

Donalda

Shop Steward Training Level 2 (May 2-3) offered a varied course outline. The material was well presented via an instructor that brought to the table a bevy of wealth of information and experiences.

The core take a ways from the content were the following:

- Grievance verses complaint
- The importance of conflict resolution
- Accommodation for employees
- Work now – grieve later
- Key ideas that help formulate a stronger grievance presentation and procedure

Areas that did not hold my interest in this context was the offering of the play (Marx in Soho) on the night of May 2. I did watch this play via YouTube, and although I appreciated the content and delivery, I did not feel it a best fit for our weekend content. Further, half of the last day was spent discussing the play and the concepts surrounding it and the impact unions have made. Being a relatively new Shop Steward, I feel that my time would have been best spent increasing my learning in the areas relating to grievances, their procedures and how to avoid and settle through conflict resolution techniques. I was surprisingly impressed with the mixture of unions that took part in the training. My first impressions/thoughts that have a mixed union class would lessen the learning was quickly extinguished; as it was evident that, although we have varied unions and skill sets, our issues and concerns were equal.

Thank you,

Donalda Clark