

MEMBERSHIP ADVISORY

RE: Support to Students, Faculty, and Staff Impacted by Laurentian University Closure

The University of Toronto Mississauga Students' Union (UTMSU) is concerned by news that Laurentian University has run into serious financial challenges that cast doubt on the future health of the university. As active members of the post-secondary education community, we believe that Laurentian University plays a vital role in the community.

The UTMSU believes that students have the right to free and accessible education with access to publicly funded institutions in their communities and a variety of program offerings. On April 13, it was announced that over 60 programs including midwifery, nursing, various arts, and science programs, and over 24 French language programs were cut. These cuts are devastating for students, staff, and faculty at Laurentian University; the university has been a leader in education and research and directly benefited those living in Northern Ontario and provided secure and stable jobs in Greater Sudbury.

The UTMSU is in solidarity with the students, staff, and faculty at Laurentian University. We believe that immediate action is needed to secure a strong, vibrant future for Laurentian University. We must reassure students that their education is not at risk. We also believe that the provincial government is part of the solution and should play the leading role in supporting Laurentian through these difficult times. The UTMSU calls on the provincial government to:

1. Put a stop to the Companies' Creditors Arrangement Act (CCAA) processes immediately and fully fund Laurentian University until it is financially stable;
2. Stop the proposed program cuts and guarantee that students will be able to complete their programs as planned, at Laurentian University and the previously federated universities (Thornloe, Huntington, University of Sudbury);
3. Stop the layoffs to faculty and staff and secure their employment through the proper bargaining processes.

As members of the post-secondary community, we ask you to show support by participating in the following actions:

- [Email the Minister of Colleges and Universities](#), Ross Romano, to demand public funding for Laurentian University.
- Change your zoom background, social media profile picture, and signature line using [images from northernsolidarity.ca](#).
- Print a window sign using the [template provided by northernsolidarity.ca](#) and put it in your window.
- Get active on social media using the tags #northernsolidarity, #FundLU, @OnPSE, and #OnPoli. Tag @rossromanoss so he can hear your concerns.

In Solidarity,
The University of Toronto Mississauga Students' Union