

# 2023 Free Speech Annual Report

Submitted to the Higher Education Quality Council of Ontario (HEQCO)

Georgian College is pleased to submit this institutional report on its Free Speech policy (CS-001). The report covers the period from August 1, 2022, to July 31, 2023, and is structured as a response to the questions presented by HEQCO in its memorandum.

## 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.

There has been no amendment to Georgian's free speech policy since the time of the 2022 report.

<https://www.georgiancollege.ca/wp-content/uploads/CS-001-Free-Speech-policy-and-procedure.pdf>

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 stated in Georgian's Free Speech policy, complaints are directed to the college's Campus Safety Services department. All complaints will be recorded using Georgian's existing incident management report system.

Members and guests are directed to the Executive Director of Campus Safety Services. Contact information as follows:

Dave Truax, Executive Director of Campus Safety Services,  
Email: [dave.truax@GeorgianCollege.ca](mailto:dave.truax@GeorgianCollege.ca)  
Phone: 249-388-1925

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?

Georgian has implemented an operational plan and process to guide potential situations where external groups or organizations wishing to protest and/or interact with the Georgian College community may do so, providing they act peacefully and do not obstruct or interfere with the business and operations of the college and its students.

Georgian has no free speech-related safety concerns or costs to cite over the term of this report. There were no instances where a non-curriculum event did not proceed due to free speech concerns.

## Section B: Complaints

You may append additional documentation or institution-specific information as you see fit.

Between **August 1, 2022** and **July 31, 2023**, did any member of the institutional community (or guests) make an official complaint about free speech on campus? If yes, please provide a general description that protects the privacy of complainants.

No complaints were received over the term of this report.

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.).

N/A

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?

N/A

## Section C: Summary Data

Please provide the following summary data for free-speech-related official complaints received by the institution:

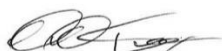
Number of official complaints received under the free speech policy relating to curricular and non-curricular events.	0
Number of official complaints reviewed that did not proceed.	0
Number of official complaints where the institution determined that the free speech policy was not followed appropriately.	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.

Internal, non-curricular-related events include applicant receptions, orientation for international students, town hall and update meetings, networking and career fairs, student association events, awards dinner, announcements from government officials and employee professional development events (list not inclusive), several of which featured guest speakers. Approximately 359 internal non-curriculum related events were held at Georgian College between August 1, 2022 and July 31, 2023.

Georgian also permits space on campus to be rented for a variety of events by external groups, including associations, corporations, educational institutions, government, not-for-profit and sports/recreation organizations. Since August 1, 2022, approximately 417 external events were held on campus.

Signed



Executive Director, Campus Safety Services