

## RAAS Negotiation Bulletin #9:

October 10, 2023

### “Conciliation and Strike Mandate Vote”

#### Conciliation: Awaiting Dates

The Labour Board has assigned us a Conciliation Officer

- We are currently awaiting contact from the conciliator to set dates for conciliation.

#### Negotiations are continuing

- Negotiations are ongoing to clarify positions on the big issues and resolve language on less contentious matters.
- We seem to have reached an impasse on
  - language pertaining to job security and continuity DTLs,
  - concessions that would significantly reduce access to teaching support funds and course releases for research,
  - a concession related to tenure clock extensions that could significantly disadvantage some pre-tenure Members, and
  - language we want that would commit the institution to maintaining our current complement of tenure track positions as people retire.

#### CAUT Legal Defence Fund

- RAAS has applied to CAUT for Directors approval for access to Daily Strike Fund Benefits, a Strike Support Loan, a Group Insured Benefits loan, and Strike Support Actions *in case we eventually need them*.
  - Requests are normally granted; access to the benefits is not triggered unless the union is forced to strike.
  - Learn more about the Defence Fund [here](#).

#### Next Step: Strike Mandate Vote?

- The RAAS Executive is seriously contemplating holding a strike mandate vote.
  - A positive strike mandate vote shows your negotiating team (and administration) that we are united in where to draw the line in our negotiations.
  - A negative strike mandate vote, conversely, shows the Negotiating Team and administration that RAAS members are prepared to concede.
- A strike mandate vote does not automatically trigger a strike and most often does not lead to a strike at all.
- The reason for a strike mandate vote now is to put pressure on the administration to soften their position on key negotiation issues and break the impasse.

## News in Our Sector

### Western University Librarians and Archivists reach a tentative deal!

After holding a strike vote with a 100% “Yes” vote and then conducting a ‘strike aversion’ campaign to put pressure on their administration, Librarians and Archivists at Western have managed to reach a tentative deal.

Members of that faculty association will be voting to ratify the deal this week.

Look [here](#) to see how UWUFA campaigned to avert a strike following their successful strike vote last month.

## Strike Mandate Vote

For information on the importance of a strike mandate vote, please see the FAQ attached with this bulletin.

#### Actions to take now:

1. **Email any member of the RAAS Negotiating Team or Executive right now to let them know where you stand on the potential strike mandate vote.**
2. **Watch your email for updates.**

Find all of RAAS’s Negotiation Bulletins on our website:

[Negotiation Bulletins](#)



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