

MEDIA RELEASE

For Immediate Release

USC and Western Forge Partnership to Maintain Student Safety during Potential Transit Strike

LONDON, ON: The University Students' Council (USC) and Western's Administration are working together to maintain the safety of our students during a potential transit strike, which could begin at the start of service on Monday, November 16, 2009. Representatives from Administration and the Students' Council have been in close contact during the lead up to this potential job action, and as of this afternoon have held two joint planning sessions to explore opportunities to move student commuters safely to campus, with priority given to early morning and evening hours.

"Maintaining the safety of our students during a transit strike is our paramount concern, particularly during early morning and evening hours" said Dan Moulton, vice-president university affairs of the University Students' Council. "We are formulating a plan with Western's Administration, and will release details to the Western community in the coming days once it is finalized."

The USC remains hopeful that the collective bargaining process between the London Transit Commission and ATU Local 741 is successful, thus negating the need for alternative arrangements for student commuters.

"We value the service provided to students by ATU Local 741 and the London Transit Commission," continued Moulton. "If a job action occurs, the safety of our students comes first; we're confident that both management and the union understand and respect our intentions to provide alternatives to students, particularly given that students will be on campus late into the evening studying for upcoming exams."

The USC and Western's Administration have been longstanding partners in fostering a safe campus community; this project is yet another example of how both the Administration and the Students' Council are working together to advance the interests of students at Western.

For the latest updates on negotiations, please visit: www.ltconline.ca

The University Students' Council exists to enhance the educational experience and quality of life for undergraduate students at the University of Western Ontario.

-30-

Dan Moulton
Vice-President University Affairs
usc.university.affairs@uwo.ca
519-661-3574

Carolyn Hawthorn
Communications Officer
uscomm@uwo.ca
519-661-3574