

Elections and Referenda Policy

Oversight Body: Bylaw and Policy Review Committee

Date Passed by Council: November 19, 2020; Amended January 26, 2024, Amended January 23, 2025

Date of Next Review: November 2026

Definitions

Business Hours: the hours during the day when business is commonly conducted in Halifax, NS; 9am-5pm Atlantic Standard/Daylight Time, Monday through Friday.

Campaign: a coordinated effort to elect any candidate and/or to pass or defeat any referenda question during DSU elections or referenda.

Campaigning: advertising by any medium designed to influence voters.

Campaigning Period: the period during which candidates and referenda campaigns are permitted to advertise their campaigns.

Campaign Worker: an individual who has been asked by a candidate or referendum spokesperson and has agreed to assist that campaign with campaigning in any capacity.

Chief Returning Officer: CRO; the primary elections official.

Community Society: a DSU-ratified society that officially represents the voice of members within a community.

Candidate: any member who declares themselves to be running for any of the position up for election, has successfully completed all necessary

documentation and submitted it by the deadline, and who is otherwise eligible to run as a candidate according to the DSU Bylaws and this policy.

Elections Committee: the body which governs all DSU elections and referenda.

Elections Period: the period starting when nominations for an election or registration for a referendum opens and ending when the results of the elections or referendum become official.

Endorsement: any statement(s) and/or action(s) in support of a particular candidate or campaign by an individual, group, or organization other than the candidate or campaign themselves. Includes, but is not limited to, the promotion of materials from specific campaigns in the same electoral race.

Faculty-Level Society: a DSU-ratified society that officially represents the voice of members within a faculty.

Member: an individual who meets the membership criteria of the DSU as outlined in the DSU Bylaws.

Nomination Period: the period during which members can nominate themselves for positions up for election and/or when referendum campaigns can register.

Non-DSU Member: an individual who is not a member of the DSU but has been asked by a candidate or spokesperson to be a DSU elections or referenda campaign worker.

Official Results: elections and/or referenda results that are considered binding following the end of the Results Appeals Period and the resolution of any appeals.

Ordinary Resolution: a simple majority vote.

Resource: any material or asset that provides a non-monetary benefit to a candidate or campaign.

School Day: A day on which the University is open and in session, not including any Saturday, Sunday or statutory holiday in the province of Nova Scotia.

Society: a student organization that receives resources or funding from the DSU, is subject to oversight by the DSU, and/or fulfills all necessary requirements to be designated as a DSU society as set out in the DSU Bylaws and Society Policy.

Spokesperson: the member of the DSU chosen by a referendum campaign team to act as the official lead spokesperson for the campaign and as the team's sole liaison with the Elections Committee and CRO.

Special Resolution: a 2/3 majority vote.

Unofficial Results: elections and/or referenda results announced after the end of the Voting Period that may be appealed.

Voting Period: the period during which all members can vote in an election and/or referendum.

Purpose

To outline the rules and processes with which to conduct DSU elections, byelections, and referenda to ensure fair, equitable, democratic, and transparent practices.

Scope

The provisions of this Policy will apply to Dalhousie Student Union elections, byelections, and referenda. The CRO, Elections Committee, and all candidates, campaign spokespersons, campaign workers, and DSU staff, must abide by the provisions of this policy.

The entirety of this policy will apply to those candidates running for Executive Office and Board of Governors Representative positions in a DSU election. This policy will also apply to Faculty and Community Representative positions determined through a DSU election.

Faculty Representatives to be elected or appointed by an internal process of a faculty-level society will only be bound to sections one (1) and two (2) of this policy but must be elected or appointed through fair and democratic processes.

Community Representatives to be elected or appointed by an internal process of a community society will only be bound to sections one (1) and three (3) of this policy but must be elected or appointed through fair processes.

Policy Statement

1. Eligibility for Referenda and Elections

1.1. Any DSU member may run for office or serve as a referendum spokesperson. It is the responsibility of the CRO

to authenticate candidate and spokesperson eligibility with the Registrar's Office or Student Accounts.

1.1.1. In the case where a Faculty or Community Representative is elected or appointed through an internal society process, the appropriate executive member of that society, as determined by that society's internal processes, is responsible for determining candidate eligibility.

1.1.2 Co-op students enrolled in full-time placements are ineligible to run for executive positions due to the demanding time commitments and intensive workload associated with these roles.

1.2. Candidates running for office or serving as spokespersons must not sit on the Elections Committee or hold the position of CRO.

2. Faculty Representative Eligibility, Nominations, and Elections

2.1. Representatives from the following faculty constituencies must be elected or appointed through a verified process each year and given a voting seat on the Dalhousie Student Union Council:

1. Faculty of Agriculture

2. Faculty of Architecture and Planning
3. Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences
4. Faculty of Computer Science
5. Faculty of Dentistry
6. Faculty of Engineering
7. Faculty of Graduate Studies
8. Faculty of Health Professions
9. Faculty of Law
10. Faculty of Management
11. Faculty of Medicine
12. Faculty of Science

2.2. Eligibility to run for a Faculty Representative seat is based on a member's association to that faculty, defined according to the Office of the Registrar's records of the member's declared major(s).

2.2.1. Should a member be enrolled in a joint program at the University where they complete two or more degrees either consecutively or concurrently, they are considered to belong to all faculties in which any of their degree programs fall.

2.2.2. Should a member be enrolled in a graduate program at the University, they are considered to belong to both the Faculty of Graduate Studies and the Faculty under which their degree program falls.

2.3. Faculty-level societies have the option to elect their Faculty Representative through an elections or appointment process laid

out within their own Constitution or other governing document. The CRO must contact the President or suitable executive

member of each faculty level society at least four (4) weeks prior to the start of the Nomination Period to discuss this option.

2.3.1. Should a faculty-level society choose to elect their Faculty Representative through an internal election or appointment process, the society President or suitable executive member must provide the CRO with a copy of their governing documents outlining that process, as well as the text of a motion passed by special resolution at a meeting of the society's governing body indicating their decision to determine their representative through an internal process. These documents must be submitted to the CRO for verification no

later than two (2) weeks prior to the start of the Nomination Period to ensure they describe a fair, democratic process.

2.3.2. Faculty-level societies that elect their Faculty representatives internally must submit the name of their determined representative to the DSU Policy and Governance Coordinator directly following their election or appointment, and no later than April 30. The society must include the official minutes from the meeting of their governing body where their representative was determined.

2.4. Should a faculty-level society choose to elect their Faculty Representative through a DSU election, that society must notify the CRO and their constituents immediately and no later than two (2) weeks before the start of the Nomination Period. Faculty Representative candidates must follow the nomination requirements described in this policy.

