

**To: Interim Provost and Vice President Academic – Dr. Donna Murnaghan,**

On February 2, 2022, the TRU community received the email announcement asking stakeholders to join the Annual Budget Status Update scheduled for Monday February 7, 2022. In the announcement it was identified that VP Administration and Finance, Matt Milovick will join you in the presentation and question period.

Considering the ongoing investigation of Mr. Milovick and allegations of harassment, sexual harassment, bullying and Indigenous racism, the Chairs at TRU are shocked and dismayed with the executive's decision to include him in this public presentation. There have been repeated calls by members of our institution, as well as national groups (e.g. CAUT and CUPE), to place Mr. Milovick on paid administrative leave pending the outcome of this investigation. Doing so would create a safer space for complainants and those who may be triggered by his presence. These repeated calls for action have been ignored by the executive and allowing him to participate and lead this public presentation demonstrates the executive's unwillingness to take these allegations seriously.

There seems to be little concern from the TRU Executive for the complainants who have come forward to highlight their experiences and we are at a complete loss why a decision would be made to include Mr. Milovick in this meeting. As you well know, the allegations from multiple individuals are very serious and we strongly believe that TRU has an ethical responsibility to ensure all university members feel safe.

Until the investigation into the current allegations is complete, the TRU Chairs believe that Mr. Milovick's role as a spokesperson of the TRU administration has the potential to retraumatize members of our community. This will put members of our community in the position to make a difficult and unequitable choice: attend the presentation and risk trauma, or not participate in the presentation and therefore not be included in this important conversation. Forcing members of the TRU community to make this choice to participate in governance negates the intent of the budget presentation as part of the transparent and collegial governance of our university. Thus, we believe that keeping Mr. Milovick as a co-presenter in this budget status update not only delegitimizes the discussion but also demonstrates the administration is not taking a trauma-informed approach to addressing this issue. We respectfully ask that you reconsider including Mr. Milovick in this presentation, so that all campus members may participate openly. These are very difficult times with difficult choices that will affect the future of this institution and we hope you understand the significance of this situation. Thank you for listening and considering our request that Mr. Milovick not attend the budget update meeting.

Signed

**TRU Chairpersons**