

A Journey to Employer Union Women

This course was offered through Prairie School for Union Women in June 2015.

The course was geared towards women who want to help build a stronger union, take on more of a leadership role, and be provided with skills and tools to help foster a movement for social change. The courses was structured to have plenty of break out sessions and to work with various groups. Discussions evolved around the challenges facing workers in Canada, how to engage other union members in meaningful conversations and how to have leadership opportunities in your own union whether informal or formal.

There were approximately 30 women in this class that came from locals spanning from BC to Manitoba. Our sisters careers where nurses, miners, secretaries, educational assistants, etc. Everyone was encouraged to speak and share their opinions and knowledge. Over the week a real growth was seen amongst members who were reserved and shy on Monday and by Thursday were participating and a real confidence was instilled.

Overall this course had given the women who participated the ability to speak up about issues that are important to working women, identify different types of mobilizing tools and when to use them and to take actions that contribute to women's empowerment.

Heather Dillabaugh