

Margaret West		RELEVANT OCCURANCE														Land		Labour				Union Action & Responses				
Source ID	Decade (Time)	Specific date	Type	Sector (NAICS 2022)	Type (as identified in interview)	Role or Occupation	Name	Location	Description	Related quotes from interviewee	Reason for leaving (if applicable)	Age	Marital Status	Union Status	Other context	Organizations/ Businesses named	Individuals named	Nations & Geographical Region	Labour Categories	Indigenous Labour in the Sector identified in record	Labour Affiliations	Other Affiliations	Union Support	Labour Strategies	Employer Strategies	Community Support
Q1	1930s	24 Sep 1937	Labour Action	722 - Food services and drinking places	Restaurant	Waitress	Modernized Cafe	Chinatown, Vancouver, Canada	Margaret West spokeswoman for the waitresses during this action. 15 white waitress working in Chinatown restaurants are fired due to City of Vancouver and Vancouver Police Chief enforcement of provincial law aimed at protecting white and First Nations women from moral corruption. Enforcement at the discretion of the Police Chief. The women march from Chinatown to City Hall demanding the Mayor meets with them but he refuses.	Direct quote: "We are fired just at a time when Old Man Winter comes along. Most of the girls have bought winter clothes and are still paying for them. Many of us support families and are right up against it. They [Chinese employers] are not slave drivers like many white restaurant owners. We get \$9.50 a week and all our meals. If we are sick and cannot work, our jobs are held for us." Paraphrased by unidentified reporter: "They declare they are out of work with no prospect of securing other jobs. The girls expressed indignation at what they declare is an implied reflection of their reputations. They deny bitterly that the morals of girls working on Pender Street are in any greater jeopardy than girls working elsewhere. Miss West said only one Pender Street waitress is married to a Chinese, and none, so far as she knows, have Chinese men friends. She spoke highly of the treatment accorded white waitresses by their Chinese employers."	Mandatory firing imposed by Vancouver Police Superintendent with the support of Vancouver City Hall.	NK	NK	non-union	This is the 2nd march to City Hall. The first took place in February. / Activism motivated by personal financial precarity, solidarity with Sister waitresses in Chinatown, anger over losing their job during the Depression, their morality being publicly questioned, and being targeted by both City Hall and the VPD.	Hong Kong Cafe, Modern Cafe, Vancouver City Hall.	Mayor G. C. Miller; Lum Fun Ting, proprietor Hong Kong Cafe; Denis Murphy Jr. counsel; waitresses Peggy Parker, Fay Walker, Kay Martin, Margaret West, Dorothy Crutchley.	Unceded territories of the (mmshkwawem (Musqueam), Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish) and salilwáat (Tsleil-Waututh))	Restaurant Sector	no	none		HREU has not been unionizing east of Carrall Street at this time. HREU views the issue in moral, not workers' rights, terms. Bill Stewart makes 2 statements against police/govt action in The Peoples' Advocate. In October the HREU passes resolution in response to the women not being able to collect relief, that the city pay the equivalent of their wages.	Willing to engage with press and stage photo op. Marching to City Hall to raise awareness and put pressure on the Mayor and Council. [Correspondence between Mayor and VPD Superintendent also address issue of the waitresses pressuring them with mail and phone calls.]	Talking directly to the Mayor's office, multiple press statements, putting legal action against the City on the table, engagement of counsel [same used by the Chinese Benevolent Association], negotiations with the City, 'gentleman's agreement' in attempt to deescalate.	Garfield A King, lawyer, as a representative of the Women's Labour League met with city council on behalf of waitresses. CCC, WLL, Vancouver Mother's Council spoke out against use of the legislation that would see removal of white waitresses from Chinatown.