Social Media Policy

Oversight body: Communications Team

Date Passed by Council: February, 2015

Date of Next Review: March, 2020

Related policies, bylaws, legislation: bylaw 3, DSU Equity Policy, Human Rights Act (Nova Scotia)

1. Pursuant to the Objectives of the Union and the Nova Scotia Human Rights Act, discrimination and harassment based on, but not limited to the following grounds of age; race; colour; religion; creed; sex; gender identity or expression; sexual orientation; disability; an irrational fear of contracting an illness or disease; ethnic, national, or Aboriginal origin; family status; marital status; source of income; political belief, affiliation, or activity; or an individual’s association with another individual(s) having characteristics referred to in previous groups will not be tolerated at any events sponsored by the Union or in any space operated by the Union. This extends to behaviour on online spaces owned or controlled by the Dalhousie Student Union and student organizations governed by the DSU.

2. Pursuant to the meaning of discrimination established in the Nova Scotia Human Rights Act, a person discriminates where the person makes a distinction, whether intentional or not, based on a characteristic, or perceived characteristic, that has the effect of imposing burdens, obligations or disadvantages on an individual or a class of individuals not imposed upon others or which withholds or limits access to opportunities, benefits and advantages available to other individuals or classes of individuals in society.

3. The following code of conduct will be posted on all Dalhousie Student Union owned or operated online spaces:

   **DSU Online Code of Conduct**

   The Dalhousie Student Union (DSU) will not tolerate discriminatory remarks or harassment in any form.

   This includes, but is not limited to:
o remarks or images that are based on racist, sexist, ableist, homophobic, or transphobic sentiments;
o comments that attempt to demean, humiliate or threaten any individual or group based on any of the grounds listed above;; and
o defamatory or libelous statements against any individual or group.

Comments or posts that do not comply with these rules will be removed.

Users who disregard the Code of Conduct will be removed and/or blocked from online spaces owned or operated by the DSU.

Users who are removed from an online space owned or operated by the DSU or a DSU-affiliated group, may also be removed or blocked from other online spaces owned or operated by the DSU or DSU-affiliated societies and student groups.

Instances of harassment, threats or other criminal behaviour may be reported to the police, the University, the Nova Scotia Human Rights Commission, or any other regulatory body deemed appropriate in the circumstances.

4. Societies or student organizations governed by the DSU Constitution or Society Policy may use the DSU Online Code of Conduct for online spaces they manage.