

Ministry of Colleges and Universities

Office of the Minister

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MEMORANDUM TO: Presidents, Colleges of Applied Arts and Technology
Executive Heads, Publicly-Assisted Universities

FROM: The Honourable Jill Dunlop
Minister of Colleges and Universities

DATE: August 29, 2023

SUBJECT: **Student Codes of Conduct and Unsanctioned Gatherings**

Last year, shortly after the start of the Fall 2022 semester, I wrote to you about a student conduct issue and occurrences of unsanctioned large gatherings, including street parties. I appreciate the efforts you have made over the past year to work with your students and your postsecondary communities to address this challenge.

As we look ahead to the Fall 2023 semester, I encourage you to continue the good practices that you have established and to keep communicating with your students on this important matter.

As I noted last year, students should be reminded on an ongoing basis of the importance of:

- Respecting private and public property;
- Respecting the role of emergency services (e.g. Police, Fire, EMS) when emergency services are responding to calls for service and other emergencies in the community; and
- Respecting public and personal safety, including the prevention and reporting of crime.

Students should also be reminded that if their actions are in violation of codes of conduct – even if they are attending events at other institutions – it may have implications for them. Where students from other municipalities or institutions are attending events at your institutions and may be in violation of codes of conduct, I encourage you to work together on information-sharing, best practices and solutions,

being mindful of the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* and protecting privacy.

It continues to be the ministry's expectation that postsecondary institutions will support respectful and positive behaviour in postsecondary communities.

I know that you put significant effort into creating the conditions for safe and healthy postsecondary communities, including hosting a variety of different types of events and gatherings. I also know that you work hard to collaborate with your local municipalities and with other partners in your communities.

I appreciate that this remains a complex issue and would reiterate my offer from last year, that the ministry is here to engage with you and participate in any conversations you may wish to have on this topic. I encourage you to reach out to Deputy Minister Wai, should you wish to discuss this further.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jill Dunlop". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

The Honourable Jill Dunlop
Minister of Colleges and Universities

- c: Chairs, Boards of Governors, Publicly-Assisted Universities and Colleges of Applied Arts and Technology
- Marketa Evans, President and Chief Executive Officer, Colleges Ontario
- Steve Orsini, President and Chief Executive Officer, Council of Ontario Universities
- Doug Brewer, Chief of Staff, Minister's Office, Ministry of Colleges and Universities
- David Wai, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Colleges and Universities
- Mario Di Tommaso, Deputy Solicitor General, Community Safety
- Kelly Shields, Assistant Deputy Minister, Postsecondary Education Division, Ministry of Colleges and Universities
- Kenneth Weatherill, Assistant Deputy Minister (A), Public Safety Division, Ministry of the Solicitor General