

Collective Agreement Expiry: June 30, 2018

Our Collective Agreement with the MSVU Board of Governors expires June 30, 2018, and we will be in a position to give notice to negotiate no later than April 2018. This update is the first in a series of communiqués prepared by your MSVUFA Bargaining Team and MSVUFA Communications Committee to ensure you have the information about the negotiation process.

The MSVUFA was certified by the Labour Relations Board under the Trade Union Act of Nova Scotia on March 16, 1988. This means the MSVUFA is the bargaining agent for all full-time faculty, librarians, and, as of 2008, lab instructors at MSVU. Our first collective agreement was signed in 1989, and since then our agreement has been negotiated approximately every three years.

Bargaining Team 2018

The MSVUFA Executive appoint the members of the Bargaining Team, which, for this round, includes Geneviève Boulet (Chief Negotiator), Reina Green, James Sawler, Anthony Yue, and Diane Piccitto. The MSVUFA members will be called upon to mandate the Bargaining team in an upcoming General Meeting. The Bargaining Team conducts negotiations with representatives of the MSVU Board of Governors (usually VP Administration, a Dean, the Directors of Finance and Human Resources, and the Manager of Academic Relations).

In preparation for negotiations, members of the Bargaining Team participated in a workshop designed and facilitated by CAUT (Canadian Association of University Teachers) in December 2017, and they will continue to attend relevant workshops and conferences this year. Moreover, the Contract Committee, an open committee chaired by MSVUFA Vice President Jeff MacLeod, has met several times since last spring to give the membership an opportunity to discuss important issues relating to the Collective Agreement. More recently, these forums have been taking place prior to the MSVUFA General Meetings.

When Is the Next Bargaining Preparation Meeting?

WHAT: Workload Articles 23, 24, 49

WHERE: Faculty Lounge Seton 404-405

WHEN: This Friday, January 19, 2:00-4:00pm

The FA General Meeting will follow from 4:05 to 4:45pm.

Importance of Face-to-Face Meetings and Attendance

For confidentiality purposes, it is best that detailed discussions about negotiating issues be done in face-to-face meetings with the membership (such as the ones noted above), rather than by email; therefore, it is important to attend and participate in these meetings.

MSVUFA Website and Collective Agreement Location

Visit the MSVUFA website (www.msvufa.ca) for information and resources. You can access an electronic copy of the current [Collective Agreement \(July 1, 2015 – June 30, 2018\)](#) there, as well as viewing previous agreements.

Questions or Input? Who to Contact

If you have a general aspect of the bargaining process that you would like addressed in a future update, please contact the Chair of the MSVUFA Communications Committee, Alla Kushniryk (Alla.Kushniryk@msvu.ca).

If you have a specific question or concern about negotiations or about an item in the Collective Agreement, please feel free to contact me by email to arrange a meeting or a telephone conversation. You may also send me your concerns anonymously in a sealed envelope through internal mail.

In solidarity/En toute solidarité,

Geneviève Boulet, PhD
MSVUFA Chief Negotiator

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