

Freedom of Speech Annual Report (2026)

As indicated in the December 14, 2018 and September 12, 2018 memos from the then Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities, each of Ontario's publicly-assisted colleges and universities is to prepare an annual report on the implementation of a free speech policy.

The institutional Freedom of Speech Annual Report will be a public document and must respect privacy obligations. Please report on events or incidents that took place between **August 1, 2025** and **July 31, 2026**.

The reports are to be posted on the institution's website and submitted to the Ministry of Colleges, Universities, Research Excellence and Security's Postsecondary Education Policy Branch by **September 25, 2026**.

Please submit your institution's annual report and the link to its location on your website to psepolicy@ontario.ca. Please reach out to the ministry's Postsecondary Education Policy Branch at the same address with any questions.

Section A: Institutional Policy

Has your institution amended its free speech policy (or policy framework) since the time of your 2025 report? If so, please explain the reason for the change and provide the link to its location on your institutional website.

NOSM University has not made any revisions to the Statement on Free Speech of the framework since the 2025 report. [Refer to the Statement on Free Speech website for the most recent information.](#) Over the course of the next reporting period, the University will be reviewing the framework and making any necessary updates.

Where are members of the institutional community (or guests) directed when there is a free-speech-related question or complaint about an institutional event? Please provide contact information.

For the reporting period these requests were made through Mr. Ray Hunt, Vice President, Administration & Chief Operating Officer. Effective September 1, 2026, Mr. Lance Dyll, Vice President, Finance and Operations, receives questions or complaints related to the NOSM University Statement on Free Speech by email at vpadministration@nosm.ca.

His direct contact information is ldyll@nosm.ca or (807) 766-7333.

What is your institution's policy on holding events where there are security concerns? To your knowledge, were there any instances where a non-curricular event did not proceed due to security concerns or their related costs?

In such instances, the Director, Enterprise Risk Management & Procurement is engaged to formalize a risk management plan. Given our institution's location on both Lakehead and Laurentian Universities' campuses, this includes contracting their respective security departments and/or private security companies for off campus events. Recently, the University approved the newly developed Emergency Response Plan, which provides detailed guidance on the response to security concerns.

Much of NOSM University's academic learning activity occurs at various off-campus clinical teaching sites across northern Ontario (e.g. hospitals, medical clinics, etc.). Under separate affiliation agreements, teaching sites are responsible for security for our learners.

To our knowledge, there were no instances of non-curricular events that did not proceed due to security concerns or their related costs during the reporting period.

Section B: Complaints

You may append additional documentation or institution-specific information as you see fit.

Between **August 1, 2025** and **July 31, 2026**, did any member of the institutional community (or guests) make an official complaint about free speech? If yes, please provide a general description that protects the privacy of complainants.

No official complaint was made about free speech during this period.

If there has been an official complaint (or more than one):

What were the issues under consideration? Please identify any points of contention (e.g., security costs, safety, student unions and/or groups, operational requirements, etc.).

Not applicable.

How did the institution manage the free speech complaint(s)? Was the complaint addressed using the procedures set out in the policy? How were issues resolved?

Not applicable.

Section C: Summary Data

Please provide the following summary data for free-speech-related official complaints received by the institution:

Number of official complaints received under the free speech policy relating to curricular and non-curricular events.	0
Number of official complaints reviewed that did not proceed.	0
Number of official complaints where the institution determined that the free speech policy was not followed appropriately.	0
Number of official complaints under the free speech policy that resulted in the institution applying disciplinary or other institutional measures.	0
To your knowledge, were any free speech complaints forwarded to the Ontario Ombudsman?	No

To the best of your ability, please provide an estimate of the number of **non-curricular events** held at the institution either online or in person between **August 1, 2025 and July 31, 2026**. Non-curricular events include, for example, invited speakers, sporting events, rallies, student life/student affairs events, conferences, etc., as opposed to regular events held as part of an academic program or course.

The estimated number of non-curricular events held at NOSM University during the defined period was 81. There were no official complaints about free speech on campus that resulted from these events.

Institutional Comments (if any).