

December 15, 2009

This letter was sent by the Trent University Faculty Association this morning to Minister Milloy and copied to Don Sinclair. Have also forwarded to your president, Smokey Thomas, and Pete Wright, your representative in this area.

Best wishes for a hasty and successful conclusion to your negotiations.

George Hewison, TUFA

Dear Minister,

At our meeting yesterday, the Trent University Faculty Association heard a report on the actions of college management during negotiations with OPSEU faculty. We were shocked to learn that management have used the powers granted to them under your recent Colleges Collective Bargaining Act (2008) to break off talks with the union and unilaterally impose their terms of employment on faculty.

We view this action as seriously undermining free collective bargaining and a threat to all faculty (and in fact all unionized employees).

We discussed the recommendations of the Workload Task Force, arising out of the last faculty strike in 2006, and respectfully suggest that your government would be better served to concentrate on those jointly-arrived at recommendations rather than what may be interpreted as an attempt at union-busting.

Now is the time to restore free collective bargaining (without the threat of contract cancellation) to arrive at a mutually satisfactory agreement.

We remain,

Sincerely,

*George Hewison,
Acting Chief Administrative Officer,
Trent University Faculty Association*