



## **PRESS RELEASE**

For Immediate Release

December 19, 2018

**HALIFAX** - After two days of conciliation (December 11 and 13), Saint Mary's University Faculty Union (SMUFU) was unable to reach an agreement with the Employer (SMU) on a new collective agreement. Negotiations for a new agreement began in June 2018.

The parties continue to have disagreements over monetary and non-monetary issues that SMUFU has brought into this round of collective bargaining. SMUFU is seeking fair settlement for salaries and other compensations for its membership. In addition, SMUFU is seeking pay equity with other maritime universities for its mostly female units of Librarians and Lecturers. Librarian salaries at Saint Mary's University are among the lowest in the Atlantic region. There are also several non-monetary issues in dispute such as vacation days for Librarians and the workload assigned to Lecturers.

We expect that the Conciliator will file his report in early January 2019 and that job action will commence thereafter.

SMUFU and SMU have had a history of good labour relations for over 40 years. SMUFU is committed to ensuring the highest quality of education for its students and is prepared to meet with the University at any time to resolve the dispute.

*Contact: Marc Lamoureux, SMUFU Spokesperson,  
Saint Mary's University Faculty Union  
Phone: 902-489-5405  
Email: lamoureuxm1961@gmail.com*