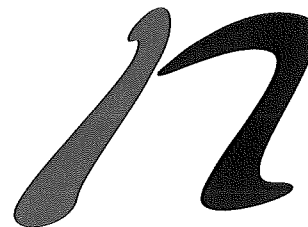


December 17, 2009



national
union

Warren (Smokey) Thomas
President, OPSEU
NUPGE National Vice-President (Ontario)
100 Lesmill Rd.
Toronto, ON
M3B 3P8

Dec. 17 2009

Dear Brother Thomas and Members of the OPSEU College Faculty Bargaining Team:

I would like to extend the support and solidarity of the 340,000-member National Union of Public and General Employees for your negotiations with Ontario's College Compensation and Appointments Council and your mobilization efforts for a January 13, 2010 strike vote.

It is clear that the key priority for OPSEU faculty members is to negotiate a collective agreement that will reverse the decline in education quality. It is deeply disappointing that the college management team doesn't share this goal.

It is frustrating that the Council has refused to negotiate in good faith with OPSEU and their unilateral imposition of terms and conditions of work is an assault on the labour rights of college workers.

It is unfortunate that the employer's model for the future of college education in Ontario is to cram more students into larger classes, with less faculty time for individual students. This model will turn Ontario's colleges into diploma factories, where the quantity of graduates is more important than the quality of their education.

We support the decision of OPSEU college faculty members to take a stand against this disastrous employer model of education. Once again, please let OPSEU college faculty members know their brothers and sisters across Canada in the Components of the National Union applaud their efforts and encourage each and every one of them to keep up the fight for quality education.

In solidarity,

James Clancy
National President

