

WLUFA POLICIES

#14 Policy on Public Statements

Approving Authority: Executive Committee

Original Approval Date: January 2025

Date of Most Recent Review/Revision: January 2025

1.00 PURPOSE

1.01 The purpose of this policy is to provide clarity and guidance with regard to WLUFA's public statements.

2.00 POLICY

2.01 This policy is intended to provide guidance on how the WLUFA Executive should respond to and prioritize requests for it to issue public statements. This policy is also intended to help make the process of issuing of public statements more transparent and consistent.

2.02 The WLUFA Executive may issue public statements based on the following guidelines:

1. Public statements should be directly related to the purpose of WLUFA as outlined in Article 2 of its Constitution and/or other values statements. They should go beyond simply restating the Association's core mission, purpose, and/or values.
2. Requests for public statements will take a higher priority when the issue under consideration is of immediate significance or is closely related to:
 - a. higher education, particularly in Canada,
 - b. Kitchener-Waterloo, Brantford, and Milton, or
 - c. the labour movement.
3. Any public statement should be accompanied by a concrete call to action and/or the sharing of relevant resources available to Members.
4. A Public Statements Sub-committee will be elected from the Executive to meet on an ad hoc basis to consider if and when to recommend that a public statement be issued. The Membership Engagement and Communications Officer will be an ex officio member of this Sub-committee. This Sub-committee will:
 - a. decide if the issue under consideration falls within the guidelines outlined by this policy;
 - b. check with OCUFA, CAUT, and WLUFA's network of communications officers at other Faculty Associations to see if they are drafting

statements on the issue under consideration. Any public statement issued by OCUFA or CAUT may be shared publicly by WLUFA by the Membership Engagement and Communications Officer in consultation with the Executive Director without having to be vetted by the Sub-committee;

- c. determine whether consultation with affected Members is necessary or advisable;
 - d. committee will approve the public statements prepared by the MECO;
 - e. share the draft public statement with the Executive Director and President to ensure it complies with applicable laws, institutional policies, and/or regulatory guidelines that may affect the Faculty Association; and
 - f. send the draft public statement to the Executive for a vote. The Sub-committee may recommend an emergency vote if deemed appropriate.
5. Any Member of WLUFA may request or recommend that the Association issue a public statement. Requests should be made to the Membership Engagement and Communications Officer, who will share it with the Executive's Public Statements Sub-committee.
 6. The Executive will review and update this policy and its criteria for issuing public statements on a regular basis.