

Feb 14th , 2024

## **Solidarity Statement with MSVUFA**

The Canadian Federation of Students-Nova Scotia stands in solidarity with the Mount Saint Vincent University Faculty Association (MSVUFA) which went on strike on Monday, February 12, 2024 after the MSVU administration failed to negotiate a fair and reasonable deal for faculty.

MSVUFA is fighting for equitable settlement to ensure parity with other Nova Scotian and regional universities. They are also working to improve MSVU for all, with their stated goals of “decolonizing the collective agreement” and advancing other critical EDIA efforts within the university. MSVU is a university that has marketed its commitment to social justice, however, the stall tactics the administration has employed go against this message.

As students, we recognize that a Faculty strike is disruptive for students, but we also believe that our educators deserve to be adequately supported by their employers. The solution to minimizing disruption is for MSVU to negotiate in good faith and satisfy the workers’ demands. It is up to the MSVU administration to end this strike by negotiating fairly and respectfully with the MSVUFA. All students benefit from solidarity with workers – better working conditions for faculty mean better learning conditions for students.

Aideen Reynolds, Chair of CFS-NS points to other strikes and bargaining processes in recent memory: “University boards across the province have been failing to meet even the most basic demands of their educators, therefore it is the board who is responsible for disruptions to students’ education. I commend MSVUFA for making the difficult choice to strike, and I know that students stand by their educators against administrative failures”

In a press release on January 29th, 2024, the President of MSVUFA, Dr. Susan Brigham, says, “The collective bargaining process has been frustrating and disappointing as the Board of Governors has been dragging its feet. The Board did not come to the table in the summer, choosing instead to wait months after the Collective Agreement expired and then refusing to table its financial package until conciliation in January”.

We encourage our members at MSVU and across Nova Scotia to support MSVUFA and show solidarity with MSVUFA and all striking workers by familiarizing yourself with the available MSVUFA [resources](#), donating to their [strike fund](#) if you are able, and joining picket lines. We urge the MSVU administration to resume negotiations for a fair deal.

Students and workers united!

In solidarity,  
Canadian Federation of Students-Nova Scotia