

Algonquin College Security Directive - Protest Activity

Opportunity for Peaceful Expression

For generations, peaceful protests have driven progressive change in Canada. Algonquin College remains committed to supporting the right of Learners and Employees to express and discuss ideas freely.

This directive provides guidance to those wishing to organize or participate in protest activity at any Algonquin College campus.

Respect and Inclusivity

While fostering free expression, the College reserves the authority to determine if, where, and when protest activities can occur. Decisions will aim to ensure balance between individual rights, institutional operations, and College community safety.

As an Ontario Crown agency, Algonquin College upholds the laws and regulations of Ontario and Canada, and the directives of the Ministry of Colleges and Universities. Algonquin also establishes Policies and Directives to ensure that College properties are welcoming and safe, and that campus activities align with the College's values of caring, learning, integrity, and respect.

Rules to Protect the College Community

To ensure a safe and respectful environment is maintained, the following rules apply to protest activities:

1. **Authorized Timing and Location**
 - Authorization can be requested by email at: security@algonquincollege.com
 - Protests are permitted Monday to Friday between 11 a.m. and 5 p.m., exclusively on designated exterior College grounds. Overnight protests activities are prohibited.
2. **Respectful Conduct**
 - Protest activities must not obstruct access to campus buildings, academic areas, and essential operational services including the health clinic, Registrar's Office, and Security Office.
 - Participants must not engage in physical or verbal intimidation, harassment, or activities that restrict others' rights to assemble or express opposing views. Voice amplifying devices are not permitted.
3. **Non-Discrimination**
 - Protest chants, signs, recordings, or other forms of expression must not include hate speech (as defined within Canada's Criminal Code) or that serve to demean or discriminate against individuals or groups based on categories protected under the Ontario Human Rights Code, such as race, gender identity, or faith.
4. **Preservation of Safety and Property**
 - Protesters must not damage College property or the property of others and must not engage in activities that create safety risks or threats. Unauthorized temporary structures such as tents or barriers are prohibited, and space used for protest must be returned in its' original state.
 - If any situation occurs that requires an emergency response, protest activities must stop.
5. **Accountability**
 - If a College learner or employee organizes or joins a protest on College property, they will be expected to adhere to this Directive. If a protest on College property is attended by an external party (or parties) and they engage in conduct that breaches this Directive, College learners and employees will be expected to disengage from the protest activity.
 - College learners and employees must not obscure their faces for the purpose of evading identification.

Algonquin College reserves the right to withdraw authorization or intervene in protest activities at any time to protect the safety, rights, or operations of the College community. Protestors who engage in prohibited activities described above may be subject to disciplinary measures, including suspension, expulsion, or trespass orders.