

Guaranteeing a home for the Bernadette Child Care Centre

WHEREAS the University of Ottawa announced the impending demolition of the Brooks building in 2021 which houses the Bernadette Child Care Centre;

WHEREAS the Central Administration has refused to provide a physical space for the Centre to continue operations after demolition without consultation;

WHEREAS access to reliable childcare is essential for the academic and professional success of APUO members and the broader university community;

WHEREAS campus childcare services are essential workplace services that benefit the campus as a whole;

WHEREAS childcare services have significant impact on the lives of the APUO members and the university community;

WHEREAS campus childcare services respond to the University of Ottawa's continued commitment to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's Calls to Action;

WHEREAS the campus childcare centre offers programming in both French and English as well as infant care, which are important services in short supply;

WHEREAS a closure of the campus childcare centre would make the University of Ottawa the only U15 university without an on-campus childcare centre;

WHEREAS while a lack of childcare services affects all families, it disproportionately affects women and mothers and low-income families, contributing to systemic discrimination and failing to meet the University of Ottawa's commitment to equity, diversity and inclusion;

WHEREAS the APUO has been advocating for more on-campus childcare services since 2011.

WHEREAS in the most recent round of bargaining, the APUO proposed language on childcare, which the Employer refused;

BE IT RESOLVED that the APUO General Assembly call on the University of Ottawa's Central Administration to take the necessary measures to ensure the continued and uninterrupted operation of the campus childcare centre (Bernadette Child Care Centre).

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that APUO reaffirms the importance of access to and the expansion of bilingual childcare services on campus.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the APUO continue to provide financial support and additional resources to the Coalition to Save the Bernadette Child Care Centre and continue to take any steps necessary to defend childcare on campus.