

DIRECTIVE TITLE	Election Campaigning on Campus
DIRECTIVE NUMBER	D-1.4
APPROVAL DATE	Sept. 7, 2021
APPROVAL BODY	College Executive Team
REPLACES (IF APPLICABLE)	N/A
LAST UPDATE OR AMENDMENT OR REVIEW DATE	September 7, 2021
NEXT REVIEW DATE	September 2026
HOLDER	Communications & Marketing
RESPONSIBLE OPERATIONAL LEADER	Rodney Porter, Executive Director, Communications & Marketing
SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS	Guidelines on Advertising on Camosun College Campus

## ELECTION CAMPAIGNING ON CAMPUS

### RATIONALE

Questions can be expected on how to manage people on campus who are either campaigning for election or are campaigning for a candidate of their choice.

While the Canada Elections Act permits registered candidates and their representatives to campaign in a place that is open without charge to the public, including ‘educational places,’ campaigning can be excepted if it is incompatible with the ‘function or purpose of the place or inconsistent with public safety.’

### DIRECTIVE APPLICATION

The college cannot be seen as endorsing political parties, positions or individual candidates.

- Registered political candidates and / or their representatives are asked to use pre-identified space in the public areas of campus to campaign so long as the use does not conflict with the college’s missions or values or impact public safety. Recommended areas include:
  - Interurban: the area behind Campus Centre.
  - Lansdowne: the walkway between Dawson Building and Fisher Building.
- Educational programming and college services take priority followed by academic support activities and non-academic activities.

- Campaign requests by registered candidates and / or their representatives should be directed to, and need to be reviewed by the college's Executive Director of Communications and Marketing.
- Advance notice will be provided by Communications and Marketing Department to the Camosun College Student Society, as well as the college's facilities and security departments and other internal stakeholders as appropriate.
- The College retains the right to decline requests at their sole discretion
- Advertising that reflects a partisan political viewpoint is not permitted on campus (see 2015 Guidelines for External Advertising on Camosun College campus).
- Faculty members who invite candidates to the classroom should ensure a similar invitation is made to all the candidates for at least one riding to ensure balance.
- Incumbents running for re-election are covered by this policy, as during the official campaign period (i.e. federal writ period), they cease to be government representatives and are considered candidates.

## **DEFINITIONS**

Provincial, federal and municipal ridings are:

- Camosun's Interurban campus is located in the federal riding of **Esquimalt-Saanich-Sooke**; the provincial riding of **Saanich South**; and the municipal **District of Saanich**.
- Camosun's Lansdowne campus is located in the federal riding of **Victoria**; the provincial riding of **Oak Bay-Gordon Head** and the municipal **District of Saanich**.

## **PRINCIPLES**

It is important to find a balance between accommodating requests, while ensuring that the college is not seen to be endorsing one candidate over another.

## **DIRECTIVES, REQUIREMENTS, PROCEDURES, STANDARDS, GUIDELINES, FORMS**

N/A

## **RELATED LEGISLATED REFERENCES**

Canada Elections Act: <https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/e-2.01/>

### **From Canada Elections Act: Campaigning in Public Places**

- **81.1 (1)** No person who is in control of a building, land, street or any other place, any part of which is open without charge to members of the public, whether on a continuous, periodic or occasional basis — including any commercial, business, cultural, historical, educational, religious, governmental, entertainment or recreational place — may prevent a candidate or his

or her representative from campaigning in or on that part when it is open without charge to members of the public.

- **Marginal note: Exception**

**(2)** Subsection (1) does not apply in respect of a place if campaigning in or on it would be incompatible with the function and purpose of the place or inconsistent with public safety.

**LINKS TO RELATED CAMOSUN POLICIES, DOCUMENTS, AND/OR WEBSITES**

- [0-3.2 Use of College Facilities and Ground](#)
- Guidelines on Advertising on Camosun College Campus