
BUFA Bargaining Bulletin #10 – June 9, 2020

The BUFA Negotiating Team and Members of the Administration's Team met on Monday June 8th.

The Parties tentatively agreed to changes in Article 24A Teaching Assignments and Scheduling Patterns, partial changes to Article 19 Appointment of Members, and housekeeping changes in Article 41 Information.

In Article 24A, BUFA successfully beat back the Administration's proposal that would have allowed Deans to assign Saturday teaching. In addition to maintaining current restrictions on weekend teaching, the Parties agreed to a new scheduling provision that will allow Departments/Centres greater latitude in indicating preferences for teaching times. The Parties also agreed to new language that protects member privacy concerning scheduling accommodations related to protected human rights grounds.

The Union and Administration Teams also agreed to partial changes in Article 19 Appointment of Members related to PhD and other graduate degree equivalencies for Indigenous knowledges. We are confident that our Collective Agreement gains in relation to Indigenization and decolonization will help set the standard for universities across the province.

Other sections of Article 19 related to limits on non-BUFA teaching and the introduction of teaching-intensive faculty remain outstanding.

The Parties are set to meet again on Friday, June 12th. At that meeting, we expect the Administration Team will finally table a counterproposal on Article 24 Workload for Faculty Members.

Overall, the Parties have reached tentative agreement on nineteen articles thus far. There are five articles outstanding in addition to salary and benefit provisions.

While the Administration's posture in bargaining has seemingly softened, we are not taking anything for granted and may yet need to ramp things up in order to secure the best deal possible under the circumstances. We trust that BUFA members will back their Negotiating Team should the Administration introduce new concessionary demands or fail to deliver on our outstanding priorities in the days ahead.

In Solidarity,

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