

Thanks for reaching out to the office of MLA Brar regarding the ongoing CUPE Education Workers' strike. Gurinder shares your concerns and stands in solidarity with workers, like yourself, looking for a wage increase and better working conditions.

Alberta maintains the unfortunate distinction of funding our students at the lowest rate per capita in the entire country. This is unacceptable, and this chronic underfunding has led to numerous issues, including overflowing class sizes, under-resourced schools, and stagnant wages for teachers and educational workers. The UCP could fix this problem with meaningful increases in investments to our public education system, but they continue to choose not to. Just last week with the release of the Alberta 2025 budget, the UCP government did not raise education funding at all, keeping us at the lowest level in the country.

It is imperative that educational workers make a fair and living wage for the important work they do to support our students. It is completely within the power of the provincial government to lift the wage cap and increase educational funding, so school boards have the resources to increase wages. The Alberta NDP have been calling on the UCP to listen to the strong voices of the educational workers on strike and allow them a fair wage. This is in the best interest of all Albertan students, families, and educational workers.

You can watch NDP Leader, Naheed Nenshi's message here:

<https://www.instagram.com/reel/DGy6gnso1K4/?igsh=dnVzcXc4OWRwaGZq>

You can watch NDP Shadow Minister for Education, MLA Amanda Chapman's, message here:

<https://www.instagram.com/reel/DG01arEMsF6/?igsh=MXB6OXImZGVlaDJibw%3D%3D>

MLA Brar was also glad to join CUPE Local 520 on the picket line outside Notre Dame High School in Calgary last week. He and his colleagues in the NDP will continue to pressure the UCP to properly fund public education, remove the wage cap, and bargain in good faith so the strikes may end soon.

Thank you for speaking out on this issue, we appreciate your advocacy! If you would like to discuss this matter further, please let me know.

Kind regards,

image

Erika Pichette (she/her)

Constituency Assistant to

Gurinder Brar – MLA Calgary-North East

Shadow Minister, Service Alberta &

Red Tape Reduction

1080, 11124 36 St NE

Calgary, AB T3N 1L3

P 587.318.2946

calgary.northeast@assembly.ab.ca