2.4.1. Faculty-level societies that do not indicate to the CRO at least two (2) weeks before the Nomination

Period starts that they choose to elect their representative through a DSU election will

automatically default to an internal appointment or elections process.

- 2.4.2. Should a faculty-level society choose to elect their Faculty-level societies must re-indicate this choice for each Election Period where it is desired.

- 2.4.2.1. Faculty-level societies wishing to adopt the DSU Election process on a permanent basis must add a clause to this effect into their Constitution or other governing document. This decision must be communicated to the DSU Policy and Governance Coordinator.

- 2.4.3. Only members who belong to a given faculty, as determined by the faculty under which their degree program(s) fall, must be permitted to vote for that Faculty Representative in a DSU election.

2.5. Should any of the faculty societies listed in this policy cease to exist, the Faculty Representative positions for those constituencies must be determined through a DSU election until an alternative society is ratified and instated by ordinary resolution of the DSU Council.

3. Community Representative Eligibility, Nominations, and Elections

3.1. Representatives from the following communities must be elected or appointed through a verified process each year and given a voting seat on the Dalhousie Student Union Council:

1. Black Students
2. Indigenous Students
3. 2SLGBTQIA+ Students
4. Students with Disabilities

5. Women Students
6. International Students
7. Students in Residence

3.2. The following Community Representatives must be elected by members who belong to that community, based on the following criteria:

3.2.1. Black Students Representative

3.2.1.1. The Black Students Representative must self-identify as a Black student and be elected only by self-identifying Black Students.

3.2.2. 2SLGBTQIA+ Students Representative

3.2.2.1. The 2SLGBTQIA+ Students Representative must self-identify as a Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Pansexual, Transgender, Questioning, Gender-Fluid, Gender Nonconforming, Non-Binary, Intersex, Asexual, TwoSpirit, and/or Queer student and be elected only by self-identifying 2SLGBTQIA+ students.

3.2.3. Students with Disabilities Representative

3.2.3.1. The Students with Disabilities Representative must self-identify as a student with a disability and be elected only by self-identifying students with disabilities.

3.2.4. Women Students Representative

3.2.4.1. The Women Students Representative must self-identify as a woman and be elected only by self-identifying women students.

3.2.5. Students in Residence Representative

3.2.5.1. The Students in Residence Representative must live in a Dalhousie residence during their term and be elected only by students in residences.

3.2.6. International Students Representative

3.2.6.1 The International Student Representative must be classified as an International Student by Dalhousie University and elected only by self-identifying international students.

3.3. The Indigenous Students Representative must self-identify as an Indigenous student and be nominated to Council by the Dalhousie Indigenous Student's Collective no later than April 30th of each year by contacting the DSU Policy and Governance Coordinator.

3.4. The International Students Representative must be classified as an International Student by Dalhousie University and be nominated to Council by the Dalhousie International Students Association no later than April 30th of each year by contacting the DSU Policy and Governance Coordinator.

3.5. Where membership in a community is through self-identification, the DSU and its community societies must honor a candidate or nominee's self-identification and must not

request proof of their identity. Any declaration of self-identification with a community made by a candidate or nominee must be destroyed within thirty (30) days of the end of the Voting Period or their election/nomination to Council, whichever is later.

3.6. Should any of the community societies listed in this policy cease to exist, the Community Representative positions for those constituencies must be determined through a DSU election until an alternative society is ratified and instated by ordinary resolution of the DSU Council.

3.7. Should a society wish to take on the responsibility of nominating a Community Representative listed under 3.1 of this policy through internal elections or nominations processes of their society rather

than through a DSU Election, that society must be recognized as the official representative of that community through a referendum process carried out in accordance with the DSU Bylaws and this policy.

3.7.1. The general form of such a referendum question is:

“Do you support the designation of [Society

Name] as the official representative society of [Community] students within the

DSU's membership, and further do you support granting this society the authority to nominate the [Community] Representative on DSU Council and on any other bodies with a seat for a(n) [Community] Representative?”

3.7.1.1. Only students who are self-identified members of the community in question are eligible to vote in said referendum.

3.7.1.2. Societies that wish to take on this responsibility must demonstrate meaningful efforts and/or willingness to connect with all members who selfidentify as a part of that community, as determined by the DSU Council.

4. Referenda Registration

4.1. A referendum to increase DSU Fees over and above the rate of increase of the Canadian Consumer Price Index must adhere to the regulations laid out in DSU Bylaw 9.

4.2. Members wishing to register a society levy referendum question in the general election must adhere to the regulations laid out in DSU Bylaw 9.

4.2.1. The Referendum question must be found to meet the objectives of the DSU under Bylaw 3.

5. General Procedure for Referenda

5.1. Referenda will be held alongside the DSU's elections and are subject to the Elections Period schedule developed by the Elections Committee and approved by DSU Council each year.

5.2. Before posed to the membership, referendum questions must be approved by special resolution of the DSU Council. Approval must be granted prior to the start of the Nomination Period as determined in the Elections Period schedule.

5.3. A society or member wishing to propose a referendum question should reach out to the Chair of the DSU Council for guidance in phrasing their question and in bringing the motion forward to Council.

5.4. Council may only approve a referendum question that meets the following minimum criteria:

5.4.1. The question contains the dollar value of the proposed change.

5.4.2. The question is phrased to elicit yes/no answers and is phrased such that a vote of "yes" signifies agreement with the proposal and a vote of "no" signified disagreement with the proposal.

5.4.3. The proposal supports the objectives of the DSU as defined in the Constitution.

5.4.4. For referenda questions on the creation of new society levies, the motion is accompanied by a petition in support of the proposal containing full names, student numbers, and signatures of at least ten (10) percent of all members to whom the society levy would affect.

5.4.5. For referenda questions on changes to existing society levies or society fees, the motion is accompanied by both:

5.4.5.1. Official minutes from a meeting of the society's governing body indicating the proposal's approval by special resolution; and

5.4.5.2. A petition in support of the proposal containing the full names, student numbers, and signatures of at least five (5) percent of members that the change in fees would affect.

5.5. Council has the authority to offer amendments to a proposed referendum question that does not meet these minimum requirements. All proposed amendments are subject to approval by the member or society that proposed the referendum question.

5.5.1. Approval of an amendment to a referendum question proposed by an individual may be granted by a written statement circulated to Council, or by verbal statement of the approval within a minuted session of Council.

5.5.2. Approval of an amendment to a referendum proposed in line with Section 5.4.4 of this policy may be granted:

5.5.2.1. Where a proposed amendment changes the wording of a referendum question but not its intention, dollar value, or effect, by a written statement circulated to Council signed by at least ten percent (10%) of the original petitioners; or

5.5.2.2. Where a proposed amendment changes the intention, dollar value, or effect of the referendum question, by a petition circulated to Council signed by at least ten percent (10%) of all members to whom the society levy would apply. The petition must include full names, student numbers, and signatures for each signee.

