



The Politics of Industrial Closure

Call for Papers

Cape Breton University, Nova Scotia,
Canada

22-24 June 2023

The transnational “Deindustrialization & the Politics of Our time” research project (DePOT) invites proposals for our next in-person conference on The Politics of Industrial Closure. We will focus primarily on the “how” and “why” of mine, mill and factory closings, the wider restructuring of the international division of labour, as well as the societal debates about the nature of economic change. Political economy concerns are therefore central as are studies focusing on working-class resistance, concession and loss.

We are also interested in research on how trade unions, left or progressive parties, social movements, right-wing populists, and transnational institutions (ILO, EU, IMF, World Bank, etc) responded to industrial crisis in different parts of the world. The experience of job loss and worker adjustment will also be examined, including its health effects, as well as its place-based impact. We also invite proposals from those working on the beginnings of industrial heritage recognition in the immediate aftermath of closure as well as on arts-based responses.

We will pre-circulate full papers in advance to conference attendees to deepen the conversation. Those papers will be considered for publication.

If interested, please submit a short 250-word paper abstract (in English or French) with a 2-page CV. For session proposals, add a short one-paragraph session description. We are open to other kinds of proposals such as research-creation and round-tables. This is an in-person conference so participants will need to commit to being in Cape Breton next June.

Submit your proposal to Steven High (steven.high@concordia.ca) and Lachlan Mackinnon (lachlan_mackinnon@cbu.ca) by **November 15th**. We will let you know if your proposal has been accepted by the beginning of December.