



Statement of Support with Those Targeted in Attack at the University of Waterloo Gender and Social Justice Program

The Wilfrid Laurier University Faculty Association (WLUF) stands in solidarity with the University of Waterloo community during this difficult time and extends its deepest sympathy.

As neighbouring institutions, Wilfrid Laurier University and the University of Waterloo have shared a longstanding partnership, collaborating in numerous academic endeavours. The news of the recent tragedy has deeply impacted both campuses, and as details continue to emerge, it is crucial that we hold all those affected in our thoughts and provide support in any way possible.

This tragedy is a stark reminder that the safety and security of individuals within the academic community should be paramount.

WLUF stands with Women's and Gender Studies et Recherches Féministes (WGSRF) in their call to "create meaningful and actionable supports to secure the safety and wellbeing of those who are, and those who are perceived to be, 2SLGBTQIA+ on campus, especially Black, Indigenous, racially minoritized, disabled, and neurodivergent folks who face intersectional forms of violence."

It is imperative that this devastating incident does not simply fade away as another headline. The act of violence that occurred demands a serious response and a commitment to addressing the underlying issues that contribute to such acts. WLUF recognizes the importance of prioritizing the mental health and well-being of all students, staff, and faculty Members on campus. Immediate steps must be taken to ensure the implementation of robust security measures, comprehensive mental health support services, and proactive prevention strategies.

WLUF acknowledges that addressing the complex issue of campus violence requires a collective and sustained effort. It is a responsibility shared by all members of the academic community, including faculty, students, staff, and administration. By working together, we can strive towards creating campuses that are safe havens for learning, growth, and intellectual exploration.

We offer all our friends and colleagues at Waterloo our strength, compassion and solidarity during this terrible time.

Sincerely,

Anne-Marie Allison
Vice-President: Internal
Wilfrid Laurier University Faculty Association