

The origins of Labour Day can be traced back to April 14, 1872, when a parade was staged in Toronto to support the Typographical Union's strike for a nine hour workday. After members of the union were arrested, labour leaders called for a demonstration to take place on September 3rd of that year. It was only in 1894 that the governments of Canada and the United States made it an official holiday.

LABOUR DAY



Snow Shovellers, by Jacob Smith

Labour Day is a celebration of working people and the gains they've won:

- Higher wages and paid vacations
- Decent pensions
- Health and dental benefits
- Health and safety standards
- Equal rights at work

Workers march in Canada and the United States on the first Monday of September to call for greater equality, economic democracy, social justice and workers' rights. It is up to working people, unions and their allies to continue this tradition in our struggle for a better world.

Founded in 1969, the Confederation of Canadian Unions (CCU) is dedicated to the establishment of a democratic, independent Canadian labour movement. It includes more than 7,500 members in four affiliated unions.

The CCU has been a progressive leader in the fight for workers' rights and social justice. Our affiliates are active in the struggle for a world based on the ideals of equality, democracy, environmental sustainability and solidarity.



www.ccu-csc.ca

Saluting a Pioneer **MADELEINE PARENT**



Born in Montreal in 1918, Madeleine Parent graduated from McGill University in 1940 and devoted her life to the labour and progressive movements. Premier Maurice Duplessis carried a personal vendetta against Madeleine, arresting her five times. After her acquittal in 1955, her trial had been the longest in Quebec history.

A staunch champion of working people, she founded the Confederation of Canadian Unions (CCU) with her husband, Kent Rowley, in 1969. In Ontario, she was at the forefront of a number of strikes in the 1970s and 1980s. A founding member of the National Action Committee on the Status of Women, she fought for equal pay for work of equal value, and championed the interests of Aboriginal women.

Madeleine today remains an active supporter of human rights, global peace and economic democracy.