



FREE SPEECH REPORT 2023

Conestoga College Institute of Technology and Advanced Learning

Section A: Institutional Policy

Has your institution amended its free speech policy (or policy framework) since the time of your 2022 report? If so, please explain the reason for the change and provide the link to its location on your institutional website.

No amendments have been made to our free speech policy.

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.

As noted in Conestoga's Policy Statement on Upholding Free Speech, existing college mechanisms and processes are used to handle free speech complaints and ensure compliance with the policy. Rather than designating a single office for managing free speech complaints, Conestoga supports community members and guests with free speech concerns through several college departments.

For example, students can contact members of their school's program team (e.g., faculty, chair, or dean) for academic concerns. Students who have complaints can also direct their questions and concerns to the Student Rights and Responsibilities office. Members of the college community or guests can contact Human Resources or Security Services.

Human Resources

(519) 748-5220 ext. 3399

HRinfo@conestogac.on.ca

Student Rights and Responsibilities

srr@conestogac.on.ca

Security Services

519-748-5220, ext. 3357

securityservices@conestogac.on.ca

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?

Scheduled events are reviewed and approved by Security Services. If a planned event poses security concerns, Security Services will develop and implement a security plan with relevant stakeholders. In the past year, there were no instances of non-curricular events that did not proceed due to security concerns or related costs.

Section B: Complaints

Between **August 1, 2022** and **July 31, 2023**, 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.

There were no official complaints about free speech at Conestoga between **August 1, 2022** and **July 31, 2023**.

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, 2022 and July 31, 2023**. 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.

Approximately 1,612 non-curricular events were held at Conestoga between August 1, 2022 and July 31, 2023.

Institutional Comments (if any).

Not applicable.