



Dear Michael and UPEI Faculty Association Members,

On behalf of the University of Manitoba Faculty Association's 1,245 professors, instructors, and librarians, I want to emphasize our wholehearted support in your current round of bargaining and in your efforts to secure a fair deal and an appropriate salary despite your meddling provincial government.

We have been following your situation closely and will continue to do so. Though we are thousands of kilometres, and several provinces apart: your fight is our fight. When any academic faculty association is under attack by its provincial government, we all are and we stand together united.

In 2016 the newly elected provincial Conservative government in Manitoba illegally interfered in our bargaining. It caused our 21-day strike in 2016, and ultimately led to the 35-day strike in 2021. Just this week we were in the courts again over this illegal interference. It's been a terribly long and drawn out process and we will never feel whole after this government interference in our university regardless of any decisions reached in the courts. One important factor that has kept us going over all these years, is support from other faculty association in encouraging us that knowing what we are, and have always been, asking for is right and just. We know that our bargaining priorities will ultimately lead to the betterment of the university and a better learning environment for students. I hope that this message can reciprocate some of the solidarity that has been so meaningful to us, and be one small indicator that you are not alone, and we fully support you in your efforts.

Our team would be happy to Zoom anytime if you'd like to chat about organizing and mobilizing tactics, or share experiences and frustrations.

In solidarity,

Orvie Dingwall
she/her
President
University of Manitoba Faculty Association

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