

Midday update from Strike HQ: New Proposal to be Presented to Admin Today

November 16, 2016

Dear Colleagues,

As I'm sure you've heard by now, we're taking a new proposal to the bargaining table this afternoon. Notably, we will present new contract language on workload protection.

Our bargaining team has asked that they be able to present our latest proposals to Admin first, face to face, before we release them publicly. As promised yesterday, I will send you the proposals on our three core issues later today.

We welcome the administration back to the bargaining table. We are ready to move forward, and we hope they will be, too. This latest proposal addresses the concerns Admin expressed in conciliation and in the media this week. To put it bluntly, we feel there is a deal here if Admin wants one.

The language we are proposing represents a creative solution that would provide our members with the kinds of basic protections found at most Canadian universities.

This is not just a high-level proposal. We will arrive prepared with specific, practical workable proposed language.

I am happy to tell you that, as recently as last night, members were continuing to join our strike. As a reminder, even if you already told administration you would continue working, it is not too late to join us, and it's easy to do. Contact our Vice President, Janet Morrill, if you have questions: morrilljanet@gmail.com.

As you may have read in this morning's *Free Press*, student support for our strike is growing daily. Our core demands have been formally endorsed by UM's undergraduate and graduate students' associations, as well as the Arts, Sciences, Medical, Dental, Music, St Paul's College, and Health Sciences graduate students' associations, among many others.

Also, we have organized an Information Meeting for all UMFA members tomorrow evening, Thursday Nov 17, 6:30 pm, Winnipeg Convention Centre, Hall D. Events are unfolding quickly now. I will be able to answer questions and provide you will a complete update and status report at that time. I hope you'll be able to join us then.