



POLICY AND PROCEDURE MANUAL

POLICY 11 – REFERENDUMS

Policy Intent

The conduct of any Humber Students' Federation (HSF) referendum will be governed by this document. Referendums may be conducted for several reasons. Constitutionally, a referendum may be conducted in accordance with Article 18, Section 18.17 through 18.19, Article 28, and/or Article 40. In addition, the HSF Executive may conduct a referendum in an attempt to gauge the opinions of students regarding a particular issue or series of issues, either related or independent to each other.

Referendum Participation & Conduct

Any member of the HSF, as per the HSF Constitution Article 4, is entitled to one (1) vote per question in a referendum. Referenda will be conducted electronically via online voting. Referenda will be subject to the same online voting guidelines as outline on page 11 of Policy 5 – HSF Elections and Appeals, under the heading *Polling Procedures*.

The time permitted for a referendum must be at least one (1) business day of no less than an eight (8) hour voting period. The maximum time a referendum may be conducted for is three (3) consecutive business days.

In a rare instance, should the online voting system not be available for the purpose of the referendum, the referenda will be postponed until the online voting system is restored. Any recorded results of a disrupted referendum due to a failure of the online system will be considered null and void. Once the online voting system is restored, the referenda will be reinitiated and the results will be tabulated from the restoration of the online system onwards. In such an instance, the referenda must be conducted within seven (7) days of that restoration date. The HSF will make every effort to communicate this to the membership, should such an incident arise.

Referendum Ballot Information

Referenda must be comprised of one or more “yes” or “no” questions. Questions included in a referendum must be worded in a positive sense. The only acceptable answer to any referenda

question is “yes” or “no”. No quorum shall exist for referenda to be considered valid. Results of a referendum by constitutional mandate will be considered binding. Results of a referendum that is not constitutionally required will not be considered binding. This type of referenda result is to be used by the HSF Executive or Board of Directors to determine the opinion or sentiment of the general membership while considering the level of participation in any referenda. The HSF will publish the results of any referenda via the HSF website and other appropriate media sources.