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Solidarity Letter for Queen's University Grad Workers

1 message

Martin J. Smaglinski <mjsmaglinski@gmail.com>

Fri, Mar 7, 2025 at 7:24 PM

To: principal@queensu.ca, provost@queensu.ca, matthew.evans@queensu.ca, janiecd@queensu.ca, nancy.ross@queensu.ca, vpresearch@queensu.ca, dan.mckeown@queensu.ca, michael.villeneuve@queensu.ca
Cc: info.officer.psac901@gmail.com, president.psac901@gmail.com

07 March 2025

Union of National Defence Local 00629

To the Queen's University Administration:

Principal Patrick Deane

Provost and Vice-Principal (Academic) Matthew Evans

Vice-Principal (Finance and Administration) Donna Janiec

Vice-Principal (Research) Nancy Ross

Associate Vice-Principal (Faculty Relations) Dan McKeown

Faculty Relations Office Director Michael Villeneuve

CC: PSAC 901

Dear Principal Deane, Provost Evans, and Queen's Administration,

We the executive and members are writing to express our UNDE Local 00629 unwavering support for Queen's University's graduate student workers, represented by PSAC 901 Unit 1. It is deeply troubling to witness Queen's neglect of Graduate Workers' fundamental needs as workers and the university's refusal to meet the priority demands for fair wages, a guarantee to address Queen's impact on housing affordability in the community, tuition minimization for workers, paid hours to learn teaching content, and equitable funding and labour balance. Graduate workers' labour in teaching and research is critical in building Queen's reputation, but not only that, contributing the knowledge, research and researchers who can better our societies, and change our world. It is time for the University to recognize the true value of public sector research for us all.

We strongly urge the administration to take our fellow community members seriously by addressing their legitimate demands, which support our whole community's needs. We urge the university to provide PSAC 901 members fair compensation, as well as the resources and support they deserve. Our community is made stronger by strong public services, which PSAC 901 provides. We stand with these workers in condemning Queen's neglect of critical issues, including poverty wages, funding packages that have remained stagnant for decades, and rampant food and housing insecurity which harm not only Queen's employees and students, but which inflate costs and make life harder in the wider in the whole community.

UNDE Local 00629 is proud to stand in solidarity with Queen's Graduate Workers, recognizing the vital role they play in advancing education, research and innovation in Ontario and globally.

Sincerely,

Martin J. Smaglinski
1st Vice-President
Union of National Defence Employees
Local 00629
Petawawa, Ontario

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