



## **Letter of support and solidarity with PSAC 901 in their bargaining**

PSAC 610, the GTA & Postdoctoral Associates Union at Western University, stands in solidarity with our ally union PSAC 901 at Queen's University in their efforts to negotiate a new collective agreement that improves the working lives and conditions of their Graduate Teaching Assistants, Teaching Fellows, Research Assistants, and Postdoctoral Scholars.

We were disheartened to hear that on December 9, 2021, their Employer abruptly walked away from the bargaining table during negotiations and refused to engage with the demands of the PSAC 901 bargaining team. As mentioned by PSAC 901, these demands, which were reached after months of organizing to identify the needs of their membership, include:

- Additional Year of Employment Guarantee
- Mental Health Support and Rebate Funds
- Gender Affirmation Leave, Violence Leave
- Mandatory and Paid Anti-Racist Training and Sexual Violence Prevention Training
- Equipment Allowance
- Professional Development Fund
- Increase to Contract Periods for Teaching Fellows
- Revised Accommodations Process

With their Employer now refusing to return to the table or even offer new dates for negotiations, the bargaining process has come to an abrupt halt. With little progress being made in bargaining, PSAC 901 has now begun to offer strike preparedness information sessions.

It is shocking to hear about the unwillingness of Queen's University to engage with the demands of PSAC 901, even in the middle of a pandemic that has thrown many Graduate student workers and employees into financial ruin and precarity.

We call on Queen's University to swiftly return to the bargaining table and engage with the demands of the PSAC 901 membership.

For more information about the bargaining process, please reach out and follow the PSAC 901 union on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), and [Instagram](#), or on their [website](#). Here's is also a link to a news report about a rally held by PSAC 901 in November last year: <https://www.kingstonist.com/news/queens-university-student-workers-express-distress-at-valueourwork-rally/>

Once again, PSAC 610 stands in solidarity with PSAC 901 in their efforts to negotiate a new collective agreement that improves the working lives and conditions of their members.

In solidarity,  
The PSAC 610 Executive