

Frequently Asked Questions (October 26, 2009)

Q. How much is strike pay?

A. Strike pay is \$110 per day for seven days a week. However, you are only required to work Monday to Friday. If you perform your strike duties you would receive \$770 per week.

Q. How many hours must I work in order to receive strike pay?

A. Each Member must work a minimum of 20 hours per week in order to receive strike pay.

Q. Is strike pay taxable?

A. No, strike pay is NOT taxable.

Q. When and how do I receive my strike pay?

A. You will receive your strike pay weekly and in the form of a cheque. Your first cheque will be issued seven days after day one of the strike, then every seven days thereafter. You will pick up your cheque at UWOFA's strike headquarters.

Q. What if I can't do picket duty?

A. If you have physical restrictions and cannot do picket duty, we can use your help in the Strike Headquarters or shuttling people and supplies to designated picket locations. If you are sick and cannot picket please contact the Strike Headquarters.

Q. How long is a picket shift?

A. Each picket shift is two-hours long. Members can walk, stand or sit (chairs provided) during a shift.

Q. Do I have benefits while on strike?

A. UWOFA will work to make arrangements with the Administration to ensure your benefits continue.

Q. When do we go on strike?

A. If negotiations breakdown, the strike deadline is November 2, 2009. However, UWOFA will contact you and there will be a meeting scheduled to debrief you. This meeting will most likely occur Sunday, November 1st.

Q. How long would a strike at the University of Western Ontario last?

A. The length of a strike is hard to determine. It is important to remember that even while on strike, the Negotiating Team will continue negotiations with the administration.

Q. Where can I park for picket duty?

A. Members should not park on campus because this means crossing the picket line. The Strike Committee is arranging parking at this time. As soon as plans are finalized we will let you know.

Q. What if I have booked holidays and we go on strike?

A. Any preauthorized leave will be honoured. This means that you won't have to show up for picket duty during that leave and you would receive your regular compensation according to your type of leave.

Q. How will I be updated on important negotiation/strike information?

A. UWOFA will keep you updated and informed through your non-western email address or by phone. Information will also be posted on the UWOFA website.

Q. What are the main issues?

- **Job Security**, which means no arbitrary reassignment
- **Equitable Salaries & Benefits**, which means parity with our colleagues. We currently rank last in research libraries in Canada, and 91st out of 113 in North America.
- **Fair Annual Evaluations**, which means clear & consistent criteria

Q. What can people do to support Western's Librarians & Archivists?

- Send letters of support to the University President Amit Chakma (achakma@uwo.ca)
- Walk the picket lines with us.

For more information, visit www.uwofa.ca