

# All Candidates Meeting

January 9<sup>th</sup>, 2022 7pm via Zoom

WILFRID LAURIER UNIVERSITY  
**STUDENTS'  
UNION** 

# Agenda

- ▣ Welcome!
- ▣ Contact Info
- ▣ Campaign Period
- ▣ Expectations
- ▣ Spirit of Elections
- ▣ Voting Systems
- ▣ Demerits
- ▣ Appeals
- ▣ Non-Campaign Team Members
- ▣ Important Dates/ Sign Up/Communication

# Welcome!

- Congratulations!
- Best of luck on behalf of the Elections Team!
- Campaigning begins a half hour after this meeting! Or otherwise noted by CRO/DRO
- For all communications, please send them to Karneet (sucro@wlu.ca) and Cc Andrew ([subboardchair@wlu.ca](mailto:subboardchair@wlu.ca))
- Karneet will be sending an email with the link to the FB group following this meeting.

# Contact Information

- ▣ Andrew Dang
  - ▣ Chair of the Board, Chief Governance Officer (CGO)
  - ▣ [suboardchair@wlu.ca](mailto:suboardchair@wlu.ca)
  - ▣ Cell in case of an emergency: 647-879-9340
  
- ▣ Karneet Chahal
  - ▣ Chief Returning Officer (CRO)
  - ▣ [sucro@wlu.ca](mailto:sucro@wlu.ca)
  - ▣ Cell in case of an emergency: 647-700-5204

# Campaign Period

- ▣ January 9<sup>th</sup>, 30 minutes following this meeting or otherwise noted until 30 minutes before the opening of polls on January 25<sup>th</sup> (7:30am)
- ▣ It will be busy, but manageable!
- ▣ Both active and passive campaigning on Voting days is strictly prohibited.
- ▣ Familiarize yourself with the Elections Policies

This is your responsibility!

# Expectations

- All marketing and promotional material must be sent to Karneet (Waterloo and Brantford)
  - Materials for campaigning **MUST** be approved before it is posted/shared
    - This includes post descriptions
- Approval for all campaign materials will begin after the meeting has ended
- If you require any other approval after the ACM, contact Karneet or Andrew to arrange a time to have your material reviewed

# Expectations

- ▣ Presidential Candidate(s):
  - ▣ Email Karneet at [sucro@wlu.ca](mailto:sucro@wlu.ca) on or before January 12<sup>th</sup> at 5:00pm 2022 with ideas to work with for Presidential Menus. Please cc [suboardchair@wlu.ca](mailto:suboardchair@wlu.ca) on these emails.
  
- ▣ Office Procedures
  - ▣ Office Hours: By appointment please!
  - ▣ Office Locations:
    - ▣ Zoom
  - ▣ Email/Communications
  - ▣ Expenditure Regulations and Processes

# The Spirit of Elections

- The goal of the Elections' team is to facilitate an accountable, fair and FUN election for all Laurier students
- We aim to uphold the integrity of Wilfrid Laurier University and our Students' Union
- We encourage candidates to be creative and to engage the student body
- We expect the candidates and their campaign teams to abide by university policies and election policies alike
- Do NOT try to demerit another candidate out of the race

Remember, the goal is to put your best self out there; not to tear others down



# Open Forum

- Open Forum is a chance for students to ask you questions about why you would be best for the position
- It is not a debate, rather an expression of your opinion on issues that affect students
- Board of Directors – you will be split up into randomized groups so that students have a better opportunity to get to know you
- January 12<sup>th</sup> 12:00 pm & January 19<sup>th</sup> 3:00pm via Zoom
- Look out for sign up links in the Facebook Candidates Group

# Radio Laurier Interviews

- Radio Laurier will be affording all candidates an opportunity to be interviewed On Air over the period of campaigning. Keep an eye out for a link that will be posted in the FB group.

