

From: **Holly Kletke** <su.president@uleth.ca>

Date: Wed, Feb 2, 2022 at 9:15 AM

Subject: Thoughts for the coming days

To: Mike Mahon <mike.mahon@uleth.ca>, Dan O'Donnell <president@ulfa.ca>

Dear leaders of our campus community,

I write to you as the cooldown period of your negotiations has expired. Regardless of what is to come, I believe many will look back upon the next coming days, weeks, and months with reverence and I hope my message to you today is one that underscores the magnitude of this situation.

This message is one of humility, I hope it is transmitted in the tone of good faith of which it is intended on behalf of the Student's Union, as we near such a crucial point in our institution's future.

The Students' Union recognizes and respects the importance of the bargaining process, and that both parties are meant to advocate and bargain for their interests at the table. Should either party feel like they need more leverage, we appreciate job action, as a legitimate means of reaching a collective agreement. We'd like to be clear that this message is in no way intended to interfere in such delicate and clearly established processes.

This message is intended, rather, as a reminder to consider the effects of job action on students. We would like to take this important opportunity to encourage you to remember how the student experience has been foundational to the University of Lethbridge's creation and continued success. Being a student is a privilege and an exciting opportunity, but it has no doubt gotten harder to be a student during the past two years as everyone's lives have been fraught with so much uncertainty. Being mindful that students hold many nuanced and personal opinions on the matter to which they are entitled to, it's undeniable students come to the U of L to pay and study for a quality education. Job action will disrupt these objectives; we trust that all parties have considered these decisions with the gravitas it deserves.

Although students are a silent third party in the negotiating room, we hope that all parties are aware that should the U of L face job action, we will be waiting and ready for others to join us, in working together to remediate the disruption and ensuring students receive every ounce of support in completing this semester.

We hope that you consider our message, and we wish you a swift and mutually agreed upon resolution in the coming days.

Holly Kletke | President (she/her/hers)