Sheridan

TO: Higher Education Quality Council of Ontario
FROM: Melissa McGugan, B.A (Hons), LL.B
General Counsel
DATE: September 25, 2026

Sheridan College Free Speech Annual Report

August 1, 2025–July 31, 2026

Institutional Policy

Sheridan's free speech policy remains the same as was reported in 2025 and has been broadly communicated to employees and students, emphasizing the Policy's consistency with our commitment to respectful discourse and debate, professionalism, civility and freedom of expression.

Contact Information for Free Speech-Related Questions and Complaints

We have shared the following email address with our community to report on any freedom of speech-related concerns: freedomofspeech@sheridancollege.ca. Related concerns may also be submitted to equity@sheridancollege.ca. This is Sheridan's Central Office for Resolution & Equity (CORE).

Policy on Holding Events with Potential Security Concerns

Our Security and Risk Management Team reviews all events scheduled on campus and plans accordingly for any security-related concerns. During the timeframe between August 1, 2025 and July 31, 2026 there were no non-curricular events that did not proceed as scheduled.

To ensure consistency and safe execution of events, Sheridan's Safety team collaborates to examine event proposals and plans. This group is comprised of the Events team, the Conference Services team, the Government and Community Relations team, the Student Union and other departments and committees, such as the "Start of Term Committee."

Some of these event proposals may include many patrons, or specialized requirements such as utilizing an outdoor space, planning for ticketed entry, political visits where federal or provincial law enforcement officials may require pre-planning of entry and evacuation routes, events where alcohol is served, events where minors may attend, etc.

Event set-up planning (including room capacity and fire exit requirements), safety and emergency management scenario and response planning, security guard coverage planning and collaboration with municipal law enforcement, transit and by-law partners ensues as required.

Complaints and Summary Data

During this period, there were approximately 89 non-curricular events held at Sheridan in-person or online. There were no formal complaints.

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