



unifor
theUnion | lesyndicat

Edmonton Office
10203 – 178 Street NW
Edmonton, AB T5S 1M3

Bureau d'Edmonton
10203-178 Rue NW
Edmonton, AB T5S 1M3

LEN POIRER
National Secretary-Treasurer
Secrétaire-trésorière nationale

LANA PAYNE
National President
Présidente nationale

DANIEL CLOUTIER
Quebec Director
Directeur québécois

October 3, 2025

Via Email

Jason Schilling
11010 142 St NW Ground Fl,
Edmonton, Alberta, T5N 2R1
jason.schilling@ata.ab.ca

Dear Mr. Schilling,

We write to you today on behalf of more than 320,000 Unifor members, including 4,000 education sector staff in Alberta working as education assistants, therapeutic assistants, librarians, secretaries, custodians, cafeteria workers, and bus drivers.

Unifor stands in solidarity with teachers as they use their collective power to push for funding changes that will improve public education across Alberta.

Unifor members know all too well the havoc and chaos that the UCP government has engineered at public schools in Alberta. This government has no respect for education workers and the vital work they do to help children grow and learn in a safe and comfortable environment. By disrespecting teachers and public education, Danielle Smith's government is showing contempt for the working families who rely on a strong public education system.

As your members have repeatedly highlighted, families need to look no farther than the dismal funding situation to understand how badly the UCP government is failing our children. Alberta spends more than \$2,500 less per student than the Canadian average.

Of course, teachers and education workers know that public education in Alberta is worth fighting for. We cannot let the starvation of the public system result in the growth of for-profit education. Together, we can fight back against the ideological war that the UCP is waging against universal public education.

Alberta's working families deserve schools with safe and nurturing classrooms with education workers who are paid a fair wage.

We will be asking our members in Alberta to respect teachers' bargaining unit work if your members exercise their right to strike and Unifor local presidents in the Alberta education sector will be formally reminding the employer of their legal right to refuse to do teachers' work. Please know that Unifor is with you in this fight because public education is worth fighting for.

In solidarity,



Lana Payne
Unifor National President
trcope343



Gavin McGarrigle
Unifor Western Regional Director