



## Department Representatives Bulletin

*Following is a recap of the Department Representatives meeting of May 9, 2024.  
Faculty Association President Kent Donlevy chaired the meeting.  
For further information on any item, please contact the Faculty Association office.  
Email: [faculty.association@tuca.com](mailto:faculty.association@tuca.com) / Phone: (403) 220-5722*

The meeting was held on the traditional territories of the people of the Treaty 7 region in Southern Alberta. The City of Calgary is also home to the Métis Nation of Alberta (Districts 5 and 6).

### **Bill 18 - The Provincial Priorities Act**

President Kent Donlevy reported on issues related to the Government of Alberta's Bill 18 – The Provincial Priorities Act. Donlevy noted that the immediate concern is about the government meddling in research grants. However, there are a wide range of other issues from CRC Chairs to agreements with federal government departments, to potential funds for residences, and so on. The reach of this legislation could affect many different parts of the institution. He told the Department Representatives that he believed it was a mistake for Post Secondary Education to be included in the drafting of the Act.

Donlevy reported he joined other Faculty Associations in writing a letter to the Minister of Advanced Education asking for a meeting and

that a meeting had been scheduled for the following week.

There have been a significant number of articles related to the issue including an article from Professor Lindsay McLaren (Department Representative and Board Member Elect) in the *Calgary Herald*, and Professor Gordon Swaters (President of the Association of Academic Staff of the University of Alberta) in the *Edmonton Journal*.

Donlevy reported that GFC motions related to Bill 18 had been approved by the GFC at the U of A and MRU. Donlevy indicated that a similar motion may be brought forward by the Association to our GFC.

Donlevy noted that how the Association proceeds on the issue of Bill 18 will depend on what the Legislature does. However, the Association would continue to press for post-secondary institutions to be taken out of the reach of Bill 18.

The Association will continue to monitor this and report back to the Department Representatives and the general Membership as needed.

**Bargaining**

The Association Bargaining Team updated Department Representatives on the status of bargaining, and this discussion was held in-camera.

**Job Action Preparation**

Donlevy gave an overview of what was happening with the Job Action Task Force that he had announced in the recent newsletter. This discussion was also held in-camera.

**Protest on Campus**

A member made a brief statement regarding the recent Palestine/Israeli conflict and the protests that had begun earlier that day on campus. The member asked if the Association would stand by the student protest and force the university to divest itself from holdings associated with Israel.

Donlevy replied that there were demonstrations being held around the globe and that the Association Executive would discuss this.

***NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING***

***Wednesday, October 9, 2024***

***Noon – 1:30 p.m.***