



# CAMPAIGN VIOLATION DECISIONS

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2025 OTSU ELECTIONS

## COMPLAINT DETAILS

Complaint filed **March 1, 2025** by Ontario Tech student against **Maximillian Fakrogha**.

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## FACTS

On March 1, 2025, during the nomination period, a student filed a complaint alleging that a supporter of Maximillian Fakrogha, a candidate for VP Student Affairs, violated section 4.1 of the OTSU Elections Procedures by engaging in campaigning prior to the commencement of the official campaign period. In support of this complaint, the student produced a screenshot of a Snapchat post in which a user named “lamz\_king” said “Vote for my boy Max for VP Student Affairs” and provided a link to the OTSU Formstack Signature Form page. It is not clear who the identity of “lamz\_king” is, and the student did not state his or her name. The student’s complaint summarizes the alleged campaign violation as follows: “Campaigning before the campaign period begins on the unaffiliated Ontario Tech University Student Snapchat story.”

## RELEVANT POLICIES

**Section 4.1 of the OTSU Elections Procedure states:**

### Campaign Period

In-person Campaigning is only permitted during the designated Campaign Period as established by the Board. For this, the following activities constitute in-person campaigning:

- The distribution, posting, or publication of any Campaign Materials;
- Public appearances or speeches related to the elections;
- Posting campaign materials on digital media (digital campaign materials which have been posted during the campaign period may remain posted after the end of the campaign period, but they cannot be amended, reposted, or otherwise republished after the end of the campaign period – no changes can be made during the voting period.

Campaign Materials are strictly prohibited from being posted or published before the start of the Campaign Period. Any Campaign Materials posted during the designated Campaign Period can remain until the close of the Voting Period.

Activities related to collecting nominations during the nomination period will not be considered campaigning.

**Section 5.4 of the OTSU Elections Procedure states:**

### Social Media Policy

Candidates are allowed to utilize social media websites to promote their campaign. The following restrictions apply:

5.4.1 Candidates are permitted to create a unique public page to support their elections or utilize an existing social media account. Links to all accounts used for campaign purposes must be submitted to the CRO by email prior to being used;

5.4.2 Candidates are permitted to advertise through social media websites. All costs associated with social media advertising must be accounted for on the Campaign Expense Form;

5.4.3 Candidates cannot send unsolicited e-mails or unsolicited private messages about their campaign;

5.4.4 Any social media campaign posts must be made public and cannot be posted on private pages; and

5.4.5 Social media must not include any copyrighted material or material that could be reasonably upsetting, insulting, or objectionable to some or most people.

Candidates may utilize social media websites to promote their campaign. Social media campaigning is permitted during the campaign period.

## **DECISION**

The Elections Procedure provides that both in-person campaigning and social media campaigning are only allowed within the campaign period. However, section 4.1 of the Elections Procedure states that “Activities related to collecting nominations during the nomination period will not be considered campaigning.” The Elections Procedure does not set out any limits on what constitutes “activities related to collecting nominations”.

In this case, it appears that a friend or acquaintance of Mr. Fakrogha posted a message to Snapchat encouraging students to click on the link to the OTSU Formstack Signature Form. Thus, this individual engaged in an activity related to collecting nominations for Mr. Fakrogha, which is permissible during the nomination period. Moreover, the Snapchat message in question does not include campaign graphics, a campaign platform, or talking points supporting Mr. Fakrogha’s candidacy; it simply encourages students to fill out a nomination form for Mr. Fakrogha.

I acknowledge that the Snapchat post encourages students to “Vote for my boy Max”. However, in the context of the Snapchat post as a whole, it appears that “lamz\_king” is simply encouraging students to fill out the nomination form for Mr. Maximillian.

For all of these reasons, I am of the opinion that the student’s complaint alleging a violation of the OTSU Elections Procedure is not well-founded.

**Titus Gregory**, Chief Returning Officer  
Ontario Tech Student Union

## COMPLAINT

Complaint filed **March 1, 2025** by Ontario Tech student against **Iman Khurram**.

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## FACTS

On March 1, 2025, during the nomination period, a student filed a complaint alleging that Iman Khurram, a nominee for VP Downtown, violated section 4.1 of the OTSU Elections Procedures by engaging in campaigning prior to the commencement of the official campaign period.

In support of this complaint, the student produced a screenshot of an Instagram post in which a user named “imansstudio” posted a link to the OTSU Formstack Signature Form page, accompanied by the following text:

Hi everyone! If you go to Ontario tech I'm running for VICE PRESIDENT DOWNTOWN once again and would appreciate your nomination.

Name: Iman Khurram

Position: Vice president of Downtown

Faculty: Social Sciences and Humanities

The student's complaint summarizes the alleged campaign violation as follows:

“Campaigned for signatures for the nomination form on her business Instagram page before the campaign period started.”

