

Guidelines for Memorial University during election campaigns

January 12, 2021

Memorial University is a non-partisan organization and the following collection of guidelines and policies, which are applicable to all Memorial campuses and locations, may be helpful during election campaigns. Note that these guidelines were developed during the COVID-19 pandemic and reflect current public health guidelines and operations of the university.

1. As Memorial is a non-partisan institution, no university resources are to be used for partisan political purposes. Employees can find guidance in the following policies, or consult with their supervisor or HR advisor, if there are questions not addressed via these policies:
 - [Appropriate Use of Computing Resources](#), Section 3.4 Campaigning and Lobbying
 - [Conflict of Interest](#), Section XII, Political Activity
 - [Leave Administration Policy](#), Section 4.8iii, Political Leave

2. University position on political platforms or policies
 - As a non-partisan institution, Memorial will not take a position on the platform or policy of any political party or candidate.
 - Faculty members are free to speak as individuals, but do not speak on behalf of the institution.

3. No partisan political signage on Memorial property
 - A notice will be sent to all political parties once a writ is dropped reminding them that Memorial does not allow partisan political signage, including political party or candidate signage, on any Memorial University grounds, buildings or other property.
 - Note: the median on Prince Philip Parkway is not Memorial property (part of Pippy Park), but for safety of campaign volunteers and motorists, use of that area for signage is discouraged.
 - Due to the pandemic and public health guidelines, Memorial's buildings are not open to the general public at this time.
 - Current [Poster Guidelines](#) provide information about where posters are normally permitted on the St. John's campus.

4. Hosting of election-related events on Memorial's campuses
 - Political parties and candidates who wish to hold events on campus are able to request access, pending availability and public health guidelines, in the same manner that any external group would access facilities and are subject to all guidelines and costs associated with the normal rental of Memorial facilities. Email meet@mun.ca for more information about availability and costs.
 - Election-related activities on campus are permissible as long as there is no resource implication for the university for such activities and all applicable guidelines are followed.

Inquiries related to these guidelines can be directed to Paula Dyke, Special Advisor to the President, Strategic Projects at pdyke@mun.ca