



8 September 2025

Re: University of Winnipeg Faculty Association Support for APPUSB

To Whom It May Concern,

My name is Peter Miller, and I am writing as the President of the University of Winnipeg Faculty Association to offer our unequivocal and complete support to our comrades and colleagues in the Association des professeur·es et des professionnel·les de l'Université Saint-Boniface (APPUSB). As fellow academics, citizens, and labour activists, we strongly support APPUSB's struggle for a fair deal. We note, with disdain, that APPUSB members have been working without a collective agreement for a year. There is, to our mind, no excuse for this situation, and we regret that the Administration of USB has put our colleagues – and their students – in this situation.

It's a truism that research and teaching excellence – which abound among APPUSB members – are the bedrock of student success: faculty know this; students know this; and, yes, even administrators know it. This level of excellence, however, depends on a fair, free, and collaborative relationship between Employer and Employee, the foundation of which is fair and free collective bargaining. We urge the Administration to come to the table with proposals that advance teaching and research excellence at USB and work to recruit and retain members,

We fully support 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. three elements that are essential to the sustainability of the Université Saint-Boniface, a pillar of the Franco-Manitoban community.

At a time when the Manitoba government is taking concrete steps to make Manitoba a bilingual province, it is unacceptable that the Francophone community cannot enjoy a university on par with English-language institutions. Indeed, such parity ought to be at the heart of what USB strives for, given its central role in French culture in Winnipeg and Manitoba.

We at the UWFA call on the Administration of USB 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 this vital institution.

Yours Sincerely,

Dr. Peter J. Miller, Professor and Chair, Department of Classics, University of Winnipeg
President, University of Winnipeg Faculty Association