

<i>Freedom of Expression</i>	
Category: Administrative	Approval Date: December 9, 2019
Policy Owner: Office of the President	Effective Date: December 9, 2019
Policy Administrator: Executive Director, Board and Executive Relations	Review Period: 5 Years
Recommended by: Service Council upon recommendation by Deans' Council	
Associated Documents N/A	

PURPOSE

To confirm Red Deer College's commitment to protecting freedom of thought, belief, opinion, and expression, and the related freedoms of conscience, religion, association, and peaceful assembly, as enshrined in the *Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms* while upholding the College's values of exploration, inclusiveness, excellence, integrity, community and accountability.

SCOPE

This policy applies to members of the Red Deer College community including students, faculty and staff as well as volunteers and visitors.

POLICY

1. Red Deer College encourages free and open inquiry in all matters.
2. Members of the College community have the broadest latitude to speak, write, listen, challenge, and learn.
3. Debate is encouraged even if ideas are viewed as unwelcome, unpopular, imprudent, offensive, or disturbing.
4. It is not the College's role to shield individuals from ideas. It is for individuals to inform themselves carefully of facts, judge for themselves the nature of ideas and opinions, and to act on those judgments by openly contesting the ideas that they oppose.
5. Members of the College community have the right to criticize and question other views expressed on campus, but must not obstruct or otherwise interfere with others' freedom of expression.

6. Mutual respect and civility are expected, but the lack of them, in and of itself, does not constitute sufficient justification to limit freedom of expression.
7. Freedom of expression may only be restricted in anticipation of foreseeable, material and imminent harm, or violations of the law.
8. The College may reasonably regulate the time and manner of expression to ensure that the ordinary activities of the College are not disrupted.
9. The College shall apply this policy consistently and without discriminatory or preferential treatment toward any individual or group.
10. The fact that an individual or group is permitted or invited to carry on expressive activity on campus does not mean that the views of that individual or group are representative of the views of Red Deer College or its leadership.

RELATED POLICIES

Academic Freedom

Employee Code of Conduct

Harassment and Discrimination

Information Access and Protection of Privacy

Non-Academic Misconduct

Safe Disclosure (Whistleblower)

Student Academic Integrity and Academic Misconduct

Student Rights and Responsibilities