



September 18, 2019

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REMINDER - Preventing sexual violence* at UM: A forum for UMFA Members

Earlier this week, President David Barnard made public a report commissioned to help guide the University as it addresses sexual violence on campus.

On October 1, UMFA wants to hear your thoughts on the report and related concerns. The Association's Gender Solidarity Working Group will facilitate a discussion in the Senate Chambers. Details are below.

The working group's mandate includes identifying concerns with and alternatives to the U of M's Respectful Work and Learning Environment and Sexual Assault (RWLE/SA) Policies and Procedures, as well as recommending improvements to the Collective Agreement related to issues of sexual violence. Your views will inform the recommendations the Working Group makes to UMFA's Executive Council and Board of Representatives.

Date: Tuesday, Oct. 1, 2019

Time: 3:00 to 4:30pm**

Location: Senate Chamber (E3-262 EITC)***

RSVP to iceplis@umfa.ca. A summary of the report to facilitate the discussion will be distributed by e-mail to participants the week prior to the forum.

If you are experiencing sexual harassment, sexual violence, discrimination, or other workplace issues contact faum@umfa.ca to make an individual appointment with a Member of the UMFA staff.

** The Province of Manitoba defines sexual violence as “any violence - physical, emotional or psychological - thought to be of a sexual nature, which is unwanted and takes place without consent, permission or understanding....Sexual violence can take many forms and includes a range of harmful attitudes and behaviours. It can include gender stereotypes, sexist jokes, sexual harassment, sexual assault, domestic abuse, stalking, indecent or sexualized exposure, degrading sexual pictures or drawings, voyeurism, sexual trafficking and sexual exploitation.”*
(<https://www.gov.mb.ca/youarenotalone/understanding.html>)

**** UMFA will reimburse Members for childcare expenses related to meeting attendance. Submit receipts to faum@umfa.ca.**

***** The Senate Chambers are accessible. The accessibility entrance to the engineering complex is via the exterior metal door under the awning at the North-West entrance.**

For more information on the Gender Solidarity Working Group, visit <http://www.umfa.ca/issues/gender-solidarity-working-group>.

Support the climate strike!

Many young people are organizing climate strikes on **September 27th** from Noon - 5pm as part of an International week of action (see <https://globalclimatestrike.net>)

There are at least two important ways that we can support this global movement:

- 1) If it's feasible, please avoid quizzes and points for classroom participation or attendance in classes on the afternoon of Friday September 27 to allow your students to participate in the strikes.
- 2) Able to join? We hope to have UMFA members and UMFA flags out in great numbers at the Legislature. Details will follow.

Further, the **Manitoba Energy Justice Coalition** is asking for your help by signing a climate strike pledge and joining in on the strike. For more information, please [click here](#).

Want to join, but need a ride from campus to the legislature? RSVP to faum@umfa.ca and UMFA will work on arranging transportation.

UMFA Scholarship for the Advancement of Labour Rights

Two unfair labour practice (ULP) complaints and many grievances later, the Association has taken various monetary awards paid by the UM administration and rolled them into three years' worth of scholarships for students. A \$2,500 award will be offered each year to an undergraduate student who: (1) is enrolled part-time or full-time in any year of study in any faculty, college, or school at the University of Manitoba; (2) has achieved a minimum degree grade point average of 2.5; and (3) is interested in advancing the rights of organized labour in Manitoba, Canada, and/or internationally. Applications are to be made to the Financial Aid and Awards office by **November 15, 2019**. For full details, please [click here](#).

Have your say in the alternative provincial budget

The Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives (CCPA) is accepting entries for the 2020 Manitoba alternative provincial budget. The deadline for submissions is **September 24 at 4:00 p.m.** For information about the process, [click here](#).

Article of interest: U of M takes step to revitalize Indigenous languages

Earlier this month, professor in Native Studies and UMFA Member Niigaan Sinclair wrote an article in the Winnipeg Free Press about how, for the first time in the University of Manitoba's 142-year history, four Indigenous languages are now being offered for students to learn. To read the article, [click here](#).

For more on labour and education in the news, check the [UMFA website](#).

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 for consideration.

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