University of Alberta Students' Union Elections

Chief Returning Officer Ruling



Ruling #7

March 2020 Executive Committee and BOG Representative General Election Expense Reporting – The Landing Plebiscite "Yes" Campaign

Parties to the Ruling

- Rain Zewde, Side Manager for The Landing Plebiscite "Yes" Campaign
- Muneeb Ahsan, Chief Returning Officer

Applicable Bylaws, Rules, Regulations

- 1. Bylaw 2200 §44 (Expense Reporting)
 - "1. Each candidate and side shall keep an up to date and accurate record of all campaign expenses they incur, and shall be responsible to the C.R.O. for all such campaign expenses.
 - 2. Each candidate and side shall submit to the C.R.O. the record, as set out in Section 44(1), no less than twelve (12) working hours prior to the end of voting.
 - 6. The C.R.O. shall assess a penalty to a candidate or side who does not submit their expense report as set out in Section 48"
- 2. Section E §2.5, Elections Rules and Regulations (Expense Reporting)
 - "Candidates must submit a detailed expense report, even if they spend no money, using the Expense Allowance Form available online and from the Elections Office. The report must be submitted, with all receipts included, no later than Thursday, March 5 @ 13:00 as specified on the election timeline. If the expense report is not submitted on time, no refund of expenses will be given. Candidates are not allowed to incur any expenses between the reporting deadline and the end of campaigning, which are not included as an estimate on the initial expense report."

Facts

- 1. Expense reports were to be filed with the Elections office no later than 13:00 on Thursday, March 5, 2020.
- 2. At 13:01 on Thursday, March 5, 2020, an expense report from the Landing Plebiscite "Yes" Campaign had not been filed.
- 3. An email was sent out at 13:27, March 5, 2020 to Rain Zewde, Side Manager for The Landing Plebiscite "Yes" Campaign, advising to submit the expense report as soon as possible.
- 4. At 14:36, March 5, 2020, Rain Zewde, Side Manager for The Landing Plebiscite "Yes" Campaign, submitted the expense report via email.
- 5. At 14:51, March 5, 2020, an email was sent advising Rain Zewde, Side Manager for The Landing Plebiscite "Yes" Campaign, that no reimbursement would be issued for external expenses incurred by the campaign.

Ruling

• Rain Zewde, Side Manager for the Landing Plebiscite "Yes" Campaign, will not be reimbursed for external expenses.

Penalty

1. No penalty will be assessed.

Decided: March 5, 2020 at 16:06 Time Limit for appeal: March 6, 2020 at 16:06 Please direct any inquiries to:

Muneeb Ahsan Chief Returning Officer University of Alberta Students' Union