University of Alberta Students' Union Elections

Chief Returning Officer Ruling



Ruling #1

March 2019 Students' Council and General Faculties Council Election

Poster Violation – Simran Dhillon, Candidate for Students' Council (Faculty of Science)

Parties to the Ruling

- Simran Dhillon, Candidate for Students' Council (Faculty of Science)
- Pia Co, Complainant
- Ilyas Gora, Chief Returning Officer

Applicable Bylaws, Rules, Regulations

- 1. Bylaw 2300 §30 (1)
 - "All printed campaign materials shall be purchased at official list price costs from SUBprint."
- 2. Nomination Package §3.3 (Printed Materials)
 - "All printed campaign materials must include the "Printed at SUBprint" marker. All posters must also include the supplied Elections Office online voting notice. It is the responsibility of each candidate to ensure that this identification is present on the material before it is sent to the printer."
- 3. Nomination Package §3.4 (Posters and Banners)
 - o "There are no limits to the total number of posters, but no candidate or side may place more than ten (10) posters in any single building (atriums will be considered half-buildings, with a limit of five (5) per atrium), and no more than one (1) banner on display in any building. Banners are greater than four (4) square feet in area, and posters are less than four (4) square feet. The maximum size for banners shall be eight (8) feet by sixteen (16) feet, as per University guidelines. The minimum distance between posters shall be ten (10) feet in all directions. Banners must be coated with a fire retardant spray and have a fireproofing receipt attached prior to being displayed. Both are available to candidates at no charge from the Elections Office."

Facts

- 1. The Complainant, Pia Co, filed a complaint on March 15, 2019
- 2. The Complainant, Pia Co, alleges that Simran Dhillon, Candidate for Students' Council (Faculty of Science)
 - a. Placed posters in the Chemistry Building less than ten feet apart;
 - b. Used campaign materials not containing the required markers;
 - c. Exceeded the maximum number of posters per building in the Chemistry Building;
 - d. Printed materials with other than the designated printer;
 - e. Posted a banner not coated with fire-retardant spray;

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- f. Posted a banner on a prohibited surface; and
- g. Posted a poster on a prohibited surface.
- 3. The Complainant provided photographic evidence to support the allegations
- 4. Ilyas Gora, Chief Returning Officer, investigated the matter

Ruling

Simran Dhillon, Candidate for Students' Council (Faculty of Science), did

- 1. Place posters in the Chemistry Building less than ten feet apart;
- 2. Print materials with other than the designated printer; and
- 3. Use campaign materials not containing the required markers.

Penalty

- 1. Simran Dhillon, Candidate for Students' Council (Faculty of Science), will be assessed a fine of
 - a. \$2.00 per poster less than ten feet apart; and
 - b. \$2.00 per poster not containing the required markers.

for a total of \$16.00 under the Schedule of Fines & Penalties

2. The offending campaign materials shall be destroyed

Decided: March 19, 2019 at 12:00

Time Limit for appeal: March 20, 2019 at 12:00

Please direct any inquiries to:

Ilyas Gora Chief Returning Officer University of Alberta Students' Union