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Allan Rock

From: Allan Rock
Sent: Friday March 26, 2010 9:44 AM
To: Huguette Labelle
Subject: RE: CONFIDENTIAL | Reference - Ann Coulter

Done. Will call at 10:45 or so soon thereafter as the call with Minister Milloy ends.

Many thanks.

From: Huguette Labelle [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday March 26, 2010 9:43 AM
To: Allan Rock
Subject: Re: CONFIDENTIAL | Reference - Ann Coulter

1045 would be great for me since I will need to leave at 1130 for the MBA University Seminar.

Huguette

----- Original Message -----

From: Allan Rock
To: Huguette Labelle
Sent: Friday, March 26, 2010 9:12 AM
Subject: RE: CONFIDENTIAL | Reference - Ann Coulter

Huguette:

Can we speak by telephone today? I want to give you an up-date. What time is best? I have a conference call with Ontario Education Minister at 10:15-10:45 and another call at 1:15-1:45. I am to see François after 3 pm.

Allan

From: Huguette Labelle [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday March 26, 2010 8:37 AM
To: Allan Rock
Subject: Re: CONFIDENTIAL | Reference - Ann Coulter

Allan

I just returned from the UN late last night and was not able to check emails while at the UN

I do not see any harm in sending her a letter which we could then use as necessary.

However, I see two central questions.

Will an invitation rekindle the debate within the University between opponents and proponents to Ann Coulter and place you in the middle of that debate?

How will she and Levant use this letter to extend the debate? This is less of an issue than the first question since they will work at extending the debate regardless.

I am available to speak this morning at any time. I will be giving a speech at noon today (Friday) at the University

to the MBA students. This event may turn out to be different than intended if some students or professors decide to focus on this week's event.

Huguette

----- Original Message -----

From: Allan Rock

To: 'HUGUETTE LABELLE'

Sent: Wednesday, March 24, 2010 4:49 PM

Subject: CONFIDENTIAL | Reference - Ann Coulter

Huguette:

This message and the attached draft have been prepared for the purpose of seeking legal advice with respect to a potential Human Rights Commission complaint against the University. We have also included the media statement sent today to both external and internal audiences.

Here is the background:

1. The University's commitment to freedom of expression is sincere.
2. Notwithstanding her views, the University did nothing to oppose Ann Coulter's scheduled appearance.
3. We regret that it did not happen as planned.
4. The letter that we sent to her in advance was intended not to limit her freedom but to encourage civil discourse.
5. Nonetheless, the letter, especially given the cancellation last night, is being used to argue that the University did not enable Coulter to exercise her freedom of expression.
6. Editorial and professional opinion has been generally negative towards the University's handling of this matter.
7. Classic communication strategy would favour avoiding any step that might prolong coverage and sustain the issue in the media.
8. At the same time, the most tangible way to demonstrate the sincerity of our commitment to freedom of expression, an absence of intent to exclude Coulter, and respect for the standards of conduct contained in Human Rights legislation, is to invite her to return.
9. An invitation to Ms. Coulter to return to the campus would demonstrate good faith on the part of the University and an unqualified commitment to freedom of expression.

Your comments on the proposed purpose (i.e., sending the attached letter to Ms. Coulter and its contents) would be greatly appreciated before noon tomorrow.

Allan