

PRESS RELEASE
For Immediate Release
February 8, 2024

MOUNT SAINT VINCENT UNIVERSITY FACULTY ASSOCIATION STRIKE DECLARED FOR FEB 12, 2024

KJIPUKTUK (HALIFAX) –

At noon on Feb 12, 2024, full-time faculty, librarian, and lab instructor members of the Mount Saint Vincent University Faculty Association (MSVUFA) will walk out of the university and onto a picket line unless a tentative agreement is reached.

Dr. Susan Brigham, MSVUFA President, says that on February 7 she informed the Honorable Jill Balser, the Minister of Labour, Skills and Immigration, and the President of MSVU, Joel Dickinson, that the MSVUFA will go on strike on Monday.

The Mount Saint Vincent University Faculty Association (MSVUFA), representing 160 members, conducted a secret vote for all members in the bargaining unit in December 2023, and the majority voted in favour of a strike (97% of the 99% members who voted).

On January 25th, the MSVUFA and the Employer, the Mount Saint Vincent University Board of Governors, failed to conclude a collective agreement after the third day of conciliation meetings.

“While the strike looms large, the MSVUFA Bargaining Team is continuing negotiations with the Employer and will do so until there is a new Collective Agreement”, says Lead Negotiator Dr. Geneviève Boulet.

The MSVUFA is seeking a fair and equitable settlement to ensure parity with other Nova Scotian and regional universities and to advance decolonizing and equity, diversity, inclusion, and accessibility (EDIA) efforts. At an institution that promotes itself as a champion for social justice, “challenging the status quo since 1873”, it is deeply disappointing that the Board is failing to live up to its values, encompassed by its core mission, within its own community, specifically full-time faculty, librarian, and lab instructor employees, and especially our students, who will be most adversely impacted by the Employer’s unwillingness to reach an equitable settlement.

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