



OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

August 5, 2022

Hon. Bloyce Thompson
Minister of Economic Growth, Tourism and Culture
Shaw Building
95-105 Rochford Street
Charlottetown, PE C1A 7N8

Dear Minister Thompson:

Re: UPEI Faculty Association Request to Appoint a Conciliation Officer

The University of Prince Edward Island (the University) is in receipt of a letter sent by the University of Prince Edward Island Faculty Association (UPEIFA) requesting the appointment of a conciliation officer to assist in our current collective bargaining.

UPEI opposes this request for the following reasons:

- This request is premature. We have met and continue to make progress. We have two upcoming bargaining dates scheduled on August 22 and 23, 2022.
- The University is being deprived of the opportunity to hear the UPEIFA explanation of some of their proposals, which they assured us we would have the opportunity to do.
- The University has not yet had an opportunity to provide further responses to the UPEIFA proposals, as we indicated we would.

Despite all of this, the Faculty Association has declared that direct collective bargaining is at an end. We disagree. We are not at an impasse and we remain committed to achieving a negotiated collective agreement with our over 400 valued faculty members.

The appointment of a conciliation officer at this point is unwarranted and we are optimistic that if both sides commit to working hard, a deal can be achieved without this assistance.

We are going to reflect on this further and will supplement our views in due course.

Sincerely,



Dr. Greg Keefe, DVM, MSc, MBA
President and Vice-Chancellor (Interim)

- c. E. McGrath-Gaudet, Deputy Minister
- P. Sinnott, Chair of the Board of Governors
- M. Arfken, UPEIFA President
- A. Trivett, UPEIFA Chief Negotiator