



Policy: External Political Representation Policy

Adopted February 22, 2015

Expires

Updated

1. General

The UNBSU believes that external political representation is an important part of the student union's responsibility to its members and will strive to achieve effective representation at all levels of government.

The UNBSU believes that any external political representation must be representative of the advocacy needs of the membership.

2. Membership

The UNBSU has official membership within the:

- New Brunswick Student Alliance (NBSA); and,
- Canadian Alliance of Student Associations (CASA)

The UNBSU may sever membership agreements with an external political/lobby organization if External Committee, Executive Committee, and Council ratify two consecutive official reviews recommending severance.

The UNBSU may immediately sever membership agreements with an organization by a two thirds (2/3) majority vote of Council if there are serious, legal, criminal or financial concerns with that organization. The organization in question must be given two weeks notification prior to any such votes being held.

The UNBSU may join an external political/lobby organization if all of the following conditions are met:

- External Committee, Executive Committee, and Council ratify two consecutive official reviews recommending membership.
- The UNBSU will perform the required steps to be an Observer at all conferences and events of the organization in question while reviewing it prior to joining.

The autonomy of the UNBSU must be maintained in any external political organization the UNBSU is a part of. The UNBSU shall not join and shall endeavour to remove itself from any external organization that limits the autonomy of the UNBSU in any of the following ways:

- A requirement that the UNBSU enter into purchasing agreements with suppliers and companies as members of that external organization.
- A requirement to allow the staff/leaders/members of that organization access to UNB's campus or UNBSU events, even without the consent of the UNBSU.
- A requirement to allow the external organization to distribute flyers/materials/printed content on UNB's campus, even without the consent of the UNBSU.

3. Fees

The UNBSU will collect and pay membership fees to external organizations in the amount defined by the organization.

The UNBSU must be notified of any fee increase by January 31st of the year preceding the increase. If the UNBSU is not notified of a fee increase by January 31st, the Vice-President External will record this occurrence in their files on the organization to be passed on to the following year. After three fee increases without proper notice, the Vice-President External can choose to conduct a formal review of the organization in question.

The UNBSU will publish fees paid to external organizations through a per-student fee model presented during the annual budget presentation.

The UNBSU will strive to ensure that all fees paid out to external organizations are utilized in an effective and efficient manner, reflecting the needs of UNB students.

4. Representation

The Vice-President External will act as the UNBSU's voting delegate for external organizations or will select a delegate to act in their absence.

The President and Vice-President External will act as representatives for the UNBSU at any external organization conferences or official meetings, or will select a designate to act in their absence. This includes NBSA conferences and CASA conferences. Selection for other representatives to attend conferences (i.e., NBSA Advocacy Week) will be conducted by the Vice-President External and be ratified by the Executive committee, with priority being given to members of the External Committee.

Any delegate representing the UNBSU must act in the best interest of the UNBSU and UNB's undergraduate students.

5. Policy

Policy developed by an external organization must be reviewed by the External Affairs Committee and ratified by a simple majority of Council.

- Policies which are not ratified by Council will not become UNBSU policy but will remain policy of the external organization; and,
- UNBSU delegates, in their capacity as delegates of an external organization, may lobby for policy that is not supported by the UNBSU on behalf of the external organization, unless that policy is explicitly condemned by a simple majority vote of council.

The UNBSU will strive to ensure that all policy developed and passed by external organizations act in the best interest and are reflective of the needs of UNB students.