

March 9, 2006

Leah Casselman
President
Ontario Public Services Employees' Union
100 Lesmill Rd
Toronto, Ontario
M3B 3P8

Dear Sister Casselman:

Congratulations to you and the 9,100 members of your community colleges faculty and librarian bargaining unit who are standing up for quality education in your current round of bargaining. Know that you have the support of the 70,000 members of the Elementary Teachers' Federation of Ontario. The issues you are fighting for are important ones – important to students and important to your members.

These issues – smaller class sizes, workload, and more full-time jobs – are issues for elementary teachers and education workers too. The strike your members are engaged in will force a broad public debate about what makes high-quality education. We know where we stand. With you and your members.

Being on strike is not easy. I know that there will be times when your members feel isolated. Let them know that the thoughts and best wishes of ETFO's members are with them. We are all part of the public education system in Ontario and like you we are committed to making that system the best it can be. Your efforts to protect and enhance the working conditions of your members and the learning conditions of your students will improve education for us all. Thank you for your courage and your commitment.

Find enclosed an initial contribution to your strike fund. Do not hesitate to let us know what we can do to help bring this strike to a successful conclusion. Please share our message with your members so they know we care.

In solidarity,

Emily Noble

Emily Noble
President

EN:MM:BG
Enclosure