

Post-Secondary Education Workers Rally in Solidarity with Health Care Workers

For Immediate Release – November 5, 2020

Today, the Non-Academic Staff Association of the U of A (NASA), the Association of Academic Staff University of Alberta (AASUA), The Athabasca University Faculty Association (AUFA), CUPE 3911, and our allies and students will come together to show our support for Alberta's health care workers who are facing provincial cuts and job losses.

On Monday, October 26, hundreds of health care workers at over 40 worksites across Alberta walked off the job to protest plans by the provincial government to outsource 11,000 health care jobs and to privatize crucial parts of our health care system. These are the same frontline health care workers that have been working tirelessly through the COVID-19 pandemic to keep us all safe and healthy.

"Alberta's health care workers are a cornerstone to ensure safety and stability in our health care system," said Dr. Kevin Kane, president of CAFA. "We stand in solidarity with our health care workers, and they have our unbridled support, to continue in every one of their jobs, to serve our province so ably and effectively."

Over our lunch breaks, between 12pm-1pm, PSE workers will rally at the University of Alberta Hospital (112 St & 85 Ave) to send a message of thanks and solidarity. We will stand behind Alberta's health care workers as they continue to fight for our public health care system, better working conditions and job security.

"All public services across the province, including advanced education, are under attack by this government. What the health care workers are doing in defence of public health care is actually a defence of public services in general, and we gratefully acknowledge and stand in solidarity with their efforts." said Ricardo Acuña, President of AASUA and Treasurer of CAFA.

-30-

As we are still in a pandemic, we are holding this event outside, and we ask all supporters and media to wear a mask and maintain physical distancing. Representatives for all supporting organizations will be available for an interview at the rally. For those that cannot make the media availability, please contact Lori Morinville, CAFA's Administrative Officer, 780-232-6812 or lori.morinville@ualberta.ca