

Benoit-Antoine Bacon President & Vice-Chancellor Carleton University

Ottawa, 22 August 2023

Dear President Bacon:

Thank you for your letter of 28 July 2023. We appreciate your assurances that the University act to ensure the safety of all members of our community and would like to follow up to inquire as to the protocols and actions that will be implemented.

As many may know, August 22nd marks the International Day Commemorating the Victims of Acts of Violence Based on Religion or Belief as designated by the United Nations. In our previous letter, we highlighted the very real fears members of the Carleton community face regarding violence rooted in misogyny, sexism, heterosexism, cisgenderism, and anti-BIPOC racism. We would like to take this opportunity to also highlight the fact that many people on campus are also afraid of violence rooted in religious intolerance and oppression, such as but certainly not limited to antisemitism and Islamophobia. Although violence against equity-seeking religious groups is certainly linked to the above forms of oppression (as all forms of oppression are intrinsically interrelated), it manifests in distinct ways in our local communities and at Carleton.

The measures we have previously called for would provide a degree of safety for all those teaching on topics that may be targeted, especially courses that challenge and confront violence and oppression of all forms such as religious oppression, misogyny, cisgenderism, heterosexism, racism, colonialism, ableism, and classism. Therefore, we respectfully demand again that locations of classes not be published for the general public, and that no employee teaching on subjects of oppression be required to teach in a room with one exit.

Sincerely,

Noreen Cauley-Le Fevre President, CUPE 4600

Dominique Marshall President, CUASA