



**Office of the President
Mount Royal University**
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October 31, 2014

Mr. Nicholas McLeod
c/o John Carpay
Justice Centre for Constitutional Freedoms
#253, 7620 Elbow Drive, SW
Calgary, AB T2V 1K2

Dear Mr. McLeod:

As the President of Mount Royal University, and on its behalf, I write to sincerely apologize for the treatment you experienced while you were distributing flyers on campus on February 19, 2013. We acknowledge that our campus community officers acted hastily, and in doing so inappropriately curtailed your freedom of expression, used unnecessary force to unlawfully detain and search you, and seized some of your personal items. We recognize and regret that those actions breached your rights under the Charter of Rights and Freedoms, and that this has negatively impacted you.

Mount Royal University prides itself on creating a safe and welcoming environment for students, faculty and visitors to share ideas and debate topics from diverse viewpoints.

We recognize that this was not the environment that you experienced and genuinely regret that the policies we have in place to encourage and facilitate free speech were not followed. We have, and will be, taking a number of steps to prevent future incidents like this.

Moving forward, a new security manager is in place to oversee Mount Royal University's team of community officers. Supplementary training will be conducted to ensure that community officers understand the interaction between the Charter of Rights and Freedoms and their duties in maintaining a safe campus environment.

In addition, we are engaged in continuously reviewing and updating our security department policies and related training materials to ensure that our community officers understand procedures regarding the responsible distribution of non-academic materials on campus.

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Although we do not condone the actions of our Campus Community Officers while you were on campus, we intend to clarify in our training materials whose role it is to evaluate the content of materials being distributed on campus.

We take matters of free expression seriously, as we do the safety and security of all members of, and visitors to, our campus community. It is unfortunate that this incident has emphasized our need to continuously assess and improve the implementation of our policies, but we will strive to do so. Once again, we reiterate our most sincere apologies.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "David Docherty", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

David Docherty, PhD
President