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TRADE UNION LAW IN CANADA
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A resource designed around the concerns of labour unions, Trade Union Law in Canada comprehensively explains the various strands of the law that affect the internal affairs of trade unions. While examining the relationships between unions and their members, Trade Union Law in Canada provides analysis of the legal character of unions, including their legal status, security, and politics, as well as a review of union structures, constitutions, and the election of union leaders. Matters of internal discipline of union members and the duty imposed by law on unions to provide fair representation are examined and clearly explained.

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What's New in This Update:

NEW CHAPTER 12: LIBEL AND DEFAMATION—Chapter 6
“Employment Relations with Staff” has been divided into 2 sections with the section on libel and defamation now forming a new chapter. The material is the same as it was in Chapter 6 and includes information on proper forum, the test for defamation, defences against defamation, defamation actions in industrial relations, and damages.

Highlights

- **UNION ELECTIONS AND UNION OFFICERS—LIBEL AND DEFAMATION—DEFAMATION ACTIONS IN INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS**—In *Hanson v. Neufeld*, the Supreme Court of Canada allowed the defendant to successfully apply for a SLAPP motion. The motion was made to dismiss a defamation action brought against the defendant, who was the president of a provincial teachers' union. The action commenced after the president publicly criticized a school trustee for comments he had made regarding transgender people. It was ruled that the public interest weighed in favour of protecting broad public debate and freedom of expression, particularly when the comments were motivated by the defence of a vulnerable or marginalized group in society. This engaged the equality value found in s. 15(1) of the *Charter of Rights and Freedoms*.

- **UNION ELECTIONS AND UNION OFFICERS—LIBEL AND DEFAMATION—DAMAGES**—In *CIVEO Corp. and UNITE-HERE, Local 40, Re*, 2023 CarswellBC 752, 2023 BCLR 37 (B.C. L.R.B.), the BC Labour Relations Board reviewed the 2022 BC labour arbitration decision in Civeo Corp. where the union, Unite Here Local 40, was ordered to pay $500,000 in general and pecuniary damages for defamatory statements made against the company. The statement was made following a collective agreement that Civeo Corp. and the union had negotiated. It was ruled that an online post which linked the corporation, Civeo Corp. to “broken promises” made to Indigenous peoples, was defamatory and threatened the relationship that the company had with the people. The post criticized the company for its treatment of Indigenous peoples. The Board upheld the decision and awarded Civeo Corp. $500,000 for defamation damages.