# Elections Policies

- A detailed copy of Elections and Referendum Policies can be found on the Students' Union Website under #LaurierVotes

All policies are important so be sure to read through to ensure you are not in violation of any of these policies. If you have any questions, please send them to Karneet and Cc Andrew

# Policy 1: Student Elections Code of Conduct

- Outlines what is acceptable conduct by Candidates and their teams during the election period
- If you do not follow the Code of Conduct you and your team are subject to demerits
- One must not harass, aggressively campaign towards students
- One must refrain from using profanity, slander, derogatory statements or disrespecting the electoral process.
- Respect the rules of all Students Union business operations including but not limited to the Turret, Wilfs, Brantford Williams

# Policy 2: Campaigning

- Active Campaigning
  - Any direct and immediate act where a vote is solicited through direct engagement with a member of the WLU Students' Union
- Passive Campaigning
  - Wearing campaign shirts, wearing buttons
- Campaign Period
  - 30 minutes after ACM or otherwise noted by CRO, until 30 minutes before opening of polls
- Absolutely no in-person campaigning

# Policy 2: Reimbursements

- ▣ Approval of campaign items of all kinds (including posters) must be done by CRO or warrants a demerit
- ▣ Directors: \$100
- ▣ Senators/Governors: \$30
- ▣ Referendum Party Chair: \$300
- ▣ Presidents: \$500
- ▣ Must submit receipts by January 24<sup>th</sup> 12 noon to CRO
- ▣ Gifts in Kind – Will count towards your reimbursements

# Policy 3: Promotional Materials

- All materials bearing the candidates' name, likeness, image or brand **MUST** be approved by the CRO (Karneet)
  - Please send a digital copy of all promotional media to Karneet
  - If material have been purchased and fail to be approved, they will not be reimbursed
  
- Every candidate must use the #LaurierVotes logo
  
- Be sure to tag the @lauriervotes account in your posts (main and story)
  
- Use the hashtag #LaurierVotes2022 in your description, if you'd like
  
- All Board of Governors and Senate candidates must use the WLU logo as well.
  - Elections policy 14.1.2.4

# Policy 3: Cont'd

- Social Media Policy
  - Facebook
    - Personal Facebook pages or Fan pages are allowed so long as they have been approved by the CRO
    - Posting in groups such as Accepted Classes or Residence Floor groups is NOT tolerated and you will receive demerit points
  - Official Mailing Groups
    - Candidates cannot send out emails to any groups, similar to posting in Facebook groups
- Please respect students' wishes if they do not want to be contacted or removed from contact lists (Snapchat, etc.)



# Policy 4: Appeals

- Minor Offences (1): promotional material violations
- Moderate Offences (3): illegal campaigning, using unapproved materials, repetition of minor offences, exceeding spending limits by 10%
- Major Offences (5): slander, libel, excessive spending over 10%, abuse of candidate/ referendum chair's position, use of official mailing lists
- Not an extensive list

# Policy 4: Cont'd

- Consequences
  - 7 demerits (Referendum Chair) = new chair is selected
  - 10 demerits (Referendum Chair) = Sacrifice reimbursements
  - 7 demerits = automatically sacrifices 50% of reimbursements
  - 10 demerits = disqualification, (automatically subject to appeal)
  
- Discretion based:
  - Karneet will decide on a case by case basis
    - At no point will a demerit be awarded due to an error in interpretation or dereliction of duties of an Elections Team Official

# Appeals

- If you are awarded a demerit, you have an opportunity to appeal your demerit if you do not think you deserve it
- The appeals committee is comprised of Karneet, Andrew, 2 Directors and 2 students at large (one from each campus)
- Appeals will be handled in a timely manner – as best as possible within 24 hours from the time the appeal was received

# Appeals

- A candidate or referendum chair must provide written notice in hard or electronic copy to the Chair of the Board, Chief Governance Officer of any appeal of demerit awarded by the CRO or DRO by 11:59pm the following business day.
- Email Andrew, ([subboardchair@wlu.ca](mailto:subboardchair@wlu.ca)) with a reason for why you have a case for why you should not have been awarded a demerit
- Any disqualifications will be prompted to an automatic appeal process
- Any decision made by the Appeals Committee shall be final and shall be communicated to the candidate/Referendum chair immediately following the decision

# Sample Demerit Notification

January 17, 2022 12:50pm

Candidate,

You have received three (3) demerits for campaigning with unapproved materials. You have been found to be using a Facebook Fan page (or posting unapproved posters or using unapproved poster boards) which have not been approved by the CRO. More information can be found in Election Policy Sections 14 and 15 of the Wilfrid Laurier Students' Union Elections Policy.

