

To the offices of:

Ontario Premier, Kathleen Wynne

Minister of Advanced Education and Skills Development, Deb Matthews

MPP Ancaster-Dundas-Flamborough-Westdale, Ted McMeekin

MPP Etobicoke North, Shafiq Qadri

MPP Etobicoke Lakeshore, Hon Peter Z. Milczyn

MPP Hamilton Centre, Andrea Horwath

MPP Hamilton East-Stoney Creek, Paul Miller

MPP Hamilton Mountain, Monique Taylor

MPP London-Fanshawe, Teresa Armstrong

MPP Niagara Falls, Wayne Gates

MPP Niagara West-Glanbrook, Sam Oosterhoff

MPP Oakville, Hon. Kevin Daniel Flynn

MPP St. Catharines, James J. Bradley

MPP Thunder Bay-Atikokan, Hon. Bill Mauro

MPP Thunder Bay-Superior North, Hon. Michael Gravelle

MPP Welland, Cindy Forster

MPP Windsor-West, Lisa Gretzky

College Employer Council Bargaining Chair, Sonia Del Missier

OPSEU Bargaining Chair, JP Hornick

Friday, October 20th, 2017

RE: Open Letter to Premier Wynne, Minister Matthews & the Members of Provincial Parliament

On October 16th, 2017 at 12:01 a.m., the Ontario Public Service Employees Union (OPSEU), representing College faculty across the province, went on strike. As a result, all classes and exams have been cancelled, leaving more than 500,000 students across the 24 Ontario colleges unable to pursue their education.

The top concerns heard from our students are:

- 1. Students want to be in their classrooms, receiving the education they paid for;**
- 2. The quality of education will eventually decrease because course materials will have to be condensed to make up the semester; and**
- 3. Any extension or compression of a semester will cause undue stress on students, both domestic and international - which will potentially include undue financial hardship.**

As the representatives of our individual student associations and advocates for our students, we are calling on you, the Members of Provincial Parliament, to continue encouraging both the OPSEU and the CEC to return to the table so they can continue bargaining in order to come to a fair settlement. Every day of class missed affects our students and their ability to learn,

and we are urging the Ontario government to step in and help our students return to the classroom.

We are requesting a meeting with the Premier, Minister of Advanced Education and Skills Development and both chairs of the bargaining teams on October 26th, after the meeting of the legislature in order to continue this conversation.

Please let us know what time works best for you and we will be there. Thank you for your time and consideration in this matter.

Sincerely,



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