Talking points: Introducing the ATPUO letter-writing campaign to students
Ensure to have QR code slide up on screen.

Opening: Introduce the issue

- Before we start, I'd like to take a couple of minutes to talk about the ongoing strike by the Association of Teaching Professors of the University of Ottawa (ATPUO).
- As a full-time professor at uOttawa, I stand in solidarity with my colleagues.
- These colleagues are essential to our university community. They teach most undergraduate courses and play a vital role in educating and supporting students.
- We believe everyone who works at uOttawa deserves fair treatment, respect and working conditions that let them do their jobs well.

Explain the problem

- Many ATPUO members face precarious employment, limited job security, unequal pay, and fewer benefits and protections than colleagues in regular positions.
- Their working conditions don't always reflect the time, expertise and commitment required to prepare courses, teach, grade and support students.
- Their demands include greater job security, fairer compensation, better working conditions and equitable treatment for the people who contribute so much to the university.
- We stand firmly behind our colleagues in their efforts to secure a fair collective agreement, and we hope the administration will return to the table and deliver a fair deal.

Connect the issue to students

- This strike is also a student issue: our colleagues' working conditions are students' learning conditions.
- When instructors face precarious employment, inadequate pay and insufficient support, it can limit their ability to plan courses, develop teaching materials, support students and contribute fully to university life.
- A strong university depends on the people who teach, support and inspire its students. We cannot claim to value quality education while overlooking the working conditions of those who deliver it.

- The strike has consequences for students, and we recognize the frustration and uncertainty it creates. But responsibility for this disruption lies with the employer's failure to negotiate a fair agreement.
- As full-time professors, we believe standing together to defend fair working conditions is part of our shared responsibility to protect the quality of public post-secondary education.

Make the ask: Introduce the letter-writing campaign

- We're asking students and the broader university community to stand with our ATPUO colleagues and support their fight for a fair agreement.
- ATPUO has an active letter-writing campaign calling on the university administration to negotiate a fair collective agreement.
- Please scan the QR code on the slide and send a letter urging the university to return to the bargaining table with meaningful solutions.
- Signing the letter only takes a minute. Please share the campaign with classmates, friends and family. The more voices speak up, the stronger our message, and the better our chances of a quick resolution to this strike.

Closing

- Thank you for showing your support.
- Let's stand together for our colleagues, for fair working conditions, and for quality public education.

Give students a minute or two to sign the letter before beginning your class.