

Hon. Ross Romano MPP
Minister of Colleges and Universities
5th Floor, 438 University Ave
Toronto, M7A 3A5

We — the undersigned students, professors, researchers, and other academics — are writing to you to urgently request that you take action to save the future of Laurentian University.

Laurentian University offers outstanding higher education in both English and French, with a leading Indigenous education program. It provides unique programs to students in Northern Ontario that will suffer as a result of the giant cuts made to their academic offerings.

The Ontario government has mishandled the crisis at Laurentian University for months and is failing students and education workers in the process. On April 12, widespread layoffs were announced, leaving the Laurentian community with serious questions about their future. The government must stand up to protect this important educational institution in Ontario's north.

Laurentian University and their community needs long-term, stable funding to ensure that no student's education and no jobs will be affected. There must be a community-oriented collaborative process that is transparent and which serves as the foundation of any future actions taken on determining Laurentian's future. What has transpired at Laurentian University sets a disturbing precedent for the administration of post-secondary education in the province of Ontario.

We are asking you to stand up for academia in Ontario, protect the students, staff, and researchers at Laurentian University, and deliver on your obligations under the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's Calls to Actions to protect the university's tri-mandate.

In solidarity,
Academics in Support of Laurentian University