5.5.3. Approval of an amendment to a referendum question proposed in line with Section 5.4.5 of this policy may be granted:

5.5.3.1. Where a proposed amendment changes the wording of the referendum question but not its intention, dollar value, or effect, by a special resolution of the society's council, board, or similar governance body; or

5.5.3.2. Where a proposed amendment changes the intention, dollar value, or effect of the referendum question, by both a special resolution of the society's council, board, or similar governance body and a petition in support of the amendment containing the names, student numbers, and signatures of at least five percent (5%) of members that the change in fees would affect.

5.6. Referendum Campaign Teams must register during the Nomination Period using the Campaign Information Form, which must be developed and published by the Elections Committee prior to the beginning of the Nomination Period. The form must indicate the spokesperson for the referendum campaign team and whether the team will be campaigning for the "YES" or "NO" option in the referendum.

5.7. No more than one Referendum Campaign Team may register for each option presented in the referendum. For further clarity, there may only be one "YES" team and one "NO" team. Should the CRO receive Registration Forms from more than one group seeking to campaign in favour of a particular side, they must immediately contact all relevant spokespeople to advise them of the issue. It must be the responsibility of the prospective Campaign Teams to select one spokesperson.

5.8. The CRO must set and administer a Referendum Campaign Information Meeting to be held between the end of the Nomination and Campaign Registration Period and the beginning of the Campaign Period.

5.8.1. Based on the circumstances of a given year, the CRO may choose to combine this meeting with the All Candidates Meeting for DSU Elections, or to hold a standalone meeting regarding referenda.

5.8.2. This meeting is mandatory for all campaign spokespersons and must also be open to campaign workers.

5.8.3. Any spokesperson who is unable to attend the Information Meeting must make alternate arrangements with the CRO at least forty-eight (48) hours before the event. Failure to do so may result in the disqualification of the Referendum Campaign Team as a whole.

5.9. The Campaign Period and Voting Period must follow the Council-approved elections timeline.

5.10. Referendum results must be published alongside General Election results.

5.11. Fee or levy changes brought on by successful referenda will, subject to any restrictions imposed by the University, be implemented for the next fall term following the referendum vote.

6. By-Election

6.1. Should any Executive Officer, Board of Governors Representative, Faculty Representative, and/or Community Representative position remain vacant following the DSU's annual elections or becomes vacant before October 1st, there must be a byelection held by October 31st. If necessary, DSU Council may appoint a councillor to act as an interim Executive Officer until the time where a by-election can be held.

6.2. Should any Executive Officer, Board of Governors, Faculty, or Community Representative position remain vacant following a by-election, the DSU Council must make an appointment.

6.2.1. After a by-election has been held, vacant Executive Officer, Board of Governors, Faculty, and Community Representatives may be filled by any member of the DSU.

6.2.2. The Oversight Committee must evaluate all candidates who have expressed interest in appointment to the vacant positions and provide recommendations to the DSU Council regarding

the filling of those positions and Council must then make the appointment.

6.3. Faculty-level and Community societies must be given the opportunity to temporarily hold one (1) voting seat on the Oversight Committee during any appointment under Section 6.2 of this policy that may affect their constituency.

6.4. Unless otherwise stipulated in the DSU bylaws or this policy, byelections will be administered in the same way as general elections.

6.5. Debates are not required for by-elections but may be planned if the Elections Committee determines they would be to the benefit of voters.

7. Elections Officials

7.1. The Elections Committee

7.1.1. DSU elections or referenda must be conducted and supervised by an Elections Committee as provided for in Section 9 of the DSU Bylaws.

7.1.2. The Elections Committee must be appointed by the DSU Council no later than September 30.

7.1.3. The Elections Committee must always be available during business hours and official events to serve as the supervising body of elections and referenda and to provide advice and guidance to the CRO or Deputy Returning Officer.

7.1.4. The Elections Committee must appoint a Deputy Returning Officer from among the Elections Committee members who will assume the responsibilities of the CRO in their absence.

7.1.5. The Elections Committee must assist in the completion of all elections and referenda procedures in collaboration with the CRO.

7.1.6. The Elections Committee must refer to the DSU Chief Returning Officer for training and inquiries upon their appointment each year.

7.1.7. For a decision of the Elections Committee to be valid, three (3) of the Committee members must be present at a meeting and the decision must be made through special resolution.

7.1.7.1. The CRO must be present at all meetings of the Elections Committee but is not permitted to vote.

7.1.8. A written report of any Elections Committee minutes will be made available to the public upon written request within a forty-eight (48) hour period.

Any discussion that may lead to a candidate or spokesperson/campaign being disqualified from the election must be held in-camera.

7.2. The Chief Returning Officer

7.2.1. Must report directly to and be supervised by the Elections Committee.

7.2.2. Must be autonomous from the executive officers of the DSU.

7.2.3. Must be appointed by the DSU Council no later than September 30.

7.2.4. Is to be paid hourly.

7.2.5. Must not be an executive officer, councillor, committee member, or employee of the DSU for the duration of their term.

7.2.6. Must not vote in the DSU elections or referenda.

7.2.7. Must not rule on any undefined violations, unspecified fine amounts, or interpretations of DSU policy and/or Bylaws without the demonstrated guidance of the Elections Committee.

7.2.8. In addition, the CRO must:

7.2.8.1. Authorize all official notices and elections and/or referenda publicity.

- 7.2.8.2. Set up the Elections Period schedule, subject to the provisions in this policy.
- 7.2.8.3. Compose the ballot subject to this policy and supervise the voting process.
- 7.2.8.4. Receive and analyze the Unofficial Results of the election and/or referenda from the official voting software, in collaboration with the Elections Committee.
- 7.2.8.5. Publish unofficial election and/or referenda results from the official voting software no later than twenty-four (24) hours after the Voting Period has ended.
- 7.2.8.6. Issue official election, referenda, or recount results after any appeals have been ruled, should any occur.
- 7.2.8.7. Submit an electronic copy of a post-election report to the DSU Policy and Governance Coordinator. The CRO must not be given their final paycheck until this report has been submitted.
- 7.2.8.8. Hold an All Candidates Meeting and Antioppression Training Session for all candidates and spokespersons.
- 7.2.8.9. Reserve any rooms in the Student Union Building for the election and/or referenda with the DSU Meetings and Events Manager.
- 7.2.8.10. Send out one (1) campus-wide email on the first day of the Campaigning Period notifying members when the Voting Period will open and where they can find more information on the candidates.
- 7.2.8.11. Send out one (1) campus-wide email on the last day of the Campaigning period notifying

members when the Voting Period will open and how they can vote.

