

Dear members:

Subject: 2013-2014 Budget Consultation Process

As some of you may know, the employer is holding consultations on the 2013-2104 Budget during the first half of February. After careful deliberation, the Association of Professors of the University of Ottawa (APUO), the International Union of Operating Engineers (IUOE), the Ontario Secondary School Teachers' Federation (OSSTF-FEESO), and the Professional Institute of the Public Service of Canada (PIPSC-IPFPC), have all decided not to participate in this process.

The reasons are manifold, and collectively cast doubt on the credibility of the 'consultation' process: (1) The employer informed us for the first time on 21 December 2012, that consultations would be held in January or February; (2) On 24 January 2013, the employer informed us there would be four half-days of consultations, beginning less than 10 working days later, i.e. 5, 8, 12 and 19 February; (3) Each participant in the 'consultation' process is limited to a 30-minute 'working session'; (4) The financial documents prepared by the employer, including the issues and challenges of the 2013-2014 budget as well as the forecasts for 2014-2015 and 2015-2016, do not provide a sound basis for open and frank discussion.

In other words, the timeframe doesn't allow for proper preparation, the time allotted to participants severely limits the extent and thoroughness of their contributions, and the financial documents sent by the employer do not reflect our understanding of the University's current and foreseeable financial situation. Consequently, APUO, IUOE, OSSTF-FEESO, and PIPSC-IPFPC all believe it is impossible to fully and adequately participate in this process.

Sincerely,

APUO, IUOE, OSSTF-FEESO, PIPSC-IPFPC