



UWOFA

2022 Bargaining/Strike Information for Students

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Could
there be a
strike at
Western
University?

At the end of September, the UWO Faculty Association held a strike vote, and 91% of votes cast were YES votes, in favour of the UWOFAs Board authorizing strike action if necessary

On October 27th, a “No Board” report was filed with the Ministry of Labour, meaning that UWOFAs will be in a legal strike position on November 13th

The UWOFAs bargaining team continues to negotiate in good faith – they will be meeting with the Employer almost every day this week

If we are not able to get a fair deal in time, then there is a chance that a strike could happen.

Is UWOFA prepared for a strike?

- Yes, we are. Once strike action begins, campus will be off-limits for members who would be withdrawing their labour
- We have a strike headquarters located off campus, which our administrative team will be moving into on November 9th
- We have begun setting up port-a-potties around the edges of campus, as these will be used by those walking the picket line

What are the issues?

- Your profs care about the quality of education you receive
- We care about the fact that there are fewer full-time faculty members on campus, and the ratio of students to faculty is higher than it's ever been, even as enrolment increases every year
- Fewer full-time faculty members means that workload is not distributed equally across all of your professors, impacting class sizes, course availability, and access to supports like research supervision and reference letters
- Contract faculty members are precarious, not knowing if they will have jobs from year to year (or sometimes even term to term). This means that they have less time to prepare their courses. They can't plan for the future, and neither can you if you were counting on taking future classes with a precarious prof you really like. Do you know which of your profs are employed this way? It's generally impossible to tell without asking them...
- We care about ensuring all faculty have equal access to benefits (part-time faculty currently go without, meaning that if they get sick and can't work, for example, they don't get paid)

Faculty Working Conditions are Student Learning Conditions!!

For more information about the potential for a strike at Western, and what it means for students, go to: <https://www.uwofa.ca/about-uwofa/students/>





**Together we can
avert a strike!!**

You can help the UWO Faculty Association avoid a strike by sending a letter of support to senior administrators at Western.

<https://www.uwofa.ca/take-action/>