7.2.8.12. Ensure the secure collection and destruction of all personal identification materials.

7.2.8.13. Monitor the conduct of all candidates, spokespersons, and campaign workers in collaboration with the Elections Committee, throughout the entirety of the Elections Period.

7.2.8.14. Prepare the online voting form to ensure that only members of a given faculty or community can vote in the election of a Faculty or Community Representative, or referenda question that impacts the given constituency.

7.2.8.15. Ensure they are fulfilling the extent of the CRO's responsibilities in accordance with all sections of this policy and the DSU Bylaws.

8. Elections and Referenda Rules and Regulations

8.1. General

8.1.1. A DSU Election must be held once a year to appoint the Executive Officers of the Union, Board of Governors Representatives, Faculty Representatives, and Community Representatives.

8.1.1.1. The DSU Elections Period must conclude no later than March 31 of each year.

8.1.1.2. The Policy and Governance

Coordinator must not be used as a resource or advisor by any candidate in any DSU Election.

8.1.1.3. Candidates may contact the Policy and Governance Coordinator only if the Chief Returning Officer is unresponsive during the course of the Elections.

- 8.1.2. All DSU Elections and referenda must be administered using principles of democracy and fairness.
- 8.1.3. All DSU Elections and referenda must consist of a general Elections Period during which the Nomination Period, Campaigning Period, and Voting Period occur.
- 8.1.4. Representatives elected to the Board of Governors or Senate are subject to approval and appointment by those bodies.
- 8.1.5. The Elections Committee must present the recommended Elections Period schedule to the DSU Council for approval at least three (3) weeks before the start of the Nomination Period.
- 8.1.5.1. The CRO must publish the approved Elections Period schedule to the membership no later than two (2) weeks before the Nomination Period. All positions up for election must be specifically listed in this notice.
- 8.1.5.2. The approved Elections Period schedule must include the time of day, Atlantic Standard Time, at which the Campaigning and Voting Periods start and end. It must also include the date(s) and time(s) of the All Candidates Meeting, Anti-O Training Session, a debate for each position, and all planned meetings of the Elections Committee.
- 8.1.5.3. The Elections Period schedule must be posted on the DSU website.
- 8.1.6. All violations of rules or regulations outlined in this policy may be met with a penalty in line with Appendix III of this policy.
- 8.1.7. All members of the DSU are subject to the Dalhousie University Code of Conduct. Offences against persons and/or property as defined in the Student Code of Conduct are strictly prohibited. Candidates, campaign workers, and spokespersons are expected to adhere to the Code and should be aware that the CRO and Elections Committee reserve the right to sanction violators of the Code as is deemed appropriate. The CRO and Elections Committee may apply punishments ranging in severity up to and including expulsion from the election.

8.1.8. No campaign may engage in libel, nor distribute material which could be construed as slanderous towards an opponent.

8.1.9. Any new interpretation or clarification of elections rules by the Elections Committee that occurs during the Campaigning Period must be noticed to all candidates and spokespersons within twentyfour (24) hours of being ruled on. The ruling will come into effect once all campaigns have been notified.

8.1.10. Accommodations for candidates and spokespersons may be made in accordance with the steps outlined in the Accommodations Policy. For the purposes of Elections and Referenda, the CRO will be considered the 'Supervisor.'

8.1.10.1. Accommodations must not provide an advantage and must not violate any substantial rules outlined by the Elections Committee or DSU policies.

8.1.11. If a candidate dies during the Campaign or Voting Periods, a byelection must be held for that position.

8.1.11.1. If the candidate dies on the day that the Unofficial Results are published and the results favor the deceased candidate, the results are void.

8.2. Nomination Period

8.2.1. Any nomination which includes false information, including but not limited to forged nomination signatures must be rejected at the discretion of the CRO.

8.2.1.1. Any nomination found to include false information after its approval is subject to immediate disqualification at the discretion of the Elections Committee.

8.2.2. Successful nominations for each position must be made by accurately submitting the completed nomination forms developed by the Elections Committee, before the end of the Nomination Period.

8.2.2.1. The CRO must publish the nomination forms to the membership no later than two (2) weeks prior to the start of the Nomination Period.

8.2.2.1.1. Nomination forms must include at least the following information:

- i. Nominee Name
- ii. Desired position
- iii. Major(s)/Program(s) & Year of Study
- iv. Full names, student numbers, and signatures of at least twenty-five (25) current students who support the candidacy of a nominee
- v. Nominee signature and date

8.2.2.2. All nominees must attend the "All Candidates Meeting". Any nominee who does not attend without making prior arrangements with the CRO at least twenty-four (24) hours before the meeting may have their nomination revoked at the discretion of the Elections Committee.

8.2.2.2.1. The All-Candidates Meeting will be held on the school day following the close of the Nomination Period.

8.2.2.2.2. During the All Candidates Meeting the CRO and Elections Committee must present:

- i. All policy, rules, schedules, and regulations of a DSU Election.
- ii. Any new, additional guidelines for the Elections Period not described in this policy.
- iii. The location of all poster display areas must be provided.
- iv. The official handles of all DSU election media accounts.

8.2.2.3. All nominees must attend the Anti-Oppression Training Session. Any nominee who does not attend without making prior arrangements with the CRO at least twenty-four (24) hours before the session may have their nomination revoked at the discretion of the Elections Committee.

8.2.2.3.1. The Anti-Oppression Training Session must be held before the beginning of the Campaign Period and may be held in conjunction with the All Candidates Meeting.

8.2.2.4. At the close of nominations, the CRO will submit the names and student numbers of all nominees, campaign workers, spokespeople, and signatories to each nomination to the Registrar's Office for verification of current student status.

8.2.2.4.1. All nominations must be published for the membership to view by the beginning of the Campaign Period, at which point nominees become candidates.

8.2.2.4.2. In the event that the Registrar's Office is delayed in verifying the data submitted, all campaigns will be able to proceed as normal until the verified data is returned.

8.2.2.5. Appeals regarding the verification of a nomination must be made in writing to the Elections Committee no later than twentyfour (24) hours after publication of the names of nominees. The Elections Committee must render a decision on any appeals within twentyfour (24) hours of receipt.

8.2.3. The nomination process for the Vice-President Finance and Operations must have the following, additional requirements:

8.2.3.1. The CRO must publish a technical questionnaire no later than two (2) weeks before the start of the Nomination Period. The questions must relate to the requirements of the VPFO position and must be approved by the Elections Committee.

8.2.3.1.1. Candidates for Vice-President Finance and Operations must submit a completed questionnaire to the CRO no later than the end of the Nominations Period.

