

Canadian Association of University Teachers Association canadienne des professeures et professeurs d'université

November 8, 2021

Mark Hancock National President Canadian Union of Public Employees (CUPE) mhancock@cupe.ca

CC: Emily Niles - eniles@cupe.ca

Dear Mr. Hancock,

On behalf of our over 72,000 academic and general staff members at over 120 universities and colleges in all provinces, I extend CAUT's solidarity and support for striking public sector workers in New Brunswick, including fellow education sector workers.

With more than 20,000 members walking off the job last Friday, CUPE has sent a clear signal that it will not accept anything less than fair wages, healthy pensions, and a free collective bargaining process. As our members at the University of Manitoba Faculty Association have also taken to the picket lines this week in response to an anti-labour, austerity-focused government, it is clear that workers across this country will not accept these attacks on organized labour.

As a representative for workers in the education sector, CAUT is particularly dismayed by the government's lock out of education workers of CUPE 2745 and CUPE 1253, placing school bus drivers, custodians, janitors, educational assistants, student intervention workers, student attendants, speech therapy assistants, school administrative assistants and clerks, district administrative support and library workers on leave without pay.

CAUT calls on Premier Higgs to end the lock-out and reinstate services by paying public sector workers the wages they deserve.

In solidarity,

David Robinson Executive Director

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