If you have any questions, please contact Karneet Chahal Chief Returning Officer at [sucro@wlu.ca](mailto:sucro@wlu.ca)

**Karneet Chahal**  
Chief Returning Officer  
Wilfrid Laurier Students' Union

# Sample Appeal

Appeal

January 18, 2022 10:05am

Dear Andrew,

Please accept this notice as my official appeal to the demerit issued by the CRO Karneet Chahal on January 17 at 12:50pm for a violation of Policy 14 with reference to section 14.1 I was unaware that I had to show my Fan Page to the CRO prior to its launch and thought I would send it to her after it was up and running to make sure it was functioning. Therefore, I feel as though this appeal is unwarranted and I hope you will overturn this decision.

Thank you for your consideration,

Candidate

# Notes on Appeal

- Section 15.2 states that ALL materials must be pre-approved by the CRO's Office prior to its release
- Ignorance is not an acceptable grounds for appeal as such this appeal would be denied and 3 demerit points would be given to this candidate

# Non-Campaign Team Members

- For students who are NOT members of any campaign team, they still must follow the Student Code of Conduct
  - Harassment (based on the Ontario Human Rights Code)
  - Obstruction or disruption of elections events
  - Theft, damage and destruction of property
  - Defamation (libel or slander)
  
- Will be dealt with through the Dean of Students Office for review by the Student Conduct Administrator



# Voting Systems

- There are two voting systems for elected positions
  - Multiple candidates, one winner: Optional Instant Runoff Voting (OIRV or IRV)
    - Ex. President
  - Multiple candidates, multiple winners: Single Transferable Vote (STV)
    - Ex. Board of Directors, Board of Governors, Waterloo Senate
  
- There is one voting system for Referenda Questions
  - First Past the Post (FPTP)

# O-IRV Instant Runoff

- ▣ Ranked Ballot
  - ▣ Can rank 1<sup>st</sup> choice, 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> choices, 1<sup>st</sup>,2<sup>nd</sup>,3<sup>rd</sup> choices, etc.
    - ▣ Cannot rank 1<sup>st</sup> choice and last choice, ignoring the middle
    - ▣ Cannot skip 1<sup>st</sup> choice if ranking candidates
- ▣ Each voter gets 1 vote- will never be split
- ▣ Not a points system- only 1<sup>st</sup> priority counts at first
- ▣ To win, a candidate must get at least 50.01% of the vote
- ▣ If no candidate has >50%, the lowest candidate is dropped and their votes reassigned to the next highest applicable priority
- ▣ Repeat as necessary

# STV

- ▣ Ranked ballot
  - ▣ Can rank 1<sup>st</sup> choice, 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> choices, 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> choices, etc.
    - ▣ Cannot rank 1<sup>st</sup> choice and last choice, ignoring the middle
    - ▣ Cannot skip 1<sup>st</sup> choice if ranking candidates
- ▣ Each voter gets 1 vote – will probably be split
- ▣ Not a points system – only 1<sup>st</sup> priority counts at first
- ▣ To win, the candidate must reach the droop quota
  - ▣ Droop quota=
$$1 + (\# \text{ of Voters}) / (\# \text{ of seats} + 1)$$

# STV Video

- ▣ [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bLH\\_w5kHJpA](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bLH_w5kHJpA)

# Important Dates

- January 12<sup>th</sup> 5:00pm Presidential Menu Item Due
- January 12<sup>th</sup> 12:00 pm & January 19<sup>th</sup> 3:00pm - Open Forum
- **January 25<sup>th</sup> - 7:30am All Campaigning Stops**
- January 25<sup>th</sup> - 8:00am- January 27<sup>th</sup> 8:00pm – Voting Open
- January 27<sup>th</sup> - Results Night

# Your Presidential Candidates

- ▣ Ezra Ceniti
- ▣ Shane Symington

# Your Director Candidates - Brantford

▣ Samar Hashmi

# Your Director Candidates - Waterloo

- ▣ Carson Boettinger
- ▣ Francesco Del Giudice
- ▣ Cole Dermott
- ▣ Nur Elmasri
- ▣ Nicholas Lafarciola
- ▣ Michel LeClair
- ▣ Emma Murphy
- ▣ Blake Phillips



# Your Senate Candidates - Waterloo

- ▣ Cole Dermott
- ▣ Nur Elmasri
- ▣ Matthew Schwarze
- ▣ Brandon Vale

# Your Governor Candidates

- ▣ Cole Dermott
- ▣ Nur Elmasri
- ▣ Matthew Schwarze
- ▣ Brandon Vale