



## Wycliffe College Freedom of Speech Policy

As an institution of higher education, Wycliffe College believes in the principles of freedom of expression, and is committed to providing to all members of the College “the broadest possible latitude to speak, write, listen, challenge, and learn.”<sup>1</sup> As an institution charged with the responsibility of forming students in a distinct religious tradition, we furthermore believe that freedom is a divine gift that must be treasured and protected, and that its highest expression is found in the pursuit of God’s truth and in service to humanity.<sup>2</sup>

In accord with the University of Toronto’s “Statement on Freedom of Speech,”<sup>3</sup> Wycliffe College encourages the fullest range of discussion among its students, faculty, staff, management, and guests. We recognise, however, that the expressed ideas or opinions of different members of the College community can result in disagreement or cause offense. Without attempting to shield students from such ideas, the College seeks to maintain an environment of charity and mutual respect, where the truth may be “spoken in love.”<sup>4</sup>

We encourage Wycliffe student groups to adopt policies in alignment with this free speech policy, and any concerns about the policy or its implementation can be raised through the procedures set out in the appropriate handbook.<sup>5</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> [Report of the Committee on Freedom of Expression, University of Chicago \(2014\)](#).

<sup>2</sup> [Association of Theological Schools Policy Guidelines](#) (1976), p. 2. See also the [Solemn Declaration of the Anglican Church of Canada \(1893\)](#) and the [Book of Common Prayer \(1962\)](#). [These commitments are also protected by the University of Toronto Act, 1971](#) (amended December 15, 1978), 13(2). These commitments are also protected by subsection 13(2) of the UofT Act (as amended Dec 15, 1978).

<sup>3</sup>

<http://www.governingcouncil.utoronto.ca/Assets/Governing+Council+Digital+Assets/Policies/PDF/ppmay281992.pdf>

<sup>4</sup> Ephesians 4.15. See also the [backgrounder](#) to the MOTCU directive.

<sup>5</sup> Students can find these on the [TST web site](#); residents will find complaint procedures described in the Residents’ Handbook; and Faculty procedures are outlined in the Wycliffe College Faculty Handbook, 2001 (amended 26 April 2013).