

Ministry of Training,
Colleges and Universities

Ministère de la Formation et des
Collèges et Universités



Postsecondary Education
Division

Division de l'éducation
postsecondaire

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May 13, 2014

Mr. Joseph Hickey
Executive Director
Ontario Civil Liberties Association
204 – 180 Metcalfe Street
Ottawa ON K2P 1P5
Joseph.hickey@ocla.ca

Dear Mr. Hickey,

Thank you for your correspondence expressing your concerns about the use of public funds by the University of Ottawa. I have been asked to respond on behalf of the Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities.

I have been advised that the Ontario Civil Liberties Association wrote to Allan Rock, President of the University of Ottawa, about this issue and that he responded on September 11, 2013 that he had taken note of your concerns.

As you may be aware, all publicly assisted universities in Ontario are autonomous institutions established by individual statutes. Each university's board of governors is responsible for setting policies and for the operation of the university, including the university's budget and financial management of the university. While capital funds are dedicated for specific purposes, this ministry does not have the authority to intervene in decisions concerning the specific use of operating funds by Ontario's universities.

However, it is important to note that postsecondary institutions in Ontario have access to funds other than publicly provided operating grants. University operating funds come from various sources such as returns on investment, private donations and tuition fees.

I trust this information is helpful. Thank you again for writing.

Sincerely,

Joanne Brown
Director (Acting)
Postsecondary Accountability Branch
Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities