

Defying Expectations: The Case of UFCW Local 401 (Paperback)



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(Leslie Reinger)

DEFYING EXPECTATIONS: THE CASE OF UFCW LOCAL 401 (PAPERBACK)



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Au Press, Canada, 2018. Paperback. Condition: New. Language: English . Brand New Book. In October 2005, Jason Foster, then a staff member of the Alberta Federation of Labour, was walking a picket line outside Lakeside Packers in Brooks, Alberta with the members of local 401. It was a first contract strike. And although the employees of the meat-packing plant-many of whom were immigrants and refugees-had chosen an unlikely partner in the United Food and Commercial Workers local, the newly formed alliance allowed the workers to stand their ground for a three-week strike that ended in the defeat of the notoriously anti-union company, Tyson Foods. It was but one example of a wide range of industries and occupations that local 401 organized over the last twenty years. In this study of UFCW 401, Foster investigates a union that has had remarkable success organizing a group of workers that North American unions often struggle to reach: immigrants, women, and youth. By examining not only the actions and behaviour of the local s leadership and its members but also the narrative that accompanied the renewal of the union, Foster shows that both were essential components to legitimizing the leadership s exercise of power and its unconventional organizing forces.



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