



August 21, 2020

Ms. Nancy Laird  
Chair of the Board of Governors  
Athabasca University

**Re: Proposed De-Designation Policy**

Dear Ms. Laird,

I write out of grave concern with Athabasca University's proposed new designation policy, currently under consideration by the Board of Governors. This new policy would exclude a majority of the current members of Athabasca University Faculty Association (AUFA) from their union, despite overwhelming desire to remain part of AUFA.

UWOFA sees this move, and the University's lack of meaningful consultation with AUFA, as profoundly anti-labour. We stand in solidarity with AUFA and request that the Board of Governors reject the proposed new policy. Should members of AUFA be de-designated from their faculty association, UWOFA leadership will ask our own members to discontinue approving transfer credits from Athabasca University. We will also advise members to discontinue recommending Athabasca as an appropriate venue for Western students to complete credits as visiting students.

Sincerely,

Beth MacDougall-Shackleton  
President, UWOFA