**Academic Freedom Complaints Procedure**

**Parent Policy:** Academic Freedom Policy  
**Category:** Academic  
**Approval Date:** November 21, 2022  
**Procedure Owner:** Academic Policy Committee  
**Effective Date:** November 21, 2022  
**Procedure Administrator:** Office of the Vice President Academic and Provost  
**Review Period:** 5 years  
**Associated Documents**  
N/A

**PURPOSE**

This procedure establishes the required action to be taken in response to decisions appearing to infringe upon the academic freedoms in the Academic Freedom Policy.

**PROCEDURE**

1. In cases where Polytechnic policies or decisions appear to infringe upon the academic freedoms in this policy, any affected person may apply, in writing, to the Vice President Academic and Provost who calls for an ad hoc committee to resolve the issue.

2. The ad hoc committee is comprised of two members appointed by the Faculty Association of Red Deer Polytechnic, plus two members appointed by the Vice President Academic and Provost.

3. Those members then select on a simple plurality a fifth member. The five members so constituted then select a Chair amongst them who presides at the meetings of the ad hoc committee.

4. The ad hoc committee may investigate the complaint by requesting written submissions, interviewing individuals, and by holding hearings with the complainant and respondent present. The ad hoc committee establishes its process depending on the nature of the complaint and is only constrained by the principles of natural justice (a fair and unbiased hearing).

5. Decisions of the ad hoc committee are delivered in writing by the Chair to the persons who made submissions, to the committee, to the Faculty Association and to the Office of the Vice President Academic and Provost, normally within 30-days. The decision may include recommendations of remedy should the complaint be upheld. The decisions of the ad hoc committee are final and binding.