

FULL-TIME BARGAINING BULLETIN #9
24 February 2010

This is the ninth Bulletin published during bargaining for an 11th full-time contract between the Association of University of New Brunswick Teachers and the University of New Brunswick administration. Negotiations for full-time academic staff at UNB have been underway for eight months.

At our Collective Bargaining Council meeting on Monday morning Feb. 22, we indicated that we would attempt to kick-start negotiations again by making a comprehensive proposal to the administration team on Monday afternoon. Our hope was that we might make significant progress before the midterm break thus reducing the ongoing uncertainties. The proposal we put forward to be accepted or rejected as a complete package encompassed resolution of all outstanding issues and entailed a significant change in our financial position.

The University responded by email yesterday (Tuesday), indicating that they had reviewed our comprehensive proposal, had decided not to make a counter offer and would instead deal with the outstanding issues through the conciliation board process.

We are disappointed by the administration's desire to continue the state of uncertainty that has existed for many months in the UNB community. There is nothing in the New Brunswick Industrial Relations Act that relieves either party from their ongoing obligation to bargain in good faith pending the completion of the Conciliation Board process. There is no reason why the parties cannot continue to meet while Conciliation Board members are being appointed and while the dates are established for the Board hearings.

We have conveyed our disappointment. We have also conveyed our continued availability for bargaining. We are preparing for the Conciliation Board meetings.

Information meetings will be held for the general membership following the midterm break; locations and times will be announced.

For updates please stay in touch with your representative on the Collective Bargaining Council and monitor our website: <http://aunbt.caut.ca/ftcollectivebargaining.html>

Your AUNBT bargaining team: Lloyd Waugh (Chief Negotiator), Rick McGaw, Miriam Jones, Charlene Mayes, John Neilson and Steve Turner.