8.2.3.1.2. The CRO must publish all completed questionnaires online before the start of the Campaigning Period.

8.2.4. Until the Voting Period starts, a candidate may withdraw their nomination form and have their name removed from the election. Upon submitting notice to the CRO (either in-person or through their official Dalhousie email address) of their intent to withdraw, the candidate must sign a written declaration of withdrawal and submit it to the CRO for approval. Once approved, the CRO will remove a candidate's name from the list of candidates.

8.2.4.1. A person who, to prevent the election of a candidate, knowingly publishes a false statement of withdrawal of a candidate that is not themselves, is guilty of an offence as defined by Appendix III of this policy.

8.3. Campaigning Period

8.3.1. All nominees must submit the Candidate Questionnaire and Campaign Information Form to the CRO no later than 12 noon on the day before the Campaigning Period starts. Spokespeople must submit a Campaign Information Form. Any nominee who does not submit either form may have their nomination revoked at the discretion of the Elections Committee.

8.3.1.1. The Candidate Questionnaire must include at least the full name, major(s)/program(s), and year of study of the candidate. Any other questions are to be determined by the Elections Committee each year.

8.3.1.2. The Campaign Information Form must include the full names, student numbers, and emails of all campaign workers. It must also include the name(s) and link(s) for any candidate websites and/or social media platforms to be used during the Campaigning Period.

8.3.1.3. Should a campaign worker cease to be a campaign worker after a Campaign Information Form is submitted, the candidate must notify the Elections Committee immediately via email.

8.3.1.4. Faculty, teaching assistants, and all other University staff must not serve as campaign workers.

8.3.2. No campaigning of any medium may take place outside of the Campaigning Period.

8.3.3. The Campaigning Period must be at least five (5) school days in length.

- 8.3.4. Campaigns must not accept offers from societies or external organizations. Offers include but are not limited to donated goods, funds, and/or services.
- 8.3.5. Candidates and spokespersons are responsible for the actions of their campaign workers and are solely liable for campaign violations.
- 8.3.6. There must be no campaigning of any kind at any of the University libraries, on-campus bars or residences except where the Elections Committee is holding an official event.
- 8.3.7. Campaigning must be restricted to Dalhousie University campuses. Public sidewalks adjoining campus buildings are considered for the purposes of this policy to be a part of the University.
- 8.3.8. Campaigns must not use coarse language or references to alcohol or drugs in any campaigning materials.
- 8.3.9. Candidates or spokespersons who work for the DSU in any capacity are not required to take a leave of absence for their work. However, these candidates must contact the CRO and inform them of their work. Candidates, spokespersons and campaign workers must not campaign while they are working.
- 8.3.10. DSU societies and student-run organizations may endorse a campaign if the opportunity for endorsement is presented to all candidates for that position.
- 8.3.10.1. Societies that wish to make endorsements must consider all candidates for a particular position for endorsement. A process for communication with candidates and determination of who to endorse is up to societies to determine.
- 8.3.10.2. Campaigns cannot request that individual students, societies, or organizations endorse them or campaign on their behalf.
- 8.3.10.3. The CRO will send out an email to current ratified DSU societies prior to the beginning of the campaign period to inform them of this requirement. The email list for this communication will be provided by the Vice President, Internal.
- 8.3.10.4. Executive Officers may not endorse candidates unless they themselves are running for a position or are registered on a referendum campaign team. Non-executive Councillors may

endorse campaigns; however, they may not use their position title in any publications of the endorsement.

8.3.11. Candidates and spokespersons must not endorse one another, run in a slate, or campaign together except where the Elections Committee is holding an official event.

8.3.12. All candidates and spokespersons are permitted a total campaign value of two hundred dollars (\$200.00), excluding the cost of printing official posters. The specific guidelines relevant to campaign expenditures can be found in Appendix IV of this policy, to which all campaigns are subject.

8.3.13. Candidates, spokespersons, Elections Committee members, and the CRO must also abide by the specific regulations outlined in Appendix II of this policy.

8.3.14. Incumbent candidates running for executive and council positions must:

8.3.14.1. Not be permitted to campaign during any office hours, official meetings, or interactions with members while acting in their official capacity as an executive officer.

8.3.14.2. Be permitted to carry out all essential duties reasonably incident to their portfolio.

8.3.14.3. Submit a schedule of all office hours, official meetings, and/or events during which they are to act as a representative of the DSU and therefore are not permitted to campaign, to the CRO before the Campaigning Period starts.

8.3.14.4. Not be permitted to use their incumbent status or the resources available to them as an executive officer and council member in a manner which manipulates or extorts members or provides them an unethical advantage over other candidates.

8.3.15. Election events including, but not limited to, debates, candidate meet and greets, trips to the Agricultural Campus and forums will be organized by the CRO in conjunction with the Elections Committee.

8.3.15.1. At least one election event, generally in the form of a debate, will be planned during a regular general election. The format will be at the discretion of the Elections Committee and CRO but must be open to all students and offer opportunity for candidates to present their platforms.

8.4. Voting Period

8.4.1. The Voting Period must be two (2) school days in length.

8.4.1.1. The CRO may extend the Voting Period by up to two (2) additional days, only in the event that quorum has not been reached; a

technical error occurs that interferes with some or all voters' ability to vote; or another major disturbance impacts voting in some way.

8.4.1.2. The decision to extend the voting period will be immediately emailed to Elections Committee and all campaigns. Updates about extension to the voting period will be posted on the Union's website and social media at the earliest opportunity following the decision.

8.4.2. Voting must be done using an anonymous, online ballot.

8.4.3. Each ballot must include the option to spoil that ballot.

8.4.4. Votes will be collected using a preferential voting system.

8.4.4.1. Each candidate must be credited with the number of first votes for their name.

8.4.4.2. Where no candidate received more than fifty percent (50%) of the total number of first choices, then the candidate with the least number of choices will be struck off the ballot and the second choices marked on all ballots for that candidate will be credited to the candidates for whom they were cast.

8.4.4.3. Where a candidate whose name has been struck off the ballot is the next choice on the ballot, then the ballot will be counted in favour of the candidate subsequent in choice to the candidate whose name has been struck.

8.4.4.4. Where two (2) or more candidates are tied with the least number of votes, both or all must be struck from the ballot. Should this procedure result in only one candidate remaining, that candidate will be elected.

8.4.4.5. This process will continue until one (1) candidate has a majority of the votes.

8.4.5. Should a tie occur for any position, a run-off election must be held between the tied candidates. The timeline for the run-off must be as follows:

8.4.5.1. Nominations must not be reopened.

8.4.5.2. The Campaigning period must begin no later than (2) school days after the announcement of the Election Period for the run-off election and extend no more than five (5) days.

