

MASK POLICY VOTING

November 16, 2022

Letters to the Editor



ILLUSTRATION BY GABRIEL WILLOW

Dear Editors,

I was disturbed to read the email of October 21, 2022, on the voting results for the mask policy. More than 4,600 members took time to vote on the issue, and there was an 8-point margin between masks optional for all (51%) and masks required for all

(43%). The voting presented the idea of a democratic decision-making process of majority rules by voting. We were only then to learn that the General Coordinators made a wholesale decision that the 8- point spread was too close (based on what?) and decided internally to keep the masks.

If a small minority can decide the outcome in spite of the voting, and regardless of the actual counts, I wonder where that leaves us. Better not to ask for a vote at all.

Olivia Rokotuiveikau (Stinson)