

Examiner Bulletin

Why We Need a Union

If I had a dollar for every time I had to answer the question, why do we need unions, I'd have retired ages ago. However, just to provide you with the most recent evidence of that need, here's the latest move by our foxy administration here at the College.

Mohawk is offering a summer program, called Explore, in conjunction with CÉGEP de Jonquière, which includes as part of the curriculum,

- ESL
- Academic preparation
- Canadian culture

In the past when similar programs were offered by the College, Mohawk faculty were hired to do the teaching. Well, guess what? Those ever-vigilant bean counters in administration have found a way to cut costs by hiring people off the street for \$20 per hour. Fries with that learnin', you say?

Don't go away; it gets better. Check out these bargain-basement fees (found on the [Summer Language and Canadian Culture 2017 advertisement](#)) for taking the program:

- Three week program: \$3400
- Five week program: \$4750

Not exactly chump change, my friends.

To be clear, the Explore program is included as one of **Mohawk College's ESL programs** on the College website. You'll find more details on the [ESL Programs webpage](#). This is your work that is being contracted out. Faculty are being replaced by...well, by just about anyone. If this is an example of the kind of quality we can expect from the **International Partnerships** group at Mohawk College, then someone needs to take a look at what's 'going down' at that end of the building.

Your Local has filed a grievance to challenge management's decision to hand off faculty work through contracting out and for short-changing students with questionable quality education. If they get away with it here, you know they'll try to expand the practice wherever they can.

We just heard from the College that we're in good financial shape, so why the fast-food approach to teaching and learning? Watch where you step. Mohawk's standards are down there somewhere, and we wouldn't want you to trip over them.

Okay, now that you've read the news, here's a test for you. Can you spot the community college from the photos, below?



Don't feel bad. I couldn't either.