

University of Manitoba Faculty Association members rally to end to the strike
Protest at administration building calls on the administration to accept UMFA's offer

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Winnipeg - Supporters of public education and members of the University of Manitoba Faculty Association (UMFA) rallied at the University of Manitoba administration building today. They called on University President Michael Benarroch to accept a fair and reasonable offer from UMFA which would end the current strike. UMFA's offer addresses retention and recruitment issues that would enhance the quality of education for students at the university.

"The responsibility for ending the strike now falls in the hands of President Michael Benarroch. Students, labour, and community groups have joined our members in calling for a fair deal," said Orvie Dingwall, UMFA President. "We believe that we've prepared a reasonable offer that could end the strike and bring us back to the classroom."

Dingwall noted that the university is in a healthy financial position and has the means to fairly compensate UMFA members and ensure their salaries remain competitive. The University of Manitoba faculty salaries rank 14th of the 15 largest research-intensive universities. University President Michael Benarroch has publicly recognized that UMFA members have seen their wages decrease by 8% through inflation alone since 2016.

"What we're hearing from students and our members is that despite the difficulties experienced during a strike, they support our fight for the future of our university," said Erik Thomson, UMFA vice president. "We are hopeful that the administration will accept our offer to end the strike, and demonstrate its commitment to keeping the University of Manitoba competitive."

UMFA represents over 1,200 professors, instructors and librarians at the University of Manitoba.