

**2019 Election
Candidate Platforms
and
U-Pass Referendum
Platforms**



**DOUGLAS
STUDENTS**
UNION BCFS LOC.6

Candidate Platforms



DIRECTOR OF MEMBERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

My name is Francis Ataiza and I am running to be your 'Director of Membership Development in the 2019 Douglas Students Union as a part of Team Action! I am in the Child and Youth Care program pursuing a Bachelor's Degree at the Coquitlam campus. I want to one day be able to become a Youth Counselor for the school district.

I am hoping to be re-elected for my 3rd term as a Director on the board. The Director of Membership Development position will be based out of Coquitlam and is replacing the Coquitlam Campus Director position. A position I served in my last 2 terms. I am looking forward to exploring the type of services and benefits that the Director of Membership Development has to offer to students and if re-elected, I promise to look at all options that can help support the students of Douglas College.

The college is nothing without their students. The students matter and Team Action will do everything in our power to advocate for the students and for what the students think is important. We will make sure that every student is heard and properly plan to achieve those goals. We will take ACTION!



DIRECTOR OF CAMPUS LIFE

My name is Melissa Chirino and I'm running for Director of Campus life at Douglas student's Union in the 2019 elections as a part of Team Action. I'm in my second year of Associates of Arts – Humanities and Social Sciences with the hopes of becoming a successful Psychologist.

As an international student, I had to get accustomed as soon as possible and my way of doing this was getting involved on campus. I am currently the Pride representative in the Student's Union, and this was a great chance to work alongside other directors and students. I want to continue fighting for students by advocating our 'Fairness for International Students' and 'Open Education Resources' campaigns.

I consider events on campus as great importance to improve the experience of students, that's why I would like to continue holding movie days, dog therapy, and free food events, pub nights, beverage garden but also implementing off campus events for all ages.

The Douglas Student's Union has done such an amazing job in the last couple years and with Team Action, we want to continue this hard work to enrich the experiences of members making post-secondary affordable and enjoyable.



DIRECTOR OF COLLEGE RELATIONS

My name is Telka Pesklevits and I'm running for "Director of College Relations" in the 2019 Douglas College Student Union elections as a part of Team Action. I'm a Creative Writing and Business student.

Throughout my semesters studying at Douglas I have been lucky enough to work at the Future Students' Office, for Douglas College Student Life, at Aboriginal Student Services, as well being elected as a student representative on the Douglas College Board of Governors. Along with this, I am currently the incumbent Director of College Relations and have spent my last two years at the students' union advocating for improved services, campus space, and food services at Douglas College. Not only have I been working closely with the college, but also the DSU Crew volunteer program. That's why I'm looking to improve the volunteer program to give more opportunities for skills training and involvement for Douglas students.

Continual improvement of the Douglas College student experience is my goal, along with my team. Team Action wants to improve on our already vibrant campus experience as well as make post-secondary education more accessible. Vote Action this election.



DIRECTOR OF EXTERNAL RELATIONS

Hi! My name is Mitchel Gamayo and I'm running to be your 'Director of External Relations' in the 2019 Douglas College Student Union elections as a part of Team Action. I'm a third year Associate of Arts student specializing in Environmental Studies.

Throughout my semesters studying at Douglas, I have been fortunate enough to volunteer with the Students' Union for two years. Along with this, I currently sit on the board as one of your Directors at Large. Over the years I have been able to work closely on some of the provincial campaigns advocating for affordable and accessible education with the current Director of External Relations and as part of the DSU Campaigns Working group.

I believe that every student has the right to affordable and accessible post-secondary education. Through campaigning for Open Education Resources and the elimination of interest on student loans as well as advocating for tuition fee caps for international students; I hope my team, Action, and I can continue to advocate and bring campaigns to Douglas College that will help relieve some of the financial burdens that post-secondary students face.



DIRECTOR OF FINANCE

My name is Abby Mitro and I'm running for "Director of Finance" in the 2019 Douglas Students' Union elections as a part of team Action. I'm in my third year of Associates of Arts - Future Teachers. I'm pursuing becoming a high school special education teacher as I finish my degree in ten years.

During my years at Douglas, I've been lucky enough to play on the women's varsity volleyball team while also currently being a Director at Large at the Students' Union! I have had the amazing opportunity to meet with local members of parliament to talk with them about students' needs in and out of the college. This is a passion of mine and I hope to be able to continue making a difference on and off campus.

Every student should be able to have access to a more affordable post-secondary education. Through lobbying with the government and putting a face to the thousands of names who need a voice to fight for them, Team Action and I hope to aid students by putting a cap on international tuition fees, lobbying to eliminate interest on student loans and hold the government accountable! Don't forget to vote Action!



