



September 4, 2019

Welcome back! UMFA wishes all members a great fall term.

In this issue:

- [All Party Forum on PSE – Sept. 5, 7-9pm @ UofW](#)
- [Support the climate strike!](#)
- [UMFA Scholarship for the Advancement of Labour Rights](#)
- [Have your say in the Alternative Provincial Budget](#)
- [Brian Pallister wants to remove rights of Retail Workers \(a message from the MFL\)](#)

All-Party Forum on PSE: Sept. 5, 7-9pm @ UofW

Join the Manitoba Organization of Faculty Associations (MOFA) on Thursday, September 5 from 7:00-9:00 p.m. for “Our Universities, Our Futures”, an all-party forum on post-secondary education. The event will take place in Eckhardt-Gramatte Hall (3rd floor) at the University of Winnipeg. Refreshments will be available at 6:30 p.m. Full event details are [here](#).

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 is 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) Let’s join them! 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 the strike, 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 October 2, 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](#).

Brian Pallister wants to remove rights of retail workers (a message from the MFL)

Dear Sisters, Brothers and Friends,

Late last week, Brian Pallister announced that a re-elected Conservative Government would repeal and remove the Retail Holiday Business Closing Act.

This is the legislation that keeps retail stores closed over Christmas Day, New Year's Day, Good Friday, Easter Sunday, July 1, and Labour Day. It also provides retail workers the right to refuse work on Sundays.

This is an important right that allows retail workers to maintain some quality of life and time off with their families on weekends.

Working people are busier than ever before. Between work, child care, children's activities, and our phones, it's harder and harder for families to get quality time together. Everyone deserves the chance to have at least some amount of time to get together and share a meal with family, especially around holidays.

This decision by the Pallister government is deeply disappointing, especially in light of the fact they had already asked the Labour Management Review Committee to meet in September to review the Act and come up with balanced solutions. Now, even before the LMRC has met about it, Brian Pallister has decided to go it alone and do what he wants to do without listening to anyone. Sound familiar?

The best way to ensure that the rights of workers are respected on this issue is to vote Brian Pallister and his anti-union, anti-worker government out on September 10.

In Solidarity,

Kevin Rebeck
President
Manitoba Federation of Labour

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.

We make **UofM** happen **UNIVERSITY OF MANITOBA**
Faculty Association