

# Thompson Rivers University Students' Union

805 TRU Way, Kamloops BC, V2C 0C8



Zhou Hongjun  
Director of Hunan Provincial Department of State Security  
300 Shanyue Lu, Kaifu Qu  
Changsha Shi, Hunan Sheng, 410000  
People's Republic of China

August 29, 2019

## Non-governmental Workers Detained for "Subversion"

Dear Director Zhou,

On behalf of the Thompson Rivers University Students' Union, we call on you to immediately and unconditionally release **Cheng Yuan, Liu Yongze** and **Wu Geijanxiong** from their imprisonment at the Hunan Provincial State Security Bureau Detention Centre, and drop the charges against them as they have been detained solely for carrying out their professional work and peacefully defending human rights.

We are deeply concerned about reports from Amnesty International about the detention of these three anti-discrimination non-governmental organization workers. Members of Changsha Funeng have been detained since 22 July 2019 on suspicion of "subversion of state power." However, due to a lack of evidence, we believe that these charges, as well as the threats of violence against the detainees' families, are unlawful.

Until the release of these three detainees, international law dictates that they all have regular, unrestricted access to lawyers of their choice and to their families. Also, we seek assurances that while in detention, none of the detainees is subjected to torture or to other ill-treatment. Finally, we call on you to end all harassment and persecution against the detainees' family members.

Thank you for your attention to this urgent matter.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Sierra Rae in black ink.

Sierra Rae  
President  
TRU Students' Union

Handwritten signature of Brandon Hayashi in black ink.

Brandon Hayashi  
Vice President Equity  
TRU Students' Union

cc. Ms. Mingjian Chen, Chargé d'Affaires, Embassy of the People's Republic of China