

To all members of our University of Windsor community,

Many of you will have seen the announcement of Scholar Strike Canada's proposed labour action scheduled for September 9 and 10 across campuses of higher education to call attention to racism against Black, Indigenous, and other racialized communities.

The University of Windsor has recently made an enhanced institutional commitment to equity, diversity, and inclusion, and we are taking steps to implement concrete change. Addressing anti-Black racism and anti-Indigenous colonialism across our institution is a key part of that commitment.

Members of our campus community may wish to take part in this two-day labour action, and the University is being flexible in its accommodation. However, because students may not be aware of the action, we are asking instructors who participate to clarify in advance with their students how their courses will be adjusted to ensure completion of learning outcomes over the rest of the semester. There are many ways, other than cancelling the first day of classes, to demonstrate support, and we hope that faculty members will give some thought to these alternatives.

The University has invested significant resources in preparing for an exceptionally brave new Fall semester – supporting students, providing educational development for faculty and staff, enhancing our technological infrastructure, and ensuring the health and safety of our entire community – and thanks to a campus-wide team effort we are primed for a successful launch of a new virtual term on September 10.

Whether or however you choose to participate in this action, I want on behalf of the senior leadership at the University of Windsor to thank you for your understanding, your patience, and above all your commitment to the goodness, discipline, and wisdom we all seek in our common humanities.

Douglas Kneale
Provost and Vice-President, Academic