

Chief Steward Unit 2 Report for Fall GMM
February 23, 2021

As your chief steward for Unit 2 Sessional Instructors, I continue to help Unit 2 members navigate the grievance process. Recently a few outstanding grievances since summer of 2020 were resolved for members. This brought a satisfactory result to many meetings and efforts. An arbitration date has been set in April to address the policy grievance with respect to the McMaster English Language Development program (MELD). Resolution to this other longstanding grievance will impact many former Unit 2 members as well as shape our next round of bargaining.

Speaking of bargaining...an SGMM is on the horizon for Unit 2 members in order to elect a new bargaining team. Are you a Unit 2 member who wants to get involved? Now is the time! Our current collective agreement expires August 31 2021. We are putting in place supports for the next round of bargaining, including a cost-share with CUPE national to fund this campaign. Staff and the executive team have been working hard to help facilitate expansion of our current benefits for Unit 2 members, reflecting some gains we made in our current agreement. Remember those cartoons we helped commission during our last campaign? We're developing an exhibit for this artwork to appear at the Workers Arts and Heritage Center. Let's hope this is able to happen we can see artwork in person again.

In closing I'd like to thank my fellow Executive Committee members and staff for their patience and support while I've been teaching two courses while having children learning from home during Ontario's second wave lockdown. The month of January was a strenuous time, and I am wishing all of you a better future time after managing to survive the many stresses and pressures of this academic year.