

UMFA Bargaining Update - November 13, 2016

The UM Admin has this evening taken the provocative move of calling publicly for our bargaining team to conduct a membership vote on Admin's last offer, which was tabled a week ago.

For two days, UMFA and Administration were bargaining with a provincially appointed conciliator and moving towards a compromise on one of our key issues. We were anticipating further discussion of Collective Agreement language on workload protections.

Last week, UMFA sent each of you a copy of the Admin's last offer, handed to us on November 6. It represented no movement on key issues, particularly workload and job security for Instructors and Librarians.

Instead of engaging with us on these central issues, UM administration has now demanded that we turn back the clock, and bring their November 6 offer directly to our Members for a vote. Contrary to the Admin's statement on UMToday, posted tonight, we did not reject their demand today at the bargaining table. This is incorrect.

Our Executive will be meeting tomorrow morning, when we will prepare a response to this Administration's decision to stop negotiating.

Be strong on our picket lines tomorrow, as we continue to press for a fair deal.

In Solidarity,

Mark Hudson

UMFA President.