effect change
- Working effectively with difficult managers and members

## f) Managing and Applying Discipline

When done properly, what does progressive discipline look like? How do you set boundaries that are respected? If you're a front-line manager, how do you gather the facts and conduct a disciplinary meeting? When does the Human Resources department need to be brought in?

In addition, you'll learn the best way to represent a member in the discipline process. What is best for the member, and the membership? How do you sell a result to the member that he or she may not like?

## Learning Beyond the Classroom

**Our learning programs are focused on your growth:**

- Opportunities to network with high-level colleagues from across the country
- Coaching from internationally-renowned facilitators with real-world experience
- Skills and strategies that directly apply to work environments
- Experience-based programming to test theories and ideas
- Mentoring beyond classroom sessions

## g) Performance Management that Works

Improving the performance of workers involves insight and a number of skills. Motivations need to be understood. Expectations need to be set collaboratively. In this module, learn how to:

- Set expectations
- Give feedback that is heard
- Execute on the maxim, "Gentle pressure, relentlessly applied"

## h) The View from the Union Hall

Hear the union perspective on discipline, performance management, and seniority.

- What does the union look for in "good" supervisors?
- Union duty to represent – goals and limits

## Interactive Learning

You will participate in case study simulations that offer hands-on experience navigating tricky discipline and performance management episodes, all in a safe learning environment. Best of all, receive on-the-spot coaching to improve your tactics.



# Facilitators and Guest Speakers

## **Gary Furlong (Lead Facilitator)**

Gary has extensive experience in labour mediation, alternative dispute resolution, negotiation, and conflict resolution. Gary is past president of the ADR Institute of Ontario, is a Chartered Mediator (C. Med.) and holds his Master of Laws (ADR) from Osgoode Hall Law School. Gary is the author of *The Conflict Resolution Toolbox*, John Wiley and Sons, 2005; the co-author of *The Construction Dispute Resolution Handbook*, Lexis Nexis 2004; and *The Sports Playbook*, Routledge, 2018.

<https://irc.queensu.ca/facilitators/gary-furlong>

## **Guest Speakers**

### **Leanne Gray**

Leanne graduated with an Honours Bachelor of Science degree from the University of Toronto specializing in Psychology and Human Behaviour. She later pursued a post-graduate certificate in Human Resources and received her Certified Human Resources Professional (CHRP) designation in 2002, now titled Certified Human Resources Leader (CHRL). Leanne has been trained and certified in Advanced Dispute Resolution and is a qualified mediator.

<https://irc.queensu.ca/facilitators/leanne-gray>

### **Allan (Al) Loyst**

Al was a member of the Canadian Auto Workers Union (CAW) for 45 years. This unprecedented tenure provided him with valuable insight into collective bargaining and the unionized landscape as it has adapted and transformed in Canada. As a result of the unique roles that Al held at General Motors (GM), he has been able to utilize his skills to play an integral role in assisting the membership in obtaining solid contracts and fair employment.

<https://irc.queensu.ca/facilitators/al-loyst>

### **Mercedes Watson**

Mercedes Watson is a senior partner with a boutique-consulting firm and a portion of her consulting practice focuses on labour relations issues. She is a regular facilitator at Queen's IRC where she provides her expertise to core courses (*Negotiation Skills*, *Strategic Grievance Handling* and *Managing Unionized Environments*) and travels throughout Canada and to Trinidad (Arthur Lok Jack Graduate School of Business) on behalf of Queen's IRC to deliver customized training to organizations and their union and/or management groups.

<https://irc.queensu.ca/facilitators/mercedes-watson>

*The roster of speakers may change. We will do our best to keep you informed of program changes.*

# Registration Kiosk

## Managing Unionized Environments

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We offer four easy ways to register:

**Web:** Complete the online form at: [irc.queensu.ca](http://irc.queensu.ca)

**Telephone:** Reserve by calling toll-free: 1-888-858-7838

**Fax:** (613) 533-6812

**E-mail:** [irc@queensu.ca](mailto:irc@queensu.ca)

Confirmation and information on program location, check-in time, and agenda will follow.

### Registration and Fees

Program fees include tuition, workbook materials, lunches, and some dinners. For all programs, payment in full is required one month before the program begins.

Register 60 days prior to a program and save \$300 on the tuition of four- and five-day programs, and \$150 on two- and three-day programs.

Register three people **from the same organization in the same program at the same time**, and receive a **10% discount** on program fees. Register five or more people **in the same program at the same time**, and receive a **20% discount**.

If you know you will be pursuing a Queen's Certificate and would like to remit tuition in one payment before your first program, we offer a special fee with a considerable saving. Contact our Program Administration office for details.

**Note:** Only *one* discount may be applied.

### Cancellation Policy

Substitutions are permitted with no penalty **8 days or more from the program start date**.

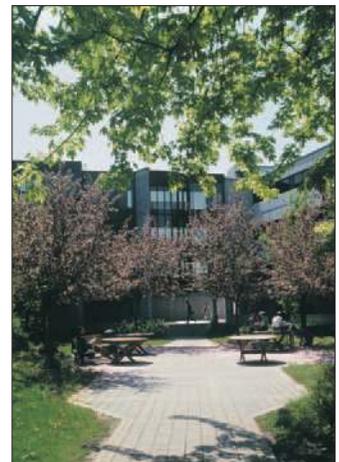
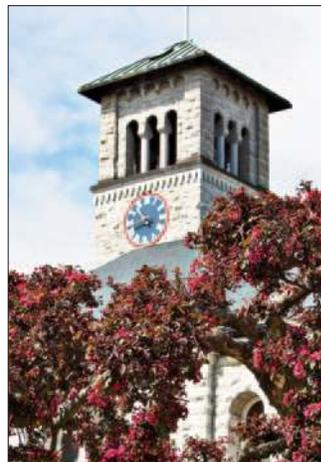
Substitutions **7 days or less before the program start date will be subject to a \$500 charge**.

Transfers and cancellations are permitted with no penalty **up to 15 days prior to the program start date**.

**Transfers and cancellations 14 days or less from the program start date will be subject to a 100% charge of the program fee.**

### Location and Accommodation

Please refer to our website, [irc.queensu.ca](http://irc.queensu.ca), for the latest information on venues.





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