# **University of Alberta Students' Union Elections**

Chief Returning Officer Ruling



#### Ruling #1

March 2020 Executive Committee and BOG Representative General Election Pre-Campaigning – Rowan Ley, Candidate for Vice President External

#### Parties to the Ruling

- Rowan Ley, Candidate for Vice President External
- Eric Einarson, Complainant
- Muneeb Ahsan, Chief Returning Officer

#### Applicable Bylaws, Rules, Regulations

- 1. Bylaw 2200 §21 (Prohibition on Pre-campaigning)
  - "No side manager, volunteer, or candidate shall engage in campaign activities between the nomination deadline or Students' Council initiation of a plebiscite/referenda and the commencement of the campaign"

#### **Facts**

- 1. The Complainant, Eric Einarson, filed a complaint at 17:21 on February 22, 2020.
- 2. Rowan Ley, Candidate for Vice President External, is alleged to have published a campaign post around 17:00 on Facebook and Instagram prior to the commencement of the campaign period at 09:00 on February 24, 2020.
- 3. The Complainant provided evidence corroborating the allegation.
- 4. Muneeb Ahsan, Chief Returning Officer, investigated the matter noting a potential reach of 1185 (150 estimated) on the social media posts.

### Ruling

• Rowan Ley, Candidate for Vice President External, did contravene Bylaw 2200 §21.

## **Penalty**

1. Rowan Ley, Candidate for Vice President External, will be assessed a fine of \$15.00 under the Schedule of Fines & Penalties.

Decided: February 23, 2020 at 14:30

Time Limit for appeal: February 24, 2020 at 14:30

Please direct any inquiries to:

Muneeb Ahsan Chief Returning Officer University of Alberta Students' Union