



RESS

Regina Engineering Students' Society

Regina Engineering Students' Society, Inc.

Election Rules and Regulation

0. INTERPRETATION OF RULES AND REGULATIONS

- 0.1. "RESS" shall hereafter refer to the "Regina Engineering Students' Society Inc."
- 0.2. This By-Law shall not be interpreted or construed in conflict, or a variance with:
 - 0.2.1. RESS Constitution;
 - 0.2.2. RESS Policy Manual;
 - 0.2.3. The Non-Profit Corporations Act;
 - 0.2.4. The University of Regina Act; or
 - 0.2.5. The Election Laws of the Province of Saskatchewan.
- 0.3. "Ballot" shall here after refer to paper, or electronic document marked by a voter.
- 0.4. "Candidate" shall here after refer to an 'Active' member of RESS, who is in good standing, is entitled and contends to be nominated in a General Election, or a By-Election.
- 0.5. "Declined ballot" means a ballot that, after being provided to a voter, is taken from the polling station and returned to the Chief Returning Officer by a voter who declines to vote or in the case of an electronic ballot is left blank.
- 0.6. "Election Day" shall here after refer to the day for taking the votes of the members.
- 0.7. "Rejected ballot" shall here after refer to a ballot which in the course of the ballot count is rejected by the Chief Returning Officer if it:
 - 0.7.1. Was not supplied to a voter by the Chief Returning Officer;
 - 0.7.2. Has been cast in favor or against more than one candidate or more than the maximum number of candidates in respect of whom a voter is entitled to vote, or has been marked in relation to more than the question or questions in respect of which a voter is entitled to vote;
 - 0.7.3. Bears any mark placed by a voter and/or to which a voter can be identified;
- 0.8. "Spoiled ballot" shall here after refer to a ballot that on polling day has been deposited in a ballot box by the Chief Returning Officer, but which has been found by the Chief Returning Officer to be:
 - 0.8.1. Soiled or improperly printed;
 - 0.8.2. Spoiled in marking by a voter to whom it was given and from whom it was received by the Chief Returning Officer in exchange for another ballot;
 - 0.8.3. Bears any identification of a voter;

1. NOMINATIONS

- 1.1. The Chief Returning Officer shall declare invalid any nomination form that does not fulfill the conditions described in section 8.3.2. of the RESS Constitution.
- 1.2. A member shall be nominated to represent more than a single position.
- 1.3. No member shall accept more than a single nomination.
- 1.4. Nominations must be accepted fourteen (14) days prior to Election Day.

2. ACCLAMATION

- 2.1. Where at the close of nominations for a General Election for a constituency or position only one member, or fewer than the total number of members entitled to represent the constituency or position is nominated, those members nominated shall be subject to a vote of confidence.
 - 2.1.1. Where a majority vote of confidence for the candidate is achieved, the constituency or position shall be acclaimed to represent the constituency or position.
 - 2.1.2. Where a candidate fails to achieve a majority vote of confidence, the constituency or position will remain vacant until the next By-Election.



3. CAMPAIGNING

3.1. Campaigning Rules

- 3.1.1. No active campaign will be allowed on polling days.
- 3.1.2. Candidates may not spend over \$100 on campaigning. All receipts must be returned to CRO prior to the polling day.
- 3.1.3. All candidates must comply with the Election Rules and Regulation of the RESS.
- 3.1.4. Any printed material to be dispersed by the candidate shall include, on its front cover and in legible form, the name of the candidate.
- 3.1.5. No campaigning whatsoever will be permitted in any engineering labs on campus.
- 3.1.6. No campaigning whatsoever will be permitted in the RESS External Office, as defined in the RESS Policy Manual 0.11.
- 3.1.7. No campaigning is allowed in any residences without explicit permission from the office of residence services
- 3.1.8. The URSU Poster Policy and Building Rules concerning any form of advertisement must be adhered to in all buildings, especially as it relates to advertisements that do not use the poster boards. The responsibility lies with the candidates to familiarize themselves with these rules
- 3.1.9. No painting on buildings and sidewalks
- 3.1.10. Messages on blackboards/whiteboards are permitted
- 3.1.11. Off-campus advertising in any form is not permitted
- 3.1.12. The logos of the RESS or the University of Regina must not be used by any candidate
- 3.1.13. Candidates, under any circumstances, must not tamper with, move, or alter another candidate's campaign material.
- 3.1.14. Online campaigning may be permitted as long as it follows the general guidelines set out by the Election Rules and Regulation of the RESS.

3.2. Active vs. Passive Campaigning

- 3.2.1. Active campaigning is ONLY permitted during the specified campaigning period. Once the campaign period is over, all active campaigning must be refrained from.
- 3.2.2. Active Campaigning Definition:
 - 3.2.2.1. Talking to students around campus; posting content or messages on social-media, websites, or other online forums
 - 3.2.2.2. Putting up posters or distributing materials such as handbills or flyers;
 - 3.2.2.3. Wearing campaign t-shirts;
 - 3.2.2.4. Any other form of active solicitation of votes for a candidate;
- 3.2.3. Once the campaigning period is over, candidates are no longer allowed to participate in forms of active campaigning.
- 3.2.4. Candidates are allowed to leave up any posters they hung during the campaign period, leave up any websites or social media pages created for their campaign, leave up any tweets or posts about their candidacy or campaign, etc. This all constitutes Passive Campaigning.
- 3.2.5. Candidates, however, are NOT allowed to put any new posters up, post anything new from their candidate pages on social media sites or websites, or wear their campaign t-shirts around campus.
- 3.2.6. Candidates are limited to telling students to vote during the voting days, but they are not allowed to tell anyone to vote for them as a candidate, or to tell anyone about their campaign (they may reference students to their existing online content if someone wishes to know about their campaign).
- 3.2.7. A candidate may post from a social media site that is NOT election related, such as a personal Facebook or Twitter page, saying 'go out and vote', but nothing further.



