

### AUFA Executive Unequivocally Stands in Solidarity with SEIU Local 2 – Chartwells Workers

SEIU Local 2 has voted overwhelmingly in favour of a strike mandate. SEIU represents the food service workers on campus. This includes the retail staff, the workers at Wheelock, as well as some overnight janitors who clean at Wheelock. AUFA executive unequivocally stands in solidarity with SEIU Local 2.

SEIU Local 2 released the statement that “We work hard to take care of students & the Acadia community. We work multiple hours on our feet, receive heavy deliveries, do repetitive tasks, provide excellent customer service with a smile & cook nutritious meals safely. We provide an essential service at Acadia, but we are some of the lowest paid workers on campus.”

SEIU Local 2 shop steward Annette Stirling says “The cost of living in the Annapolis Valley is expensive. Minimum wage has gone up but our pay has not. This round of bargaining is important. We need to fight to win a fair contract. If we don't, more of us will fall behind. We can win if workers stay united. We're stronger together.”

AUFA President, Chelsea Gardner, says “food service workers, retail staff, janitors, faculty and students all share a common goal: a strong, accessible, and publicly funded post-secondary education system in Nova Scotia. Our collective working conditions are our students’ learning conditions. When our most precarious workers face disproportionate financial barriers, and when public and private contracts do not keep pace with even basic human needs, the strain is felt across campus and in our communities.”

As such, AUFA executive unequivocally stands in solidarity with SEIU Local 2. AUFA stands proudly with all other workers on campus and demands that all those who support the mission of Acadia University be delivered fair contracts. Together SEIU Local 2 and AUFA make Acadia proud.