

THE ALBERTA LABOUR HISTORY INSTITUTE



Workers' History ★ Workers' Stories



The Alberta Labour History Institute (ALHI) was founded in 1999 by a group of trade unionists, community activists, archivists, and historians who took the first steps to collect, preserve, and publicize the stories of Alberta's working people, their organizations and their movements. Since then, we have grown into one of Canada's leading labour history organizations.

We interview Alberta's working people

ALHI's mission is to tell the story of Alberta working people in their own words, and for this reason, oral history collected through audio and videotaped interviews has always been our major form of research. The stories we collect are supplemented with materials contributed by interviewees, trade unions, labour centrals, community organizations, government sources, and through library and archival research. Complete transcripts of interviews are posted on the ALHI website along with profiles and brief podcasts. Today, these are being accessed and used by researchers, educators and others with an interest in labour history.

albertalabourhistory.org

Go to albertalabourhistory.org to view the resources we have collected and produced. They are all available for viewing and most can be downloaded by researchers, educators and interested members of the public.



We create a wide range of labour history resources

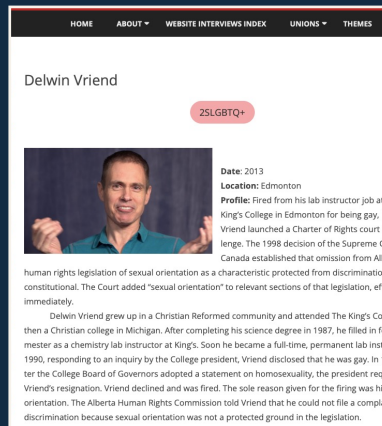
To date, we have used our interviews and related resources to produce a growing number of films, booklets, annual calendars, as well as a major textbook, *Working People in Alberta: A History*. These and other resources, such as photographs, posters, wall displays, and an historical timeline are increasingly used by educators in trade unions, schools and postsecondary institutions, as well as interested members of the public. They are all available for viewing and downloading on our website at albertalabourhistory.org

We collaborate on projects with trade unions and other organizations

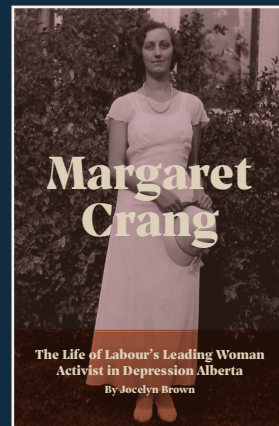
We work with trade unions, labour centrals, and other worker-based organizations, as well as with community groups and indigenous people to collect and produce materials that tell their stories. In 2012, we completed a five-year partnership with the Alberta Federation of Labour to mark their Centennial. We have worked with many other groups to organize workshops, conferences, and film nights; e.g., the 1932 Edmonton Hunger March, the construction of Edmonton's CN Tower by Metis ironworkers, the Great Labour Revolt of 1919, the Vriend Supreme Court victory for gay rights, the Gainers' strike and the long, hot summer of 1986, as well anniversaries of trade unions. We have commissioned songs by Edmonton singer and songwriter, Maria Dunn and other performers to produce for video ballads commemorating specific events and struggles.



Every year, we sell thousands of labour history calendars each with a theme and with related historical articles for each month. View and download copies from our website.



ALHI has videotaped hundreds of interviews with workers who have played a role in shaping Alberta's labour history. They are being posted to our website, along with a brief podcast and pdf file of the interview.



We produce booklets on specific historical topics; the Crowsnest Pass, the 1995 laundry workers' strike, the history of Alberta labour law, etc. Read and download them on our website.



We organize conferences and webinars and provide labour history courses for unions, educational institutions and other organizations.



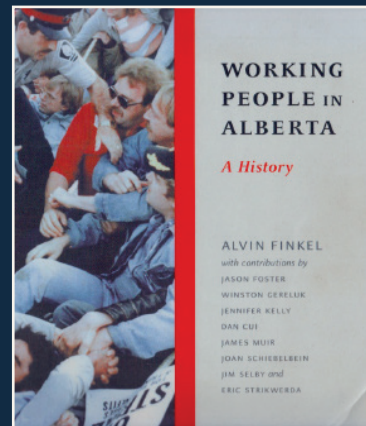
We have acquired hundreds of historical photographs on a wide variety of topics from Alberta's labour history. These can be viewed and downloaded from our website.



We produce posters to depict historical events and themes. This one on the Crowsnest Pass was part of a series produced for the 100th Anniversary of the Alberta Federation of Labour.



We produce videos on specific topics; women in the trades, Metis ironworkers who built the CN tower, etc. All are available for viewing on our website.



In 2012, we produced a 350-page textbook telling the story of Alberta labour from the indigenous people to the 21st Century. The whole book is available for viewing and downloading from our website.

Work with us!

ALHI operates as a voluntary organization of active and retired trade unionists, historians, scholars, community and labour activists, and non-unionized workers. We are governed by a Board elected every year at an Annual General Meeting. Membership meetings are normally held six times a year. A part-time manager handles our office, mail and finances and other administrative responsibilities.

We depend on donations from trade unions and other organizations, and also receive grants from government, as well as local arts and heritage councils. The sale of our annual labour history calendars provides a continuing source of base funding. Members and supporters are encouraged to donate through occasional or monthly donations.

COLLECTING, PRESERVING AND TELLING THE WORKERS' STORY YESTERDAY, TODAY AND FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS

Join us!

If you are interested in labour history and the work we are doing, become part of our group. Contact us, if you would like to tell us a story, or contribute pictures, documents or artifacts that would be useful in our work. If you are interested in learning more about ALHI, would like to start a Chapter in your community, or want to make a financial contribution to support our work, please email us at: office@albertalabourhistory.org





Contact us

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