



Allison Dubarry
President, USW Local 1998

Tuesday, November 29, 2011

Dear Queen's staff and fellow USW members,

From the start of your campaign to build a real voice for staff and join the USW, we have supported you. We were very pleased to have some USW Local 1998 members come and speak at several of your info sessions.

And now in your negotiations for a solid first collective agreement, we want everyone at Queen's to know that staff at the University of Toronto continue to support you.

Earlier this year we renewed our collective agreement with the University of Toronto. With solid salary gains, enhancements in job security and improved protection against bullying and harassment, the agreement helps ensure that U of T staff continue to be recognized for the key role we play at the U of T.

Our new contract also put in place better protections for our pensions and our retirement security. And it followed on the heels of our path-breaking job evaluation settlement earlier this year that had already provided large equity-based salary gains to the vast majority of U of T staff in our unit.

Many of the issues that are important to Queen's staff are issues that have motivated staff at U of T. And our successes in bargaining were based on the same factors that will help you succeed: solid support among staff, regular and open communication with the staff, support from other campus groups and stakeholders and support from the USW at large.

Please know that we support you in making sure that Queen's staff achieve a good first collective agreement, even in these challenging times.

Sincerely and in solidarity for university staff,

Allison Dubarry,
President, USW Local 1998

USW Local 1998: representing 6,500 staff at the University of Toronto, Victoria University and St. Michael's College