



October 16, 2019

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### Help NUFA avert a strike at Nipissing University

Full-time faculty at Nipissing University have voted in favour of a strike mandate. After three days of talks with a Ministry of Labour conciliator the weekend of October 4th, the Nipissing University Faculty Association (NUFA) asked the conciliator for a “no board” report, which puts us in a strike position on October 28th.

NUFA is asking for help to avert a strike. You can send a message to the Nipissing University Board of Governors to instruct their team to get serious about making a reasonable and fair deal at <https://nufa.ca/take-action-in-support-of-faculty/>.

After 37 meetings and over seven months of negotiations, the employer refuses to discuss key issues including pension improvements and they are unwilling to table a financial package. They are proposing claw backs that not only jeopardize faculty research and teaching, but also ultimately compromise the high quality teaching conditions that Nipissing students value.

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### Join this ad-hoc UMFA committee: Nomination Practices and Policies

At the UMFA AGM May 29, 2019, a motion was passed to establish an ad hoc committee with the following mandate:

1. Review existing UMFA practices and policies for standing committee membership
2. Provide recommendations for nominating procedures for UMFA committees, including the possibility of a standing nominating committee

An interim group of volunteers from the AGM met and invite those interested and with a commitment to serve on this ad hoc committee to contact [faum@UMFA.ca](mailto:faum@UMFA.ca) by 4:30 p.m. Friday, October 18, 2019. Questions welcome. The committee has the goal of completing its work by the next AGM in May, 2020.

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## November is labour film month – upcoming event

The Canadian Labour International Film Festival (CLIFF) travels to communities all over Canada, and every November the festival marks labour film month. On November 22<sup>nd</sup>, UMFA will participate in this year's festival by holding a one hour event where we will show 4 small films on labour issues. Details coming soon.

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## Thinking of retiring soon and are over 55?

The date to give notice of your retirement and participate in the retirement allowance program is December 31. The details of the retirement allowance program are found in Appendix F of the collective agreement-the program provides a retirement allowance \$20,000 to \$100,000 if you provide irrevocable notice to retire. The amount of the allowance depends on your age at retirement and the number of years' notice you provide.

If you are thinking of retiring, we encourage you to contact the pension benefits office and request a statement of retirement benefits. This statement, which is provided upon request, gives you information about your expected monthly pension given your exact age at retirement, and an estimate of the lump sum payment you would receive if you choose to take your money out of the UM plan. Since it takes up to six weeks for the pension office to generate your statement, please contact them as soon as possible.

Contact information is below.

*Surnames beginning in:*

A to K: Please email [Diana.Richardson@umanitoba.ca](mailto:Diana.Richardson@umanitoba.ca)

L to Z: Please email [Dawn.Dumanske@umanitoba.ca](mailto:Dawn.Dumanske@umanitoba.ca)

Additionally, UM will be again offering their Planning for Retirement Workshop during the fall reading week (specific date and time have not yet been announced). Check the Learning and Organizational Development webpage at <https://umanitoba.gosignmeup.com/Public/Course/Browse> for the announcement: the workshops fill up quickly.

Questions or concerns? Contact the UMFA office – [Faum@UMFA.ca](mailto:Faum@UMFA.ca) or 474.8272.

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## Event series - Speaking up: Conversations about an alternative future

The Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives' (MB) new speaker series features a number of UMFA members. See below for details.

# **SPEAKING UP**

## **CONVERSATIONS ABOUT AN ALTERNATIVE FUTURE**

**MARK HUDSON**

From Climate Crisis to  
Better Future

**WED OCTOBER 16**

**SHELLEY MARSHALL**

Drugs: Jail or Public Health

**WED NOVEMBER 27**

**ABDI AHMED**

Refugees in Manitoba

**THURS FEBRUARY 6  
2020**

**SUSAN PRENTICE**

The Radical Potential of  
Universal Childcare

**WED MARCH 25  
2020**

**NIIGAAN SINCLAIR**

Urban Reserves

**MON MAY 11  
2020**

**6-8 pm**  
**X-Cues, 551 Sargent Ave.**

All are welcome. No charge.  
**Join Us for a Conversation  
About a Better Future**



**CCPA**

CANADIAN CENTRE  
for POLICY ALTERNATIVES  
MANITOBA OFFICE

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## **Labour and Education in the News – Daily Clips on the UMFA Website**

Op-eds by UMFA Members, details on international labour struggles, and developments in the post-secondary sector: For a daily dose of labour and education in the news, check [this page of the UMFA website](#).

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***If you have information or an event that you'd like to share in an upcoming issue, please email the item to [umfa-communications@umfa.ca](mailto:umfa-communications@umfa.ca) for consideration.***

We make **UofM** happen

UNIVERSITY OF MANITOBA  
**Faculty Association**