8.4.5.3. The Voting Period must follow all guidelines of a regular Voting Period as provisioned in this policy.

8.4.6. Should a candidate for any position run unopposed there will be a yes/no option after the candidate's name on the ballot. Any candidate that runs unopposed must participate in any official Elections events.

8.4.7. The online voting system must be in operation continuously from at least 8am to 8pm Atlantic Standard Time on each day of voting.

8.4.8. The methods of voting for all DSU elections and referenda must be as follows:

8.4.8.1. The full names of all candidates must be placed in random order on each ballot.

8.4.8.2. Candidate names must be grouped by position and referendum questions must be listed on a separate page.

8.4.9. Any one member's vote must belong to that member alone. There must be no voting by proxy.

8.4.9.1. Online voting must not be done in a group setting or in the presence of persons who may influence the direction of a member's vote.

8.4.10. Should a member with a disability require assistance to use the online voting software, they may seek it from the CRO.

8.4.11. Electronic balloting provides opportunity for abuse, intended or not, by voters, candidates, campaign workers, and spokespersons. Abuse of electronic balloting includes, but is not limited to the following types of action:

8.4.11.1. Efforts by voters to vote more than once.

8.4.11.2. Efforts by candidates, spokespersons, or campaign workers to influence voters by holding social events at which members are encouraged to vote on the premises.

8.4.11.3. Offering favours or gifts in exchange for votes.

8.4.11.4. Pressuring members to vote in the presence of a candidate, spokesperson, campaign workers, or any other member.

8.4.11.5. Bringing the means of electronic voting to a member.

8.4.12. In determining whether abuse of electronic voting has occurred, the CRO, as supervised by the Elections Committee, must consider potential abuses on a case-by-case basis. Abuse must be interpreted in the spirit of this section and in the spirit of upholding the principle of an

anonymous, secret ballot vote. The CRO and Elections Committee may apply punishments for abuses ranging in severity up to and including expulsion from the election.

9. Elections and Referenda Offenses

9.1. All candidates and spokespersons are solely responsible for their actions and those of their campaign workers and are liable for non-refundable fines according to Appendix IV of this policy.

9.2. The CRO will have the authority to enforce the provisions of this policy except in the case of an appeal.

9.3. The Elections Committee may lay charges of violations of its own volition.

9.3.1. Should the Elections Committee find there has been an egregious violation it may:

9.3.1.1. Declare that the election in its entirety, the election of a specific position, or the election of a specific candidate be voided.

9.4. Charges of violation against any campaign may be submitted in writing to the CRO who must contact the candidate or spokesperson which leads that campaign within twenty-four (24) hours to notify them of their right to appeal. The CRO must rule on the charge within two (2) days of receiving it.

9.4.1. The CRO must notify the candidate or spokesperson on the status of a charge immediately after ruling on that charge.

9.5. Appeals against charges of violation levied by the CRO must be made in writing to the Elections Committee within fortyeight (48) hours of the CRO's ruling on that charge.

9.6. The Elections Committee must meet to discuss any appeals against charges of violation and decide no later than two (2) days after receiving an appeal on the appropriate action(s) to be taken. The Elections Committee must notify the CRO and the candidate or spokesperson who submitted the appeal immediately after ruling on the appeal.

9.7. Appeals against a ruling levied by the Elections Committee must be submitted in writing to the Judicial Board within two (2) days of the candidate or spokesperson being informed of the ruling. The Judicial Board will then investigate and return their findings.

9.8. If a ruling to disqualify a campaign is made during the Campaigning Period, the candidate or spokesperson which leads that campaign must be notified immediately.

9.8.1. Should no appeals occur, a disqualification will come into effect two (2) days after the ruling to disqualify was made, so long as those two (2) days do not fall during the Voting Period.

- 9.8.2. Should an appeal occur, a disqualification will come into effect two (2) days after the last ruling on the matter is made and verified by the CRO, so long as those two (2) days do not fall during the Voting Period.
- 9.8.3. Rulings to disqualify a campaign must not be made known to any party during the Voting Period. Such rulings will come into effect once the Voting Period has ended, and two (2) days after the last ruling on the matter.
- 9.8.4. Should a spokesperson be disqualified, the referenda campaign must also be disqualified.
- 9.8.5. Should a winning candidate be disqualified after the Voting Period has ended, the position for which that candidate was running must be brought to byelection.

9.9. The CRO must publish an updated list of all offenses, except those that result in disqualification, outside of the designated DSU Elections Office

9.10. A candidate or spokesperson is deemed to be informed of an Elections Committee ruling six (6) business hours after the ruling is emailed.

10. Appeals of Elections and Referenda Results

10.1. Any member may challenge the validity of election, referendum, or recount results in a written submission to the Elections Committee no later than two (2) school days after the end of the Voting Period.

10.1.1. Written submissions appealing election, referendum, or recount results must contain the appellant's full name, student number, contact information, and signature, as well as a detailed explanation of the reason(s) for challenging the results.

10.2. The Elections Committee must investigate the appeal and rule on the appropriate action(s) within one (1) week of the submission.

10.2.1. Should a member challenge the ruling of an Elections Committee investigation into the validity of an election, referendum or recount result, the member may submit a petition to the Judicial Board to review the Elections Committee's findings within one (1) week of the Elections Committee's initial ruling.

10.3. No record of the vote for an election or referendum may be destroyed until thirty (30) days after the end of the Voting Period.

10.4. Should no appeals occur, the Unofficial Results of any election and/or referenda will automatically become Official Results two (2) school days after the end of the Voting Period.

10.5. Should an appeal occur, the Unofficial Results of any election and/or referenda will automatically become Official Results two (2) days after the last ruling on the matter is made and verified by the CRO. Once the elections and/or referenda results are made official any challenges of the results must be made in accordance with the DSU Bylaws.

Appendix I: Elections Timeline

Before the Elections Period Starts:

- I. The Elections Committee and CRO must contact the DSU Chief Returning Officer or DSU Policy and Governance Coordinator to ask any questions.

4 Weeks Before the Nomination Period Starts:

- I. Deadline for the CRO to contact the President/suitable executive of each faculty-level society to discuss Faculty Representative election/appointment options

3 Weeks Before the Nomination Period Starts:

- I. Deadline for the Elections Committee to present the recommended Elections Period schedule to the DSU Council for approval & for the Council to approve the schedule.

2 Weeks Before the Nomination Period Starts:

- I. Deadline for the CRO to publish the nomination forms
- II. Deadline for the CRO to publish the VPFO technical questionnaire
- III. Deadline for the CRO to publish the Elections Period schedule to the membership.
- IV. Deadline for the CRO to officially notice the Elections Period and specifically list all positions up for election.
- V. Deadline for faculty-level societies to contact the CRO and indicate they wish to elect their Faculty Representative through an internal process and submit the required supporting documents.
- VI. Deadline for a faculty-level society that chooses to elect their Faculty Representative through a DSU election to notify their members to promote that choice.
 - I. Faculty-level societies that do not make this indication by the deadline will automatically default to an internal appointment or elections process.

