

VIA EMAIL

April 1, 2014

The Silhouette
MUSC, Room B110
McMaster University
1280 Main Street West
Hamilton, ON L8S 4S4

Re: Letter to the Editor

Thank you for your article last week about McMaster's negotiations with the Building Union of Canada which represents just under 300 custodians, cleaners and skilled trade workers on campus.

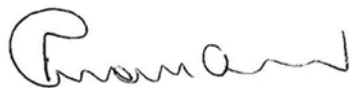
The article makes the case that these University employees should be paid a 'living wage' as defined by the Social Planning and Research Council. McMaster University whole-heartedly agrees.

Over several months of negotiations, the University has consistently offered contracts that guarantee a 'living wage' for all members of the bargaining unit.

Each time, the union has rejected these offers that would ensure all its members earn a 'living wage'.

The University and the union have been bargaining since early fall 2013. Currently more than half of the collective agreement has been agreed to. It is not productive for these negotiations to play out in the media and we would expect that the union will return to continue discussions "at the table" working with the University to reach our mutual goal of a new collective agreement.

Sincerely,



Roger Couldrey
Vice-President (Administration)