

AMPL Brings Faculty Unionization to McGill

MONTREAL, October 1, 2024 – Late yesterday, the Association of McGill Professors of Law (AMPL)/Association mcgillienne de professeur.e.s de droit (AMPD) and McGill University agreed to a process through which McGill will join all other Quebec universities in recognizing faculty unions that are governed by collective agreements. AMPL will suspend its current strike today allowing McGill Law students to return to class to complete their semester without any loss of credits or delay. Whether the suspension becomes permanent depends on McGill joining AMPL in creating a way forward.

Through the agreement, AMPL is aiming to forge a mechanism through which McGill will drop legal challenges to the certification of not only itself, but of its sister faculty unions, the Association of McGill Professors of Education (AMPE) and the Association of McGill Professors of the Faculty of Arts (AMPFA). McGill will need to agree to a federated structure that the unions present for the strike to end permanently. The parties must now work together to ensure that the strike will not resume on October 8.

“It took McGill a long time to return to the bargaining table, but once it did, AMPL was prepared to find practical solutions to address McGill’s stated concerns. The entire negotiations took only three days and represent a win not only for our members, but for students and McGill Law staff,” stated McGill Law professor and AMPL Vice-President (External), Kirsten Anker. “We are excited to return to the classroom and do what we love: teach.”

“This solution is a win for everyone at McGill,” stated McGill Law professor and AMPL President, Evan Fox-Decent. “Through our first collective agreement, we will set a pattern that will serve all McGill professors, students and staff into the future. We are grateful to the Canadian Association of University Teachers (CAUT), the CAUT Defense Fund and their wonderful Flying Pickets, the Fédération québécoise des professeures et professeurs d’université (FQPPU), the scores of faculty associations across Québec and Canada that have been there with us every step of the way as well as to our students who have stood firmly behind us.”

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For more information and interview requests contact:

Ariane Aubin-Cadot

Cell.: 514-805-3715

ariane@beteferoce.com