



McMaster Students Union
Federal All Candidates Debate
Monday, April 18th, 2011 | 6:00-8:00pm
CIBC Hall, McMaster University Students Centre

Standing Rules

Purpose

To establish the procedure by which the 201 Hamilton Federal All-Candidate's Debate will occur.

Introduction and Topics

Immediately prior to the debate, the MSU Speaker, as the moderator of the debate, will briefly explain the structure and proceedings. The Speaker shall entertain questions from the candidates, regarding this structure, for a period not exceeding five (5) minutes.

Procedure

The debate procedure shall consist of both pre-submitted questions and questions from the audience. Questions will be submitted online by students through the MSU website. Question that are submitted beforehand and those from the floor must be asked of all candidates. The Speaker shall rule a question out of order if the nature of the question is derogatory, accusatory, or resides outside the jurisdiction of the federal sphere.

Candidates will be permitted a four (4) minute opening statement at the beginning of the debate and a four (4) minute closing statement at the end of the debate, with questions in between.

Each question will allow each candidate:

- Position statements, limited to two (2) minutes per candidate;
- Rebuttal, limited to one (1) minute per candidate, upon request.

Special Rules

Each candidate is asked to maintain the highest level of decorum, and respect the time limits enforced by the Speaker.

The use of electronic devices shall be prohibited by the candidates, including laptops, cell phones, BlackBerries, smartphones and other devices as determined by and at the discretion of the Speaker.