

ELECTIONS ACCOUNTABILITY REPORT

Prepared by the Chair of the Board of Directors

following the March 5th, 2022 meeting of the Election Accountability Board.

Issued: March 5, 2022 at 7:10 p.m.

a. The complaint in full;

FORMAL COMPLAINT March 3rd 2:38 PM

On March 3rd at 2:38 PM, ECF'S Amy and Ursella received an email from a candidate regarding another Candidate. The complainant has written out her statement and attached screenshots of the incident. The complainant Kanwalpreet Kaur had reached out to the ECFS, to make a formal complaint against the defendant Kirt Hayer. Kanwalpreet, the complainant has made a complainant saying that Kirt Hayer for the following reasons: Kanwalpreet received an Instagram dm from one of Kirt's friends and a former candidate for the VPEA position last year. He asked Kanwalpreet to get in contact with Kirt and gave her his number. She then texted Kirt, asking him what he would like to talk about. Kirt replied with a "call me". Kanwalpreet did just that and said in this phone conversation Kirt suggested she drop out of the race. Kanwalpreet said this conversation lasted about four minutes, and in this conversation Kirt told her that he does not want Jonathan to be the VPEA again, and proceeded to tell her that "only one of us Indian students should run for the position so our votes don't get divided". We have attached all of the screenshots of this interaction. The Election Campaign Facilitators Amy Volvoshanovskiy and Ursella Khan believe that immediate action needs to be taken. We believed this complaint needed to be escalated to the EAB, and was beyond meditation. As the Election Campaign Facilitators have also filed a complaint against Kirt Hayer, we would like to see serious consequences for his actions this election cycle. We have attached the screenshots below, but have also attached them in an email to the Chair of the Board.

b. Any supplemental statements submitted to the EAB;

Report from Kiratveer Hayer

Here is my written report

When making the comment on Aman's post, I did not realize that there would be a difference between liking and commenting on a candidates post. If commenting on a candidates post is considered support, then liking should be considered support as well and candidates should not be allowed to like each others posts.

In regards to the phone call, I did not say any of those things. I simply called Kanwalpreet to discuss the argument that happened in the training session earlier in the day. Kanwalpreet was the person who texted our mutual friend Gurkirat for support in the election first and requested to him that I collude with her to help her win. He informed me about it and asked how to proceed. Me and Kanwalpreet were both against the infographic ruling and I called her to discuss the argument and how the rulings make campaigning unfair for candidates. We talked about how unfair this was and how the rules could be changed in the future. The claim of intimidation or being against another candidates candidacy is a complete fabrication. This

complaint should be withdrawn unless there is concrete evidence of what was discussed in the phone call.

Regardless of the allegations, I am running in my position uncontested and my disqualification would be a major blow to this organization and to student service. If the EAB decides to apply a penalty, I would plead that it falls short of disqualification for the sake of the students.

c. A summary of the considerations of the EAB;

Violation of the by-law and policy of the UWSA:

Bylaw 5.34.viii.

“Collusion between candidates for election will not be tolerated, including:

- a. Promoting one or more candidates as part of an election slate;
- b. Making statements that a reasonable person could interpret as linking two candidates as members of a joint slate for election;
- c. Campaigning on behalf of another candidate.”

And,

Policy 14.02 Anti-Harassment

“Every UWSA election participant has a right to freedom from...

- ...Targeted behaviour, in violation of the campaign guideline by-laws, meant to undermine an election participant’s success in the vote”

And:

“Harassment: A course of vexatious comments or conduct that is known or should reasonably be known to be unwelcome. Harassment includes, but is not limited to the following...

- Condescending, paternalistic or patronizing behaviour that undermines self-respect or dignity;
- Abuse of authority which undermines performance, threatens electoral performance, or causes intimidation;”

Considerations of the EAB:

The EAB discussed the difficulty to determine what was said during the phone call. While the initial complaint alleges collusion between Kiratveer and Aman, Kiratveer’s response indicates alleged collusion between himself and Kanwalpreet. The EAB considered multiple avenues of follow-up to rebalance the fairness of the election.

d. The ruling of the EAB;

The EAB rules to suspend Kiratveer Hayer from all campaign activities for the remainder of the campaign period.