



PSAC Local 901
Bargaining Communiqué # 12
February 2, 2022

Subject: “Take a Hike!” – Queen’s policy on mental health and bargaining

Last week during Queen’s just Mental Health Promotion Week, you probably noted the Bell got some good publicity meanwhile graduate student workers got the same platitudes including such gems as – take a long walk (while Kingston had an extreme cold warning and sidewalks had not been cleared). This is why 901 continues to fight for better mental health supports.

901 applied for conciliation at the start of the year. The immediate result is that we are back in talks with the employer (and with our appointed conciliator) on February 7th, 60 days since the employer walked away from the bargaining table. Queen’s representative recently wrote to [the Journal](#) : “We are engaged in a bargaining process with PSAC, and we are, in a timely fashion, actively reviewing the significant proposals put forward to us by PSAC earlier in January.” 901 would be remiss not to note that there remain many unresolved items that have been on the table for months – we appear to have disparate versions of ‘timely’.

In the interim, 901’s mobilization committee with the help of stewards have organised virtual strike information sessions in departments across the university. There will also be two department wide **virtual Townhalls on Friday February 4th at 1 pm and Monday February 7th at 5:30pm**. Come to get updates and have your questions answered by members of the bargaining team, executive, and colleagues. Attendance is open to all graduate students. To send your questions or thoughts in advance of the event please use this [registration form](#).

We are also pleased to report a swell in support in the community and across campus including letters of support for our [bargaining demands](#) from [AMS](#) (Queen’s Student Government) and [QUFA](#) (Faculty Union) .

Watch your Queen’s work email, and follow us on [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#) to stay up to date with bargaining and other 901 events. For more information on the conciliation process [click here](#).

We encourage the membership to reach out to our Information Officer - Brittainy Bonnis at info.officer.psa901@gmail.com if you have questions or concerns.