- 3.2.8. Candidates may not re-tweet or re-post a message from another candidate or non-candidate on voting days that includes messages that state who to vote for, or info about a candidate.

3.3. Poster and Campaign Material Rules:

- 3.3.1. Candidates are allowed 19.5 posters each per position they are running for.
- 3.3.2. Candidates are allowed 25 brochures/flyers each per position they are running for.
- 3.3.3. All posters must be 11"x17" or smaller in size.
- 3.3.4. Posters must only be hung in the Lounge, as defined in the RESS Policy Manual 0.9, the RESS's poster board or on URSU poster-boards (in accordance to URSU's poster policies).

4. OFFENSES AND PENALTIES

- 4.1. A person who votes at an election knowing that they are not entitled to vote, or who induces another person to vote knowing that such person is not entitled to vote is guilty of an offense.
- 4.2. A person who, at an election, applies for a ballot in the name of another person whether a real or fictitious person; and having voted, applies at the same election for a ballot in their own name; or votes more than once at the same election is guilty of the offense of impersonation.
- 4.3. A person who:
 - 4.3.1. Fraudulently alters, defaces or destroys a ballot paper or the initials of the Election official thereon; or
 - 4.3.2. Fraudulently and without authority supplies a ballot paper to any person; or
 - 4.3.3. Fraudulently and without authority destroys, takes, opens or otherwise interferes with a ballot box or book or packet of ballot papers or a ballot paper or ballot in use or used for the purposes of an election; or
 - 4.3.4. With fraudulent intent prints a ballot paper or what purports to be or is capable of being used as a ballot paper at an election; or
 - 4.3.5. Prints ballot papers that they are not authorized to print; or
 - 4.3.6. Fraudulently attempts to altar or access a secure and secret electronic method of voting
 - 4.3.7. Attempts to commit any of the acts mention in this sub-section is guilty of an offence.
 - 4.3.8. A person who makes a declaration knowing that any statement therein is false is guilty of an offence.
- 4.4. A person who, before or during an election, knowingly publishes a false statement of the withdrawal of a candidate at the election for the purpose of promoting or securing the election of another candidate is guilty of an offence.
- 4.5. A person who, either before or during an election, knowingly publishes a false statement in relation to the personal character or conduct of a candidate for the purposes of affecting the return of the candidate at an election is guilty of an offence.
- 4.6. A person who willfully and maliciously destroys, mutilates, defaces, obliterates, or alters:
 - 4.6.1. Any notice or other document required to be posted in accordance with these Election Rules and Regulations; or
 - 4.6.2. Any banner, bill, notice, poster, or sign erected by or on behalf of candidate at an election is guilty of an offence
- 4.7. A person who attempts to induce a person who is entitled to vote to either vote or refrain from voting for a particular candidate at an election through the advancement of a gift, or loan of money or valuable consideration is guilty of an offence.
- 4.8. A person who on polling day posts or displays in or within three (3) feet of a polling station any campaign literature, banner, bill, flag, poster, or sign that could be taken as an indication of support of or for a candidate at the election is guilty of an offence.



- 4.9. A person who on a polling day uses or causes to be used a public address system, or other loudspeaker device for the purpose of promoting or securing the election of a candidate at the election is guilty of an offence.
- 4.10. The Chief Returning Officer shall have the authority to enforce provisions of this Election Rules and Regulations, and to investigate any alleged or perceived offenses or violations in relation to its' provisions.
- 4.11. A member who has reason to believe that an offence or violation, not limited exclusively to those referred to in this section has been committed shall first refer details relevant to an alleged offence or violation to the Chief Returning Officer.
- 4.12. The Chief Returning Officer shall investigate each alleged or perceived offence or violation of a provision of these Election Rules and Regulations and shall determine if a member has committed the offence or violation
- 4.13. Upon completing an investigation of an alleged or perceived offence or violation of a provision of these Election Rules and Regulations, the Chief Returning Officer may recommend to the RESS Council that if the offence or violation is, or has been committed by a member who is or was a candidate at an election the member be disqualified as a candidate.
- 4.14. Where the Chief Returning Officer determines that an offence or violation of a provision of these Election Rules and Regulations has been committed by a member with the actual knowledge and consent of a candidate, but without any corrupt intent and in ignorance that was excusable, and that the member honestly desired and in good faith endeavored as far as possible to have the election conducted according to provisions of these Election Rules and Regulations, the member shall not be subject to the penalties provided for under Election Rules and Regulations 4.13.
- 4.15. The Chief Returning Officer may require voters to sign a declaration indicating that they are eligible to vote in a constituency. Any member found guilty or falsely declaring that they are eligible to vote in a constituency shall be considered guilty of an offense.

5. DISPUTES RESOLUTION

- 5.1. A question respecting interpretation of any provision of these Election Rules and Regulations, or any dispute between or among candidates or their representatives at a General Election, or a By-Election shall be first referred in writing by a member of the Chief Returning Officer to determine.
- 5.2. In considering an appeal referred, the Chief Returning Officer shall have the power to invite any election official, or any candidate, or any representative of a candidate, or any member to appear before their office in order to make enquiries and obtain particulars of information relevant to the appeal being considered.
- 5.3. Upon concluding the adjudication of any appeal referred to the Chief Returning Officer, the Chief Returning Officer shall deliver a report of the finding to the Board.
- 5.4. An adjudication of the Chief Returning Officer shall be binding and final and shall be subject to appeal only in the event that additional relevant information is brought forward.

