



POSTDOCTORAL UNION

PSAC Local 611

Open Letter in Support of UWO Postdoctoral Scholars

Dr. Amit Chakma
President and Vice-Chancellor
University of Western Ontario

Dear President Chakma:

Postdoctoral Associates at The University of Western Ontario have been trying for more than two years to negotiate a first Collective Agreement with our University.

These PhD-holding employees, represented by Local 00611 of the Public Service Alliance of Canada, are highly qualified researchers and scholars who have spent more than a decade in post-secondary education in order to work in their specialized fields. Postdoctoral Associates make important contributions to UWO and they deserve to be properly recognized.

UWO administration has proposed a guaranteed minimum salary of \$28,750. Over a 40-hour work week that is equivalent to only \$13.82 per hour - most postdocs work at least 50-60 hours per week because they truly enjoy their field of research. Postdoctoral Associates are UWO's ambassadors to other universities and international organizations. Surely you do not wish them to carry the message that UWO values its Postdoctoral Associates so poorly.

We urge the University to negotiate a fair and decent Collective Agreement with its Postdoctoral Associates.

Yours truly,

Katy Fulfer
President: Katy Fulfer

Bryce Traister
President: Bryce Traister

Deb Novakowski
President: Deb Novakowski

Steve Pepper
President: Steve Pepper

P. Dalton
President: Patti Dalton

London and District Labour Council