

February 10, 2019

Statement on the passing of Art Kube

The BC labour movement has lost one of our leaders. Art Kube died early in the morning, February 10, 2019 at the age of 84. He had been in declining health for several years.

Born in Poland on January 9, 1935, Art came to Canada as a 19-year old and worked in a number of trades around the country. He became active in the labour movement in the 1960s.

After two decades he advanced to the position of President, BC Federation of Labour. He held that position from 1983 to 1986, which was a tumultuous period in BC's labour history under the Socred provincial government. Operation Solidarity and the Solidarity Coalition were the centre of Art's work during that period.

Art stayed active to the end. He was deeply involved with the Council of Senior Citizens Organization of BC (COSCO), as well as the National Pensioners and Senior Citizens Federation. His lifetime commitments were recognized in 2015 when he received the Order of Canada. Art's last appearance at a BC Labour History Centre event marked the 35th anniversary of Solidarity in the fall of 2018.

He also participated in the Centre's Oral History Project in 2016. The full interview may be viewed at www.labourheritagecentre.ca under the Projects tab. Look for Oral History Project and select Art Kube.

Art's memory will fulfill his wishes: "I truly hope that I have been able to help make a difference in this world and that the legacy of my life will live on in my children, grandchildren and the many people that I have been honoured to work with and serve in my life."

We offer our condolences to Art's wife Mary and his family as we remember Brother Kube's legacy and his decades of contributions to the labour and social justice movements.

Ken Novakowski, Chair
BC Labour Heritage Centre
On behalf of the Board and staff

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