Before Nomination Period Begins

- I. Deadline for referenda questions to be approved by special resolution of Council.

Nomination Period Starts

Before the End of the Nomination Period:

- I. Deadline for VPFO nominees to submit the VPFO technical questionnaire
- II. Deadline for all nominees and spokespersons to submit completed nomination forms

Nomination Period Ends

School Day Following Close of Nomination Period

- I. All Candidates Meeting is held.

Before the Campaign Period Starts:

- I. Deadline for CRO to publish all completed VPFO technical questionnaires.
- II. No campaigning of any medium may take place.
- III. Deadline for incumbent candidates running for executive office to submit their schedules to the CRO.
- IV. Anti-Oppression Training must be held.
- V. All nominations must be published for the membership to view. Appeals regarding the validity of these nominations can be made for twenty-four (24) hours following this publication.

12 Noon, the Day Before the Campaigning Period Starts:

- I. Deadline for all candidates to submit the Candidate Questionnaire and Campaign Information Form.
- II. Deadline for referenda campaign spokespersons to submit the Campaign Information Form.

Campaigning Period Starts

First Day of Campaigning Period:

- I. CRO must send out a campus-wide email with elections and voting details.
- II. Deadline for campaigns to submit 1-minute videos for the DSU elections webpage.

Last Day of Campaigning Period:

- I. CRO must send out a campus-wide email with elections and voting details.

Campaigning Period Ends

Before the Voting Period Starts:

- I. Deadline for a candidate to withdraw their nomination.

Voting Period Starts

- I. 2 days must transpire.

Voting Period Ends

No Later than 24 Hours After the Voting Period End:

- I. Deadline for CRO to publish unofficial election/referenda results to the membership.

No Later than 2 School Days After the Voting Period Ends:

- I. Deadline for a member to submit a written appeal to challenge the validity of election, referendum or recount results.
- II. The Elections Committee must investigate and decide on any actions related to an appeal within 1 week of its submission.
- III. A member may challenge the ruling of an Elections Committee through submission of a petition to the Judicial Board within 2 days of the Election Committee's ruling.

2 Days after the End of the Voting Period:

- I. Should no appeals occur, the Unofficial Results of any election and/or referendum will automatically become the Official Results.

I. Should an appeal occur, the Unofficial Results of any election and/or referendum will automatically become the Official Results 2 days after the last ruling on the matter is made and verified by the CRO.

Election Period Ends

30 Days after the End of the Voting Period:

- I. All declarations made by a candidate or nominee for a Community Representative position must be destroyed.
- II. Record of the vote for an election or referendum must now be destroyed.

11. Appendix II: Campaign Regulations

- I. *Poster Regulations*

- I. It will be the responsibility of the CRO and Elections Committee to secure poster display space in as many University buildings as possible.
 - II. Poster display spaces secured by the CRO and Elections Committee must house one (1) poster per campaign. These posters must be distributed equally and when possible, grouped by position.
 - i. Posters not approved and posted by the CRO and Elections Committee must not be displayed by any campaign in any location.
 - III. It will be the responsibility of the CRO and Elections Committee to obtain, approve, print, and display campaign posters, of a maximum size determined by the Elections Committee and communicated during the All Candidates Meeting.
 - IV. Posters that have been vandalized or damaged will be replaced by the Elections Committee as soon as possible. Notice of damaged posters may be given to the CRO who must replace them within twenty-four (24) hours of receiving the notice.
 - V. The Elections Committee will make regular rounds to inspect posters.
 - VI. All posters must be taken down by the Elections Committee no earlier than the end of the Voting Period.
 - VII. Campaigns must submit electronic copies of their posters to the CRO for approval and printing by the deadline noted in the elections timeline.
- II. *Other Forms of Campaigning*
- I. Advertisements placed in The Dalhousie Gazette or The Sextant are subject to limitations by those publications.
 - II. Campaign displays and tabling within the DSU must be booked with the DSU Meetings and Events Manager and with the Facilities Manager of any non-DSU buildings. All

display and tabling approvals must be submitted to the CRO for verification.

- III. The use of any physical campaign materials including posters within classrooms is not permitted.
- IV. Verbal campaigning in classrooms is permitted when express written permission is given to a campaign by the presiding faculty member. All class talks must be verified by the CRO before they occur by presenting a faculty member's note of permission to the CRO.
- V. Campaigns must distribute handbills directly to members.
 - i. Campaigns must submit electronic copies of their posters to the CRO for approval no later than twentyfour (24) hours after the Nomination Period has ended.
 - ii. Handbills must be no larger than 4.25 inches and 5.5 inches in size.
 - iii. Campaigns are responsible for printing and distributing their own handbills.
 - iv. The use of Union or University facilities not available to all campaigns is not permitted. This includes, but is not limited to:
 - DSU branding and logos.
 - DSU television screens.
 - University branding, logos, footage, and 'tiger mascot' costume.
 - The facilities of the offices of the DSU or any society under its jurisdiction and any resources or promotional materials owned by the DSU and its societies. This includes, but is not limited to:
 - society funds, websites, email accounts, and/or distribution lists.
- VI. The use of stickers is not permitted.
 - i. Only water-soluble chalk may be used for chalking.
 - ii. Chalking within ten (10) feet of doors is

- prohibited. iii. Chalking on vertical surfaces or buildings is prohibited. iv. Chalking on any recreational or athletic field is prohibited.
- v. It is the responsibility of the candidate, campaign workers, or spokesperson to remove chalking by the end of the Campaign Period.

III. Media Regulations

- I. All forms of media may be used during the Campaigning Period except where explicitly prohibited by the Elections Committee and noticed during the All Candidates Meeting.
- II. Any additional media platforms not listed below must be used in accordance with the spirit of this section of the policy.
- III. All accounts of candidates, spokespersons, and/or campaign workers that are used for the purposes of campaigning during the Campaigning Period must be public.
 - i. New accounts, pages, and groups may become live before the Campaign Period but are not permitted to accept followers or make posts or messages of any kind until the start of the Campaign Period.
 - ii. Personal accounts may remain live before the Campaign Period but are not permitted to include any mention of any campaign or the election in the account bio, profile picture, or in any new posts or messages, until the start of the Campaign Period. New posts and messages on a personal account are permitted before the Campaign Period begins, as long as they are not used for the purposes of campaigning and do not mention any campaign or the election.

- iii. Media pages and groups may remain live after the end of the Campaigning Period, but campaigns must not make further posts or accept more followers.

Campaigns must not send any further messages.

