



Canadian Association of University Teachers
Association canadienne des professeurs et professeurs d'université

 www.caut.ca
acppu@caut.ca

2705, promenade Queensview Drive
Ottawa (Ontario) K2B 8K2

Tel\Tél. 613-820-2270
Fax\Télééc. 613-820-7244

BY EMAIL: premier@ontario.ca

November 28, 2018

The Honourable Doug Ford, M.P.P
Premier of Ontario
Legislative Building
Queen's Park
Toronto, Ontario
M7A 1A1

Dear Premier Ford:

At the governing Council meeting of the Canadian Association of University Teachers (CAUT) held in Ottawa this past weekend, delegates representing more than 72,000 academic and professional staff at universities and colleges across the country unanimously passed the following resolution:

WHEREAS the establishment of a university plays a fundamental role in the development, fulfillment and vitality of minority communities;

WHEREAS the establishment of the Université de l'Ontario français is intended to provide French-language university programs offering opportunities for learning, research and development in French in Ontario, allowing for the promotion of "contributions and linguistic well-being, and the cultural, economic and social development of its graduates and French-speaking communities at a provincial, national and international level" (our translation of the vision stated on the UOF website as at November 24, 2018);

WHEREAS the Government of Ontario's decision infringes on the individual and collective development of the francophone minority in Ontario;

THAT the CAUT Council express its concern and condemn the Government of Ontario's unilateral decision to cancel the establishment of the Université de l'Ontario français without consulting with the French-speaking community and the academic community, and mandates the CAUT executive director to take the necessary action to respond to this situation.

The decision to cancel plans to create a francophone university in Ontario took the entire academic community by surprise. The decision and the lack of consultation have been seen as an insult to the French-speaking minority in the province. I urge you and your government, in the spirit of respecting minority language rights, to consult widely with all

stakeholders, and in particular the French-speaking community in Ontario, before making any final decision regarding the future of a French university in Ontario.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of a series of loops and a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

David Robinson
Executive Director

cc: Hon. Caroline Mulroney, MPP, Minister of Francophone Affairs and Attorney General