



FREEDOM OF SPEECH ANNUAL REPORT



0% Complaints
relating to curricular
and non-curricular
events



0% Official
institutional
complaints related
to free speech



0% Free speech
complaints between
August 1, 2020 & July
31, 2021

54

Non-curricular events
virtually between
August 1, 2020 & July
31, 2021

Appendix: Freedom of Speech Annual Report Template (2021)

As indicated in the December 14, 2018 and September 12, 2018 memos from the Ministry of Colleges and Universities, each of Ontario's publicly-assisted colleges and universities is to prepare an annual report on the implementation of a free speech policy. Please use this template; you may append additional documents or institution-specific information as you see fit.

The institutional Freedom of Speech Annual Report will be a public document and should respect privacy obligations. Please report on events or incidents that took place between **August 1, 2020** and **July 31, 2021**. The reports are to be posted on the institution's website and submitted to the Higher Education Quality Council of Ontario (HEQCO) by **September 1, 2021**.

We recognize that this is an unusual year given the move to remote engagement during the COVID-19 pandemic. Please reach out to Amy Kaufman, Director of Policy, Research and System Improvement, at HEQCO with any questions.

Please submit your institution's annual report via email to Amy Kaufman (akaufman@heqco.ca).

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Section A: Institutional Policy

You may append additional documentation or institution-specific information as you see fit.

Has your institution amended its free speech policy (or policy framework) since the time of your 2020 report? If so, please explain the reason for the change and provide the link to its location on your institutional website.

Northern College has not amended its free speech policy since the time of its 2020 report.

Admin Policy A-8 Upholding Free Speech (2018-12-05) can be found on our institutional webpage: [Documents and Reports - Northern College](#)

Where are members of the institutional community (or guests) directed when there is a free speech related question or complaint about an institutional event? Please provide contact information.

Free Speech related questions or complaints are to be directed to our Campus Managers. These include: Drew Enouy at enouyd@northern.on.ca for the Kirkland Lake Campus, Tammy Mackey at mackeyt@northern.on.ca for the Haileybury Campus, Diane Ryder at ryderd@northern.on.ca for the Moosonee Campus, and Christine Bender, at benderc@northern.on.ca for the Timmins Campus of Northern College.

Complaints would be recorded under the Northern College Incident Management system. If a complaint were to arise and remained unresolved, it may be referred to the Ontario Ombudsman.

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What is your institution's policy on holding events where there are security concerns? To your knowledge, were there any instances where a non-curricular event did not proceed due to security concerns or their related costs?

Colleges may reasonably regulate the time, place and manner of freedom of expression to ensure that it does not disrupt normal college operations and ordinary college activities or endanger the safety of others.

Section B: Complaints

You may append additional documentation or institution-specific information as you see fit.

Between **August 1, 2020** and **July 31, 2021**, did any member of the institutional community (or guests) make an official complaint about free speech? If yes, please provide a general description that protects the privacy of complainant.

No official complaints were filed concerning Northern College by members of the institutional community or guests between August 1, 2020 and July 31, 2021.

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If there has been an official complaint (or more than one):

What were the issues under consideration? Please identify any points of contention (e.g., security costs, safety, student unions and/or groups, operational requirements, etc.).

Northern College received no official institutional complaints related to free speech between August 1, 2020 and July 31, 2021.

How did the institution manage the free speech complaint(s)? Was the complaint addressed using the procedures set out in the policy? How were issues resolved?

The lack of complaints meant that Northern wasn't required to address any issues, but the policy in place outlines all protocols required to handle complaints when they arise.

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Section C: Summary Data

Please provide the following summary data for free-speech-related official complaints received by the institution:

Number of official complaints received under the free speech policy relating to curricular and non-curricular events.	0
Number of official complaints reviewed that did not proceed.	0
Number of official complaints where the institution determined that the free speech policy was not followed appropriately.	0
Number of official complaints under the free speech policy that resulted in the institution applying disciplinary or other institutional measures.	0
To your knowledge, were any free speech complaints forwarded to the Ontario Ombudsman?	0

To the best of your ability, please provide an estimate of the number of **non-curricular events** held at the institution between **August 1, 2020 and July 31, 2021**. Non-curricular events include, for example, invited speakers, sporting events, rallies, student life/student affairs events, conferences, etc., as opposed to regular events held as part of an academic program or course.

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*We acknowledge the difficulty of tracking events held remotely due to campus closures caused by the pandemic and recognize that institutions may be unable to provide a response to this question for 2020-21.

Northern College hosted approximately 54 non-curricular events virtually between August 1, 2020 and July 31, 2021, resulting in zero free speech complaints.

Institutional Comments (if any) *

Dr. Audrey J. Penner
President & CEO

September 1, 2021

Date