- iv. Candidates, spokespersons, and campaign workers are permitted to use their personal media pages to promote voting during the Voting Period but must not refer to their campaigns.

IV. Campaigns may not use media pages or groups created for use in past DSU elections.

V. All emails and media campaign materials must include:

- i. A link to the DSU elections webpage.
- ii. The official elections' hashtag
- iii. Tags of the DSU elections account or the DSU account in absence of the DSU elections account.

IV. Video Regulations

- i. Each campaign is encouraged to create a one (1) minute video that will be used on the DSU elections webpage.
- ii. Campaigns are permitted to make further videos but only one video may be used on the DSU elections webpage.
- iii. All videos must be submitted to the CRO for approval.
- iv. To be used on the webpage, the video must be submitted no later than the first day of the Campaigning Period.

VII. Email Regulations

- i. Campaigns must only send emails to those members who have given them their email address for campaigning purposes.
- ii. Members must have the option of unsubscribing from the email list by sending an email to the campaign.

VIII. *Facebook Regulations*

- i. Campaigns may create a new Facebook page or group to use for the duration of the Campaigning Period or they may use their personal Facebook pages.
- ii. Campaigns may use Facebook events that extend into the Voting Period.
 - 1. No campaigning materials may be posted during the Voting Period.
 - 2. The link to the Facebook event must be submitted under "Social Media Accounts" in the Nominations Package.
 - 3. The host(s) of the event may only be the candidate or listed campaign workers or spokespersons.

IX. *Twitter Regulations*

- i. Each campaign may create a new Twitter account to use for the duration of the Campaigning Period or they may use their personal account.

X. *Snapchat Regulations*

- i. Each campaign may create a new Snapchat account to use for the duration of the Campaigning Period or they may use their personal account.
- ii. All snapchats must be sent to the DSU elections snapchat account including stories.

XI. *Instagram Regulations*

- i. Each campaign may create a new Instagram account to use for the duration of the Campaigning Period or they may use their personal account.
- ii. All posts and stories must tag the specified official DSU account.

XII. *TikTok Regulations*

- i. Each campaign may create a new TikTok account to use for the duration of the Campaigning Period or they may use their personal account.
- ii. Stitches and duets are not permitted.
- iii. All posts must tag #dsuvotes #dsuelxn and the specified official DSU account if applicable.

XIII. *Discord Regulations*

- i. Campaigns may use pre-existing channels to promote their campaigns.
- ii. Each campaign may create a new Discord channel and account to use for the duration of the Campaigning Period or they may use their account.

XIV. *Reddit Regulations*

- i. Campaigns may use pre-existing subreddits to promote their campaigns.
- ii. Each campaign may create a new subreddit and account to use for the duration of the Campaigning Period or they may use their account.

12. Appendix III: Offenses and Fines Table

Offense	Fine
Poster located outside of the Elections Committee poster display area	\$5.00
Prohibited displays	\$20.00
Pre/post Campaigning Period campaigning	\$20.00/incident
Email violations *1 incident refers to 100 emails	\$20.00/incident
Social Media violations	\$5.00/post/story
Use of prohibited DSU or Dalhousie resources	\$50.00/incident
Additional violations according to Section 8 and 9, and/or Appendix II of this policy	Up to \$50.00/incident at the discretion of the CRO
Incomplete Nomination Forms	Rejection of nomination at the discretion of the CRO
Non-attendance of the All Candidates Meeting or Anti-Oppression Training Session	Rejection of the nomination at discretion of Elections Committee
Failure to submit a Candidate Questionnaire or Campaign Information Form	Rejection of nomination at discretion of Elections Committee
Failure of a VPFO candidate to submit a completed technical questionnaire.	Rejection of nomination

Tampering with the Elections Committee poster display area	Automatic disqualification
Spending over the maximum \$200.00 campaign expenditure	Automatic disqualification
Accruing more than \$100.00 fines	Automatic disqualification
Attempted interference with the voting process	Automatic disqualification
Impersonating a candidate	Automatic disqualification
Slandorous statements, harassment, discriminatory behaviour, violation of the Dalhousie Student Code of Conduct, and/or violations of law.	Automatic disqualification

13. Appendix IV: Campaign Expenditures

- I. No campaign may exceed a total expenditure of two hundred dollars (\$200.00), including any fines levied by the CRO or Elections Committee.
- II. To qualify as a campaign expenditure, the primary purpose of a good or service must be for campaigning.
- III. The Vice President Finance and Operations may provide each campaign an advance equal to the amount specific in their application for the purposes of facilitating their campaign. Applications for advances must be submitted in writing to the VPFO no later than one (1) week prior to the start of the Campaigning Period.
 - I. Should a campaign have unused funds they must return those funds to the VPFO within one (1) week of the end of the Elections Period.

- IV. No campaign may receive discounts that are not available to all members.
- V. Any in-kind good or service given to a campaign will be assigned a 'market-value' price as determined by the Elections Committee and included in the total expenditure for that campaign.
 - I. Goods and/or professional skills belonging to a candidate, spokesperson, or campaign worker are exempt from this regulation.
- VI. For a candidate or spokesperson to receive their reimbursement, an itemized account of all campaign expenditures must be submitted to the Vice-President Finance and Operations within forty-eight (48) hours of the close of the Voting-Period. These accounts must include a written receipt or bill for each separate item, signed by a candidate or spokesperson.
- VII. Any fines levied by the CRO or Elections Committee to a campaign may be deducted from that campaign's two hundred-dollar (\$200.00) expenditure total.
 - I. Should the addition of levied fines to a campaign's expenditure total result in that campaign exceeding the expenditure total, the Elections Committee will determine if those fines must be owed to the DSU according to the seriousness of the offenses. Any fines must be collected by the Vice-President Finance and Operations within one (1) week following the end of the Elections Period.

14. Appendix V: Important Dates

- I. April 30
 - I. Deadline for faculty-level societies to contact the DSU Policy and Governance Coordinator to submit the name of the Faculty Representative they have internally elected or appointed to that position, along with all supporting documents.

- II. Deadline for the Dalhousie International Students Association to appoint an International Students Representative to the DSU Council by contacting the DSU Policy and Governance Coordinator.
 - III. Deadline for the Dalhousie Indigenous Students Collective to appoint an Indigenous Students Representative to the DSU Council by contacting the DSU Policy and Governance Coordinator.
- II. September 30
- I. Deadline for the Elections Committee and CRO to be appointed by the DSU Council.
- III. October 31
- I. Deadline to hold, but not necessarily to have concluded, a By-election in the case that an Executive Officer, Board of Governors, Faculty, or Community Representative position is vacant following the annual DSU election or becomes vacant before October 1st.
- IV. March 31
- I. Deadline for the annual DSU Elections Period to conclude.