

# Association of University and College Employees

Dear Member,

It has recently come to our attention that you have received paid maternity benefits from the University of British Columbia, since January 1, 1976. A few days ago, Mr. Grant from Employee Relations forwarded us a copy of a letter that he received from the Unemployment Insurance Commission. The applicable portion of the letter reads as follows:

*"Arising from the meeting between your Employment Relations Officers and our Mr. Carter last 18 February, we are enclosing forms (UIC 41-05) for completion. This requirement affects those employees who in 1976 made use of Maternity Leave Benefits in accordance with Clause 30.07 Local 1 AUCE Agreement. By returning to your employ and receiving the Maternity Leave Benefits, after receiving U.I.C. benefits, there was conflict with Section 30(5) of the U.I. Act and Regulation 173 (4). This created an overpayment which, of course, we must recover from the claimant."*

Because you are affected by the intended actions of the Unemployment Insurance Commission we feel that it is of utmost importance that you attend the meeting which is announced in the attached invitation. Presently, a group of interested individuals, myself included, from various unions and women's organizations are looking into this, as it is felt that the recovery of this money contravenes the Bill of Rights and other legislation. We are very willing to assist you as much as possible and we are even considering jointly taking this decision to appeals on your behalf - presently we are getting legal advice.

Please attend the meeting on May 25th as we feel confident that many of your questions will be answered there.

Sincerely,

*Fairleigh Funston*

Fairleigh Funston  
on behalf of AUCE Local 1