



December 16, 2009

Dr. Peter George
President and Vice Chancellor
McMaster University
Gilmour Hall Room 238

Re: Increases to Pension Rate Contributions

Dear Peter,

I am writing in response to your letter of October 26, 2009 requesting that members of the McMaster University Faculty Association consider increasing their pension contributions to match the level of contributions recently negotiated with McMaster CAW staff. This proposal was considered by the Association Executive, and the Executive has consulted extensively with our members through the Faculty Association Council, which has representatives in each University department, through e-mail and through the Newsletter. We have received reports from meetings in several departments as well as many messages from individual faculty and librarians.

The overwhelming consensus is that the members would not approve the increase, as it is presented, at this point in time. Although there is widespread support for retaining a healthy defined benefit pension plan for both present and future McMaster faculty and staff, the present situation does not warrant reopening an agreement that the Association and the Administration approved less than two years ago. The Association will be happy to begin discussing these issues with the Administration at the appropriate time in December 2010.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'John Berlinsky', written over a horizontal line.

John Berlinsky
President

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