Gary Tompkins

URFA lost a strong advocate in the early summer when Gary Tompkins passed away. Gary has worked in various capacities with the Faculty Association since the early 1990s. He worked tirelessly and advocated for members on many committees as an URFA representative including the Pension and Benefits Committee, IMC and Executive, Grievance, AABC and the CAUT Collective Bargaining Committee. He acted as Chief Negotiator not only the UofR academics, but also UofR APT and FNUniv APT over the course of several collective agreements. He was successful in taking the UofR APT to a successful strike vote (the first in URFA’s history) in order to obtain a fair settlement. There was even a time when he stepped into the Executive Director role along with his other work.

Not only was he a strong advocate for the membership, he had a sense of humour that was second to none. There was always a joke (some colourful!) that broke the tension of a serious meeting or just took your mind away from tasks when you needed a break.

This wonderful man will be sadly missed by all who knew him. URFA salutes his dedication to not only URFA and its membership but also to his wife and family!

Stephen Moore

A bright light extinguished too soon........

We are all saddened by the sudden passing of Professor Stephen Moore, who left this world on August 16, 2017. Stephen was the past Chair of the Faculty Association Grievance Committee and a valued colleague and trusted friend to URFA. Stephen was a passionate and dedicated advocate for the members of the Faculty Association, and served with grace and humility until his illness required him to step back recently. He always sought fairness and justice for all he advocated for, and his calm demeanour and patience will be missed.

Stephen also served as Chair of the Regina and Area Refugee Support Group, Chair of the Peace and Service Committee at Grace Mennonite Church and a member of the organizing committee of the 2006 Making Peace with Earth Conference in Regina. In April of 2009, he was awarded the Saskatchewan Literacy Award of Merit (Volunteer) for his ESL tutoring at the Regina Public Library. He was very active in the New Democratic Party and supported many election campaigns in many ways.

We will all miss Stephen’s wit, compassion and dedication.

“Nature’s first green is gold, Her hardest hue to hold. Her early leaf’s a flower; But only so an hour. Then leaf subsides to leaf. So Eden sank to grief, So dawn goes down to day. Nothing gold can stay”

-Robert Frost