



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

Memorandum 19:26

Date: September 3, 2019

To: Presidents and Administrative Officers
Local, Federated and Provincial Associations

From: Pam Foster, Director of Research and Political Action

Re: **Fair Employment Week, October 7-11, 2019**

Fair Employment Week (FEW) is taking place October 7-11, 2019. FEW is CAUT's annual campaign to build national support for contract academic staff.

This year, FEW will be part of the [For Our Future](#) federal election campaign and serve as a key moment in our efforts to raise the profile of precarious work as a key issue facing post-secondary education in Canada.

October 7th is also *World Day for Decent Work*, an annual mobilizing moment for unions and labour organizations around the world to call on governments to take concrete action for decent work.

FEW is an opportunity to:

- Raise awareness about the rise of precarious employment on campus and the unfair working conditions of one-third of academic staff in Canada; and,
- Highlight the contributions made by contract academic staff, under difficult employment conditions.

To help you achieve these goals and enhance your local activities and events, CAUT offers the following:

Posters +

CAUT has created *Make it Fair* branded tee shirts and buttons, as well as posters on precarity to help raise the visibility of your campaign and FEW events.

Please complete the material order form and submit it to CAUT's Membership Engagement Officer, Christina Muehlberger at muehlberger@caut.ca.

Local Event and Activities Tips and Tools

As you finalize the details of your FEW event(s), share them on the CAUT FEW [Events](#) web page. This digital map provides a visual of the national support for fairness for contract academic staff.

Activities which have proven successful in previous years include:

- Hold a reception or luncheon for your contract academic staff members.
- Hold an information picket on your campus, using FEW flyers or material targeted to your situation.
- Set up an information table in a high-traffic area of your campus where students, faculty and staff can find out about the campaign, sign a petition or express their support through a creative action, such as a photo booth.
- Hold a Local Hearing where decision-makers and the public can hear testimony from contingent faculty, students and others on the challenges they face.
- Bring resolutions about your issues forward for debate and consideration by your institution's decision-making bodies.
- Write op-ed pieces for your campus and community newspapers, radio stations and other media outlets. Invite the media to take part in FEW events.
- Encourage your contract academic staff members to share their stories on social media with the hashtag #makeitfair and #elxn43.

Please consult our [Election Toolkit](#) for ideas on actions to undertake during FEW.

Please keep Christina Muehlberger informed of your plans. If you have any questions, please contact Christina by email at muehlberger@caut.ca or call 613-820-2270 x182.