

September 12, 2025

Sent via email

Dear Rectrice Bouffard,

Mesdames and Messieurs membres du Board des gouverneurs,

The Association des professeur·es et des professionnel·les de l'Université Saint-Boniface (APPUSB) has been working without a collective agreement for a year, and negotiations with your university's administrators have not yet resulted in a fair and equitable agreement.

As a pillar of the Franco-Manitoban community the Université Saint-Boniface has an important role to play in the education of Manitobans and the advancement of knowledge in this province. The over 1,300 Professors, Instructors, and Librarians at the University of Manitoba know that excellence in research and teaching, as well as student success are fundamental to that role. We also know that these outcomes depend on fair and equitable working conditions and a collective agreement that supports the retention and recruitment of professors and other academic professionals at l'Université Saint-Boniface.

APPUSB's demands for a more balanced teaching load that includes regular sabbaticals, for a revaluation of collegiality, and for salaries comparable to those offered to their counterparts at other public universities in Manitoba are essential to the sustainability of the Université Saint-Boniface. The University of Manitoba Faculty Association fully supports these demands.

At a time when the Manitoba government is taking concrete steps to make Manitoba a bilingual province, it is particularly unacceptable that the administration of the university is not taking steps to ensure that your university is on par with English-language institutions with respect teaching loads, collegial governance, and salary.

UMFA calls on you to direct your bargaining team to return to the negotiating table with the APPUSB in order to listen to its legitimate demands and conclude a collective agreement that is fair, equitable, and conducive to the continuity of high-level education and research within your institution.

Sincerely,

Erik Thomson, President
University of Manitoba Faculty Association