



Today marks the beginning of the CUPE 3912 strike: Teaching Assistants, Markers and Part-Time Academics will stop working in order to demand fair wages. These professionals are essential for the university in every possible level: taking on responsibilities comparable to full-time professors but with reduced salaries and less benefits. They hold tutorials, mark assignments, constantly communicate with students and run hour-long labs. When students don't understand course material, they are nearly always directed to Teaching Assistants and Part-Time Academics.

However, Dalhousie pays CUPE3912 members significantly less money than all other top research universities (U15) and has failed to provide a raise since September 2019---whilst giving the president a 13 per cent raise in 2021 to cover living expenses. There have been numerous meetings to raise awareness towards this issue but Dalhousie University has offered no significant raise.

While we understand the disruption to classes impacts students, the onus is on Dalhousie University to deliver fair wages. The King's Student Union stands in solidarity with the CUPE 3912 strike. We stand in solidarity for demanding fair pay. We stand in solidarity for speaking up for justice despite its risks. We stand in solidarity for unions organizing and mobilizing to create change. We stand in solidarity for their efforts to do outreach and connect people to the cause. The power of unions is tremendous and their influence will carry far and wide.

The King's Students' Union
October 19, 2022