



Mr. Brian Johnston, K.C.  
UPEI Chief Negotiator  
Stewart McKelvey  
600-1741 Lower Water Street  
Halifax, N.S. B3J 0J2

**Via Email**

February 17, 2023

Dear Brian,

I write in response to your emailed correspondence of the last two days. The Faculty Association is not in agreement with your proposed course of action to proceed immediately to taxpayer-funded mediation.

As we have repeatedly made clear, we are seeking an immediate return to direct bargaining in order to negotiate a fair and reasonable deal. While we acknowledge that mediation may be of value further along in the process, we do not believe that we have reached that point and have no wish to delay negotiations any further.

We must also point out that, despite your public messages to the contrary, we have not agreed on a specific mediator in the event that mediation becomes necessary.

Finally, we object in the strongest possible terms to your suggestion that we should ask the Government of PEI to fund any further mediation between our parties. It is, in our view, completely inappropriate for the UPEI Board of Governors to expect the taxpayers of this province to fund a private mediation between parties in this way,

Once again I say to you: it is time for the UPEI Board of Governors' Negotiations Team to come to the table to negotiate a fair and reasonable collective agreement that everyone will find acceptable.

Our Negotiations Team continues to be ready to meet with you February 20-24 and February 28 to March 3. It is our sincere hope that you will take this opportunity to avert the further expense of mediation or job action.

We await your timely response.

Sincerely,

Dr. Margot Rejskind, UPEIFA Lead Negotiator

cc. Mr. Pat Sinnott, Chair, UPEI Board of Governors  
Dr. Greg Keefe, Interim President, UPEI  
Dr. Michael Arfken, President, UPEIFA

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

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