## RELEVANT POLICIES

**Section 4.1 of the OTSU Elections Procedure states:**

### Campaign Period

In-person Campaigning is only permitted during the designated Campaign Period as established by the Board. For this, the following activities constitute in-person campaigning:

- The distribution, posting, or publication of any Campaign Materials;
- Public appearances or speeches related to the elections;
- Posting campaign materials on digital media (digital campaign materials which have been posted during the campaign period may remain posted after the end of the campaign period, but they cannot be amended, reposted, or otherwise republished after the end of the campaign period – no changes can be made during the voting period.

Campaign Materials are strictly prohibited from being posted or published before the start of the Campaign Period. Any Campaign Materials posted during the designated Campaign Period can remain until the close of the Voting Period.

Activities related to collecting nominations during the nomination period will not be considered campaigning.

**Section 5.4 of the OTSU Elections Procedure states:**

**Social Media Policy**

Candidates are allowed to utilize social media websites to promote their campaign. The following restrictions apply:

5.4.1 Candidates are permitted to create a unique public page to support their elections or utilize an existing social media account. Links to all accounts used for campaign purposes must be submitted to the CRO by email prior to being used;

5.4.2 Candidates are permitted to advertise through social media websites. All costs associated with social media advertising must be accounted for on the Campaign Expense Form;

5.4.3 Candidates cannot send unsolicited e-mails or unsolicited private messages about their campaign;

5.4.4 Any social media campaign posts must be made public and cannot be posted on private pages; and

5.4.5 Social media must not include any copyrighted material or material that could be reasonably upsetting, insulting, or objectionable to some or most people.

Candidates may utilize social media websites to promote their campaign. Social media campaigning is permitted during the campaign period.

**DECISION**

The Elections Procedure provides that both in-person campaigning and social media campaigning are only allowed within the campaign period. However, section 4.1 of the Elections Procedure states that “Activities related to collecting nominations during the nomination period will not be considered campaigning.” The Elections Procedure does not set out any limits on what constitutes “activities related to collecting nominations”.

In this case, it appears that Ms. Khurram posted a message to Instagram encouraging students to click on the link to the OTSU Formstack Signature Form and nominate her for VP Downtown. Thus, she engaged in an activity related to collecting nominations, which is permissible during the nomination period. Moreover, the Instagram message in question does not include campaign graphics, a campaign platform, or talking points supporting Ms. Khurram’s candidacy; it simply encourages students to fill out a nomination form for Ms. Khurram.

For all of these reasons, I am of the opinion that the student’s complaint alleging a violation of the OTSU Elections Procedure is not well-founded.

**Titus Gregory**, Chief Returning Officer  
Ontario Tech Student Union

## COMPLAINT

Complaint filed **March 8, 2025** by Ontario Tech student against **Craigton Corda**.

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## FACTS

On March 8, 2025, a student filed a complaint alleging that Craigton Corda violated section 5.3 of the Elections Procedure by posting a campaign poster on an OTSU bulletin board located on the first floor of the Business and IT Building (UB). The student provided a photo, which shows a small poster promoting Mr. Corda’s candidacy that was posted to the OTSU bulletin board. The poster in question does not cover up any other posted material, and there is plenty of unused space on the bulletin board.

At the All Candidates Meeting on March 4, 2025, candidates were informed that they could put posters on OTSU bulletin boards, provided that there was available space, and that they should use pins (rather than white sticky tack) to put their posters on such bulletin boards.

## RELEVANT POLICIES

Section 4.2 contains a list of locations that “are considered off-limits for campaigning”. The first floor of the UB building is not on the list.

### Sections 5.2 – 5.3 state:

#### 5.2 Poster Policy

Posters MUST include:

- The Candidates full name, as it is to appear on the ballot;
- The full title of the position that the Candidate has been nominated for;
- The dates of the voting period; and
- The OTSU poster approval sticker.

Posters MUST NOT include:

- Any mark insinuating a Candidate is formally associated with Ontario Tech University or Durham College;
- Any Copyrighted material; or
- Any material that could reasonably be considered upsetting, insulting, or objectionable to some or most people.

Posters must be removed within two (2) business days after the end of the Voting Period. Candidates are responsible for the removal of posters.

#### 5.3 Displaying Campaign Materials

Candidates can only post materials in accordance with Ontario Tech University Policy. Posters must be put up with

white “sticky tack” which will be provided to Candidates. Materials cannot obstruct windows, doorways or other posted materials. Candidates can only distribute Campaign Materials in valid Campaign Locations.

Candidates will be required to pay for any expense associated with removing posters or other campaign material. For Candidates whose posters go missing or are vandalized, the CRO can grant a replacement number of posters equal to the number missing upon confirmation.

## **DECISION**

It does not appear that the posting of the campaign poster violated any provision of the Election Policy or the Election Procedure. Nor does it appear that the posting of the campaign poster resulted in unfairness to any candidate.

It would not be permissible to post a campaign poster in a manner that conveys the endorsement of the OTSU itself (see Elections Procedure, sections 3.17 & 6.1). However, Mr. Corda’s poster does not use the OTSU logo or otherwise suggest that he is endorsed by the OTSU.

Accordingly, I conclude that no violation of the campaign rules has occurred in this case.

**Titus Gregory**, Chief Returning Officer  
Ontario Tech Student Union