



CIRA and its membership

The Canadian Industrial Relations Association (CIRA) is a national network which promotes discussion, research and education in the field of work, employment and industrial relations. The Association is open to any person or organization having a professional interest in this field, including speciality areas such as union-management relations, human resource management, labour law, collective bargaining, trade unionism and a wide range of public policies on work and employment.

CIRA's annual conference and its local chapters bring together university researchers and teachers on work and employment issues and representatives from both labour and management, as well as from governments and employment law and HR practices. CIRA is a stimulating and useful venue to learn about and share leading edge research in the field, to meet experts in a wide variety of speciality areas of work and employment issues, and, in the case of students, to make contact with people who are able to help and advise with the transition from academic study to the labour market.

Relations industrielles/Industrial Relations – CIRA official publication

As part of the annual membership, CIRA members also receive a copy of the quarterly academic journal *Relations industrielles/Industrial Relations*. The journal, published by the Department of Industrial Relations at Laval University and the only journal in the field of industrial relations in Canada, is recognized as CIRA's official publication. It includes in-depth studies, research overviews and a range of reviews of recent books in the field of work and employment. For more information about the journal, please go to: www.riir.ulaval.ca

Cost of CIRA membership

Membership is for one calendar year:

- ***Regular membership: \$120***

Three special membership categories:

- ***Full time students: \$60***
- ***Retired persons: \$60***
- ***Institutions when the membership is in the name of an organization rather than an individual: \$160***

For more information about CIRA and how to become a member, go to www.cira-acri.ca

Why become a member of CIRA?

We have asked CIRA's president-elect, a number of past CIRA presidents, academics and practitioners specialising in the field of industrial relations to explain the significance of CIRA and why it is important to become a member. We provide a number of their comments below.

'The community of Canadian scholars and practitioners in the field of Industrial Relations is a vibrant group. And the issues we deal with are very important - like fluctuations in labour markets, changes in labour and employment law, and the ever-present conflict between labour and management. We need an organization like CIRA to bring us together and provide a forum for discussion on these issues. In the twenty-five years I have been a member, CIRA has immeasurably improved my life and work as an Industrial Relations practitioner and scholar.'

PROFESSOR LARRY HAIVEN, Saint Mary's University and President-Elect, CIRA

'CIRA provides the only forum in Canada for exchange of information and discussion of issues and problems found in the employment relationship. Its informal and welcoming style and commitment to bilingualism ensure that academics, practitioners and students are encouraged to participate. Delegates from outside of Canada are numerous and ensure that programs address issues from a global perspective. Membership includes a subscription to the world's oldest journal of its type, Industrial Relations/Relations Industrielles, a leading academic publication.'

PROFESSOR MARK THOMPSON, Emeritus Professor, Sauder Business School, University of British Columbia and CIRA President 1986-87

'CIRA is the sole Canadian organization that provides a true non-partisan home to academics and professionals whose main interest is labour and employment. Outside of Quebec, where several universities have dedicated, multi-disciplinary departments of industrial relations, academics who share this common interest are scattered in business schools, law faculties, and social science programs. We are often the only people within our various schools whose intellectual passions focus on trade unions, collective bargaining, labour and employment policy and law, labour history, dispute resolution, labour economics, occupational health and safety etc. The same is often true in large businesses where the labour relations group can be ghettoized and viewed as an unfortunate necessity, but marginal to the firm's advancement. This can make for a lonely existence for academics and professionals alike. Which is why CIRA matters. It provides a meeting place, intellectually and spiritually, for all of us who share a common interest in labour and employment. Attending the national meetings, and the local CIRA chapter meetings, connects me with the people who understand and care about what I do. It is a vital personal link to a broader community. The strength of CIRA strengthens each of us. By supporting CIRA as a member and active participant, I support myself.'

PROFESSOR ALLEN PONAK, Emeritus Professor of Industrial Relations, Haskayne School of Business, University of Calgary and CIRA President 1990-91

'CIRA is the only national group which enables professionals and scholars in the field of industrial relations to discuss and debate the development of their discipline. The unprecedented challenges facing industrial relations today demand that CIRA plays a full role. It rests with us to fully support and participate in this organization.'

PROFESSOR GILLES TRUDEAU, Dean of the Faculty of Law, University of Montreal and CIRA President 1995-96

'The annual CIRA conference is the single most important Canadian event for scholars whose focus is labour and employment issues. I look forward to CIRA each year as a chance to connect with Canadian colleagues from different research traditions. As a PhD student it has been a wonderful place to build my research network, stay abreast of developments across the country, and interact with international colleagues. CIRA is a welcoming environment for those presenting their work for the first time, and a place where lasting professional friendships are formed.'

SHELAGH CAMPBELL, Doctoral Student, Saint Mary's University, Halifax

'CIRA is more than a place for exchange, for debates between professionals, researchers and students. It is a place for sharing, a place where a joint project can be constructed that promotes decent working conditions and considers labour solidarity in tomorrow's world.'

PROFESSOR URWANA COIQUAUD, HEC Montreal

'Membership of CIRA allows practitioners to keep up to date with developments and to contribute to the advancement of research in industrial relations. As a unionist in the world of labour relations, CIRA has, for many years, provided a forum for enriching and sharing my thoughts and experience.'

CLAUDE RIOUX, Former director of services for the Fédération des travailleurs du papier et de la forêt (CSN)

'CIRA is the only organization that allows one to connect with people all over the country and all over the world in matters of labour, employment and employment relations. By joining CIRA and its international affiliate, the IIRA, I could connect easily with policymakers and researchers alike: Ministers of Labour, academic gurus, Presidents of labour federations and corporations, and civil society groups. CIRA allows one to expand knowledge by sharing across disciplines, be it law, psychology, sociology, economics, history, anthropology, management, or philosophy. CIRA is the ultimate one-stop shop in the marketplace of ideas.'

PROFESSOR ANIL VERMA, Centre for Industrial Relations and Human Resources and Joseph L. Rotman School of Management, University of Toronto and CIRA President 1996-97

'Membership in CIRA means membership in a community of scholars concerned with work, employment, and labour issues. It helps not only to maintain the academic credibility of research into these issues, but also to ensure the continued viability of the annual CIRA conference, where scholars from all stages of their career and from all backgrounds and perspectives are able to discuss these issues and exchange research findings in an environment of openness, inclusiveness, and collegiality that is unmatched elsewhere.'

PROFESSOR JOHN GODARD, Asper School of Business, University of Manitoba and CIRA President 2004-05

'The Canadian Industrial Relations Association (CIRA) offers a fantastic forum for those who are passionate about the world of work. Its annual conference blends leading edge research, innovative IR and HR experiences and local, national and international perspectives in an informal and friendly setting. The linguistic, international and generational mix ensures a unique learning environment. The membership fee, including the excellent Canadian academic quarterly RI/IR, is just a fraction of the cost of most other professional associations in the field so that CIRA membership is accessible and easily combined with other affiliations. CIRA is certainly the venue for discussing what's happening in the world of work in Canada and beyond.'

PROFESSOR GREGOR MURRAY, Director of the Interuniversity Research Centre on Globalization and Work, Canada Research Chair on Globalization and Work, Professor in the School of Industrial Relations, University of Montreal and CIRA President 2001-02