CAMPUS REPRESENTATIVE - COQUITLAM

My name is Joel Codoy and I am running for Campus Representative - Coquitlam in the 2019 Douglas College Student Union elections alongside my team, Action. I am enrolled in the Bachelors of Arts in Applied Criminology. My ambition is to become a police officer.

In my first term as a student representative, I was able to recognize numerous student campaigns that still need further attention, including the implementation of "Open Educational Resources" and a tuition cap on international student fees. I want to continue supporting the Douglas College students by fulfilling a position in which I can act and make a difference.

Furthermore, I would like to continue adding to the student experience by supporting on and off campus events. In the past year, we facilitated various events that engaged students, including the very first DSU Beverage Garden, pub nights and free food days. As a student, I believe that these events enrich the post-secondary experience. Through campaigns and on-campus activities, my team, Action, and I will act to generate awareness and continue representing Douglas College students.



CAMPUS REPRESENTATIVE - COQUITLAM

My name is Sherlyn Tang and I am running to be a 'Campus Representative' at the Coquitlam Campus in the 2019 Douglas Students' Union elections as part of Team Action. I am in my second year of the Early Childhood Education program and will be receiving my diploma in June. Afterwards, I plan to work towards earning my certification in Special Needs and Infants and Toddlers as well as my degree.

During my semesters at Douglas, I have actively volunteered with the student union through which I've built significant experiences and friendships. Along with this, I am a part of the Douglas Students' Union Campaigns Working Group where we review different campaigns as well as how to reach our student body to discuss the issues we advocate for.

I believe that all students should have access to a fun, engaging, and interactive experience on campus during post-secondary. Through our free food events, movie days, beverage gardens, carnivals, and pub nights, I hope that me and my team, Action, are able to bring meaningful experiences to Douglas College. With this in mind, we hope to interest and engage the students to facilitate a memorable and valuable adventure throughout their education.



CAMPUS REPRESENTATIVE - NEW WESTMINSTER

Hello! My name is Amrita Ramkumar. I am in my second year, in the Commerce and Business Administration program. I am running to be a 'Campus Representative' at the New Westminster Campus in the 2019 Douglas College Student Union Elections with the team Action.

Being involved in the Douglas College community for over a year has been memorable and I've loved and learnt from all my experiences. I am currently a Student Ambassador and volunteer with the Future Students' Office.

Volunteering with different departments across the college has given me an opportunity to meet new people and gain valuable skills and experiences. I have also volunteered for events like Edge as a leader. Giving back to the community has aided me in being more self-empowered in my personal, academic and professional life.

Rising tuition fees can be a nightmare. Education should be fair and affordable to all. Being an international student, I understand how expensive education can get. Our team, Action, is campaigning for a tuition fee cap on international fees to make it fair for all international students in British Columbia. This change in financial feasibility on tuition fees would benefit students who would typically be saddled with debt.



CAMPUS REPRESENTATIVE - NEW WESTMINSTER

My name is Eric Sundmark and I am running for a "Campus Representative" position in the 2019 Douglas College Student Union as part of team Action. I am in the third year of my Bachelor of Business Administration, Majoring in Accounting. As I further my education here, I am proud to say that I am a part of the Men's Volleyball team at Douglas College.

During my time as a Royal I have been a part of the wonderful athletics community that was created in the years prior to my arrival. I hope to use my connection with the Royals family to help spread pride throughout the entire school. Our team will help build the community I believe Douglas College should have. We will continue to host events such as our pub nights, free food days, and expand on our first DSU Beverage Garden event. Through our events we will enrich the community at our school and connect with the students more throughout the year. In recent years strides have been made by the DSU to create a community at Douglas College and I would like to continue this progress in any way that I can.



CAMPUS REPRESENTATIVE - NEW WESTMINSTER

Hey everyone! My name is Klyde Ouano and I'm running as one of your "Campus Representative - New Westminster Campus" in the 2019 Douglas College Student Union Elections as part of Team Action. I am a fourth year Accounting student.

I have been involved in many campus organizations/clubs such as Student Ambassadors, Student Engagement as part of the Social Media Team and currently a member of DCBA. I spent the last two years as a student representative at the students' union actively engaging the Douglas community in campus life events, advocating for better campus services and working with the DSU crew volunteer program. I want to bring a more inclusive and active community in Douglas College where student voices are heard.

As a member of Team Action, I wish to further carry on the work that we have started to help students fight for a more accessible education. I also wish to see more clubs being more active and involved with community than we do now and continue to have more consistently amazing events for everyone. I believe that Team Action will continue to stay true to their word and bring more change needed at Douglas College.



CAMPUS REPRESENTATIVE - NEW WESTMINSTER

My name is Nikiel Lal and I'm running to be a 'Campus Representative' at the New Westminster Campus in the 2019 Douglas College Student Union elections as a part of Team Action. I'm a second year Sports Science student completing a Bachelor's Degree in Physical Education and Coaching.

