

CANADIAN UNION OF PUBLIC EMPLOYEES LOCAL 3906 Kenneth Taylor Hall B111, McMaster University 1280 Main Street West, Hamilton, Ontario, Canada L8S 4M4 www.cupe3906.org

Dear Members of CUPE 3902,

On behalf CUPE 3906 – which represents nearly 3,500 Teaching Assistants, Sessional Faculty, Hourly Rated Music Faculty, and Post-doctoral Fellows at McMaster University – we wish to express our solidarity with the academic workers of CUPE 3902. We are extremely discouraged to see the employer dragging its feet during negotiations, and demonstrating an unwillingness to bargain a fair and equitable agreement.

As an academic Local ourselves, we know that the dedicated work of Sessional Instructors, Course Instructors, Writing Instructors, and Teaching Assistants is at the heart of what the university does. It is appalling that the guaranteed income for Unit 1 graduate student workers – paid by the largest university in Canada, no less – is below the estimated living wage for Toronto. Further, the fact that Unit 1 and Unit 3 of CUPE 3902 do the vast majority of teaching at the University of Toronto and only take up 2 % of the budget shows the continued lack of respect for the value of these workers. This is shameful and the university administration should be held accountable for this unforgivable inequality.

Your work keeps the university strong and we are in full support of your efforts. Our Local has made a donation of \$500 to your strike fund and we look forward to helping in any way we can throughout this process.

In Solidarity and on behalf of the CUPE 3906 Executive,

Rebecca Collins-Nelsen

President, CUPE Local 3906

Evan Johnston

Vice-President, CUPE Local 3906