



Dear Michael, and fellow UPEIFA members,

I am the current President of the Dalhousie Faculty Association, and I write today to express our collective solidarity with you and your members as you continue to deal with difficult negotiations with your employer. We at the DFA have followed with considerable interest your plight as you have been confounded by both your employer and your provincial labour ministry. We know and understand the particularly high levels of inflation that exist in Prince Edward Island and the impact that has on UPEIFA members and your fellow citizens. Wages matter, and fair increases are required now more than ever.

You likely know that we recently reached a tentative agreement with our employer, and this was only possible because of the extremely strong strike mandate that our Members delivered in response to a slate of proposals that included wage increases that would have been considered low even before the current inflation crisis. A 92.2% "yes" vote showed our employer that we were willing to go out on strike if an acceptable offer was not presented. As hoped, our employer listened and improved their last offer considerably so that a strike was ultimately not necessary, pending ratification of the tentative deal by DFA Members.

I encourage your members to consider seriously the need to show a willingness to strike over important issues, and that fair wage increases are among those issues. Not only do your members deserve fair wages, but your ability to negotiate reasonable increases will help your fellow workers who are united in the common cause of fighting back against eroding wages and working conditions.

I wish you all well in your negotiations.

Dave Westwood  
DFA President 2022-2023

---

***University of Prince Edward Island Faculty Association***

550 University Avenue, Duffy Science Centre, Rm 415, Charlottetown, PE C1A 4P3

**T** 902-566-0438 | **F** 902-566-6043 | [office@upeifa.ca](mailto:office@upeifa.ca) | [www.upeifa.ca](http://www.upeifa.ca)