



October 6th, 2015

Christian Naggar,

This letter is to confirm that the Speak for the Weak application for ratification has been denied, as submitted on Wednesday August 19th, 2015. By reiterating the Founding Principles of the Student Association and further analyzing our stance we hope to address any concerns you may have in regards to our decision. This has been a collective resolution made by the 2015/2016 Executive Team.

In the by-laws of the Student Association, specifically the statement of principles, it states:

We, the students of Durham College and the University of Ontario Institute of Technology (UOIT), recognizing the need to speak with one voice in asserting our legitimate needs and concerns, wish to express our support for one campus-wide student association whose basic aims will be as follows:

- (g) To work toward building an environment free of systemic societal oppression and decolonization; and to do all other things that are incidental or conducive to these purposes.

This statement places responsibility unto our members to ensure that human rights are not infringed and establish an anti-oppressive framework to make the SA a more equitable and accessible place for everyone. As the democratically elected leaders, it is our responsibility to uphold the mandate of the SA to embrace the freedom of women and uphold a woman's legal right to reproductive freedom. Ultimately, we support a woman's right and freedom to choose her own path.

In your application it states that one of the events includes traveling to Ottawa for the National March for Life organized by the Campaign Life Coalition. This organization openly opposes same-sex marriages and discredits the LGBTQ+ community contradicting our equity mandate as we strive to challenge all forms of oppression based on race, gender, sexuality, class, religion, immigration status, country of origin, age and physical ability.

We are aware that public opinion may differ, however, medical service of abortion is public and legal in Canada and the SA supports that right. This decision does not ban students from organizing on campus, or limit freedom of speech, it prioritizes the distribution of the memberships' funds to equity seeking groups.

Thank you for voicing your concerns. Please do not hesitate to contact the President of the Student Association at sapres@dc-uoit.ca.

The SA Executive Team.