



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

Memorandum 25:21

Date: April 3, 2025

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

From: David Robinson, Executive Director

Re: **Organize to Stop Program Cuts - Get Started Today**

In the wake of years of inadequate public funding and the sharp drop in international student enrolments following the federal government's cap on student visas, many colleges and universities across the country are closing programs, suspending enrolments, freezing hiring and laying off staff.

These measures are often being taken without the required consultation with the academic staff association or approval from the Senate or equivalent academic governance body. CAUT is working with associations to develop and implement organizing plans to protect members' jobs, academic programs and collegial processes.

Here are things your academic staff association can be doing:

- If your institution has announced program cuts, consult the attached **Program Cuts Playbook** to learn what you can do to preserve programs, protect jobs and defend collegial governance.
- Ask your members to use CAUT's online tool to [call on their provincial and federal politicians](#) to take action to ensure universities, colleges and polytechnics receive the public funding they need to serve the interests of all Canadians.
- Join [CAUT's new monthly Program Cuts Organizing Call](#) beginning on **Tuesday, April 8 at 12pm (Eastern time)** to share what is happening at your institution and discuss strategies of how academic staff associations are fighting against program cuts and suspensions.

This is a critical time for our institutions, academic staff associations and members. This is a time that we must be organizing on-the-ground and connecting nationally to learn from and strategize with one another -- the more united we are the better we can fight back.

CAUT is here to help. Please consult your CAUT Senior Labour Relations Officer and Organizing Officer. If you are unsure who to contact, please reach out to **Christina Wallace, CAUT's Senior Education and Organizing Officer**, at wallace@caut.ca.