Teaching Support Staff Union (TSSU)

tssu@tssu.ca
AQ 5135 (Burnaby) | SUR 351 (Surrey) | UM 134 (Vancouver)
778-782-4735
Tssu.ca | facebook.com/TSSU.ca | @tssu
Unceded Indigenous land belonging to the Coast Salish People including territories of the xʷməθkʷəy̓əm (Musqueam), Sə̓l̓ílwətaʔ/Selilwitulh (Tsleil-Waututh), and Skwxwú7mesh Úxwumixw (Squamish)
What is a Union?

A Union is

• It’s when workers come together to improve their working conditions.
• A legal body that can protect and advocate for worker’s rights. Every worker in British Columbia, regardless of immigration status, has the right to be in a union.
Teaching Support Staff Union (TSSU)

• Union representing all non-faculty teaching staff at SFU: TAs, TMs, Sessional Instructors, English Language & Culture, Interpretation & Translation (ELC/ITP) Instructors, & Graduate Facilitator at the Student Learning Commons

• Non-hierarchical, direct democratic, feminist union
What WE do?
Collective Agreement

• A contract between SFU and TSSU
• States your rights and responsibilities as a TA, TM, Sessional, ELC/ITP instructor, or Grad Facilitator
• States the university’s responsibilities to you
Collective Agreement

How Collective Agreement Protects us?

- Right to safe working conditions (Article XXI)
- A set wage scale for work (Article XXVII)
- No discrimination or harassment (Article IX)
- Set procedure for dealing with disputes (Article X)
- More..
Collective Bargaining

• Every 3 to 4 years, we bargain a new Collective Agreement with the employer.
• Our childcare fund, MSP coverage, centralized job posting, sessional seniority, grad student TA priority were won through all of us working together.
• We need everyone working together if we are to make more improvements!
• Contract committee made up by TSSU members
• All members are welcome and encouraged to attend bargaining.
Collective Bargaining

What are we fighting for this time?
• Equity in Pay, Benefits and Working Conditions
• Better Support for Instruction
• Job Security for Long Term Teachers
• Better Work for Students
• Strengthening our Union
TSSU Member Benefits

• 100% employer-paid MSP:
  - worth $37.50 - $75 per month (one/two adults), forms at lunch!
• 75% paid Extended Health
  - only costs you $6 / month! (single person)
• Guard.me reimbursement (international student)
  - MSP equivalent back for the months in which you’re enrolled
• Access to TSSU Member Childcare Fund
  - $120-$650/semester per child (based on child’s age and member work status)
• Tuition Deferment
Work with other unions and groups!
TA/TM DAY + SOCIAL!! Sept 6!

FRI, SEP 6
5PM - 11PM
@ THE STUDY

- Dinner & a drink provided
- Draw prizes!
- Meet other rad folks!

Free dinner & a drink?! I am down~

PARTY TIME AGAIN!!
How you can get involved?

- Come to Bargaining!
- General Membership Meeting:
  - Tue, Sept 24, 11:30 - 1:30, MBC Forum Chamber
  - Free dinner & Social after!!
- Join a Committee or run for a position
- Become a Health and Safety Committee Rep
- Be elected as a departmental steward
- Come to a fun TSSU events!! (TA/TM Day social)
- Call or email us!
- Just show up and be counted!
Any questions?

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