Election Administrator's Decision

Decision# 2023/B/11

I received the attached complaint, which met the requirements of an official complaint under the CSU regulations. I received two other complaints from students who wished to remain anonymous dealing with essentially the same behaviour.

The complainant reported that candidate Nitika Singla approached him and his friends while they were eating in the cafeteria and encouraged them to vote for her in her presence. When they said they had already voted, she asked them to change their votes. The complainants, and two other witnesses, described her behaviour as "insistent" and "rude" and said that she bothered them for several minutes before going away.

CSU Procedure BD-06.1prohbits:

Applying pressure, encouragement, or a requirement for a voter to cast an electronic vote in the presence of a candidate, or passing around devices upon which a voter is pressured, encouraged, or required to vote, with a violation of this prohibition always deemed a serious offence;

In this case, I am convinced that Ms. Singla did encourage the complainants to vote in her presence. Aggressive campaigning and pressuring voters to vote in front of candidates is a serious problem on campus and one that creates an unpleasant and, in some cases, intimidating atmosphere during elections. However, as this is a first offence, I am issuing a warning to Ms Singla. Similar conduct by her in any future election will attract stronger penalties, including potentially disqualification.

The respondent has 48 hours from the time they receive this decision to submit an appeal in the manner set forth in CSU Procedure BD-06.1.

David Ennis

CSU Election Administrator

CSU Election Complaint Template

Submitted: October 5, 2023 · 09:58 Your full name: **Duncan Krywolt** Capilano University email address: Duncankrywolt@my.capilanou.ca What is the nature of your complaint? I have an official election complaint **Voting Trouble Ticket** This area may be blank if not applicable. What is your declared major and/or faculty? Are you an international or domestic student? If you were able to access your ballot, how did you do so? What issue are you encountering? Please provide any additional information: **Candidate Complaint** This area may be blank if not applicable. When did you learn about the issue you are complaining about? Oct 3, 2023

Are you a candidate, student, or other?

Student

Name of the person(s) you are complaining about. Nitika Singla

Names and contact details (email address and/or telephone number) of any witness who can verify your complaint:

Dae.lillee@gmail.com almaarguello@my.capilanou.ca

Description of the issue in question:

She came up to us while eating and encouraged us to vote for her, in her presence.

Upload any evidence you may have here:

How would you like the issue to be resolved? Some sort of penalty

Do you wish to remain anonymous?:

No, I understand that my identity will be published with my complaint