



TO: ALL TUI MEMBERS / BRANCH OFFICERS / EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

7th May 2019

Climate Action

Dear Colleagues,

As you are aware, students have recognised the existential threat posed by climate change and have courageously taken the initiative, both internationally and in Ireland, by mobilising to demand that political leaders meaningfully and decisively address the issue. The Teachers' Union of Ireland supports the campaign being undertaken by students, including the International Climate Strikes.

The leadership provided by the world's youth in relation to Climate Action is an inspiration for all and especially for educators and the Trade Union movement.

TUI Congress 2019 reiterated the Union's support in the following Emergency Motion:

Congress instructs the Executive Committee to express public support for the second student global climate strike on May 24th and their ongoing campaign.

As part of the statement of support, Congress also instructs the Executive Committee to establish a climate change advisory committee to make recommendations and present concrete steps on how TUI can significantly reduce its carbon footprint and show leadership in tackling the current and future climate change crisis.

As a logical extension of publicly supporting the **Second Student Global Strike on the 24th May 2019**, the TUI would urge members to facilitate participation by their students in the strike and associated events.

In addition, further to the TUI's support for this cause and campaign, the Union has been requested by the Schools' Climate Action Network to pass on the following invitation to a National Meeting on Saturday 11th May for second level students:

*You are invited to a National Meeting next **Saturday the 11th of May** from 9-5pm in Dublin.*

This event comes at a critical moment. Over 15,000 students took part in strikes for climate action on March the 15th in different parts of Ireland. However, as we gear up for the next steps, most of us have not met one another and had a chance to share ideas or discuss what we are calling for.

The [Schools' Climate Action Network](#), with the help of the use of the iconic Liberty Hall venue from SIPTU, are hosting a national meeting for student climate strikers. If you would like to organise with other students for radical action for climate justice, then join us on May the 11th to meet other students, make decisions together and plan next steps. Another international Climate Strike has been set for [Friday the 24th of May](#). This day is a chance to think and plan together for May 24th and beyond.

Students can register now using this form - <https://actionnetwork.org/events/climate-strike-national-meeting-movement-building-day/>

Teachers can sign up using this form also, or simply email us if you have a student or a group of students that would like to come - schoolsclimateactionnetwork@gmail.com

The day opens at 9am, with the main meetings beginning at 10am. The venue on Eden Quay is beside major transport links, including Connolly train station, the Luas, Busáras and the quays where many buses coming from around Ireland drop off and collect.

The day will include discussion, decision-making meetings, workshops and lots of breaks to talk with other students. Workshops include media skills training with a media expert, art for activism / banner making workshop facilitated by an artist and a workshop on movement-building and decentralised organising. The full programme for the day will be published shortly.

If there is a group of students from your school or from your area who would like to come together, that's ideal. Everyone who is interested should register as soon as possible. Teachers are also invited to come with students. For students taking part without a teacher from their school - there is space on the sign-up form to indicate parental permission to attend. If you know of any students in other schools or other counties who would be interested in attending, please share this invitation with them, or copy and paste the following details:

Climate Strike - National Meeting and movement building day

Saturday the 11th of May

9am-5pm

Liberty Hall, Eden Quay, Dublin City Centre

Meetings, discussions, workshops and more. Come and meet climate strike students from around Ireland and take part in deciding next steps! This is an event for secondary school students hosted by the Schools' Climate Action Network - www.schoolsclimateaction.ie

To take part, register now using this form - <https://actionnetwork.org/events/climate-strike-national-meeting-movement-building-day/>

Any questions? Don't hesitate to email - schoolsclimateactionnetwork@gmail.com

Looking forward to seeing you on the 11th of May!

The outreach working group

Schools' Climate Action Network

We would ask you to disseminate this invitation as widely as possible in your schools and centres and would encourage you, as educators, appropriately to support and encourage engagement by your students and colleagues with this just and urgent cause.

Yours sincerely,



Seamus Lahart
TUI President



John MacGabhann
TUI General Secretary