

MAFA NEWSLETTER

Mount Allison Faculty Association

email: mafa@mta.ca, Room G2, Centennial Hall Tel: 364-2289 Fax: 364-2288

E-mail:mafa@mta.ca Web: www.mafa.ca

August 24, 2010

Straw Strike Vote

Monday, August 30th, 2010, 2 pm

Avard-Dixon room 118

It's now

55

days since our two collective agreements expired...

On Monday, August 30th, 2010, MAFA will hold a meeting of members of the bargaining unit (i.e., full-time and part-time librarians and faculty) to discuss the current state of negotiations for the Unit 1 and Unit 2 contracts. These contracts ended on June 30th, 2010, but continue in force for one year, unless a new agreement is reached earlier.

Stephen Law (Economics), MAFA chief negotiator, will talk about where we are after 32 meetings with the Employer.

The news is not particularly good. Progress has been very slow, and very few articles are signed off. Steve and the team will give you details on the situation at the meeting.

In June, MAFA called on the provincial government to name a conciliator. Rick Merrill was named. He came to campus on August 19 and 20, and met with the two sides. In both 2002 and 2007, agreement was reached during the conciliation process.

Mr. Merrill will return to campus later in the week which starts on August 30th. His main task is to secure a collective agreement. It is important that MAFA members demonstrate their resolve to support our negotiating team in their attempt to arrive at an agreement which responds to our members' needs.

Every negotiation period since at least the beginning of the 1990s has required the appointment of a provincial conciliator, and the holding of a straw strike vote by MAFA. A straw strike vote is not the same as an official strike vote held under the NB Industrial Relations Act. Instead, the straw vote is simply a measure of the resolve of the members. We will be holding the straw vote starting immediately after the meeting, and continuing in the MAFA office through Tuesday August 31st.

Richard Hudson, President