As a second year Douglas College student, I have had many opportunities to work with faculty members to pursue the things I am passionate about. Being president of the Sports Science Student Council has allowed me to create events that bring our program together. I would like to use my leadership experience to create a similar positive impact for all Douglas College students.

I believe that every student has the right to accessible and affordable education. With the rising costs of textbooks and tuition fees, I strongly believe that our team, Action, will continue to advocate for accessible education through campaigns like Open Education Resources. We will also continue tackle affordability related issues for students in BC. These are the issues that I believe are important for creating a better experience for all students at Douglas.



INDIGENOUS STUDENTS' REPRESENTATIVE

Hello! My name is Caitlin Spreeuw and I am running to be your 'Indigenous Representative' in the 2019 Douglas Students' Union elections as a part of Team Action. I am in my first year of the Associate of Science program.

Though I have only been at Douglas College for a short time, I have made it my goal to be as involved as I can be. I have volunteered with the Students' Union as well as with the Future Students Office as a Student Ambassador. I was fortunate enough to get a job working for the Future Students Office as well.

I am proud of my Indigenous background (I'm Metis) but unfortunately, I haven't had much opportunity for continued cultural learning because indigenous cultures are not taught enough in post-secondary. This is something that I would like to improve at Douglas College. It is important for all cultures and communities to feel like they have a voice, and as the Indigenous Representative, I would like to be that voice for the Indigenous community. I hope to bring attention to Indigenous culture while also supporting my team, Action's, campaigns.



ACCESSIBILITY REPRESENTATIVE

My name is Daragh and I am running for 'Accessibility Representative' as a part of team Action in the 2019 Douglas College Student Union Elections. This is my second year at Douglas and I am working toward an Associate of Science degree.

As a first-year student, I took course after course without acknowledging my needs for instructional and exam accommodations. As a result, my health and grades suffered; I ended up having to withdraw from courses in order to look after myself and put supports in place. Accessibility services helped me find accommodations that suited my needs as a student with a disability. Through advocating for myself, I learned how to communicate needs and barriers effectively. Post-secondary should be accessible for all folks, no matter the barrier. Together with team Action, I aim to improve the accessibility of social events. I am excited to continue facilitating mental health related activities, but we NEED to make these services available to students with physical accessibility needs as well. I look forward to providing open dialogue about what diverse accessibility looks like and put that into action. Needs come in all shapes and sizes—so should supports.



PRIDE REPRESENTATIVE

My name is Mae Jamisola. I am running in this upcoming Douglas College Student Union election as the Pride Representative as part of Team Action. I am a first year student, diligently working towards completing my diploma before transferring to the Justice Institute of British Columbia. I aspire to be a great police officer someday.

During my time at Douglas, I decided to get involved in the student movement and started going to events hosted by the Pride Collective as well as general events like the monthly pub night. My goal is to provide a safe and positive environment for those who fall under the LGBTQ2S+ community.

If chosen to be your Pride Representative, my team, Action and I will continue to create and host events for the LGBTQ2S+ community because it is my priority to create a place where people can go and be themselves without the fear of judgement. Continuing to achieve a safe environment for all students will create a better experience for Douglas College students. I would like to continue to creating these events because they have made me feel so welcomed.



WOMEN STUDENTS' REPRESENTATIVE

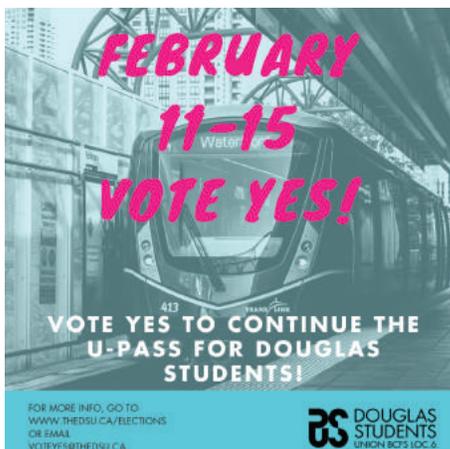
My name is Gurpinder Gaidu and I am running for Women Student's Representative in the 2019 Douglas College Student Union elections as a part of Team Action. I am a fourth year Criminology student pursuing a Bachelor's Degree in Applied Criminology with goals to have a career in law enforcement.

Being a student at Douglas College has provided me with many wonderful opportunities such as being able to volunteer with the Douglas Students Union for 3 years. Along with this, I have been able to start a Criminology Association which is open to every student at Douglas that provide resources and support from their fellow peers and faculty. I am very passionate about bringing the best and most supportive experience at campus, as every student should feel supported throughout their journey.

Every woman is important, every woman is strong and more importantly every woman has a voice. Therefore, if chosen to be your Women's Representative, I along with my team, Action, will continue the work of the Women's Student's Collective, including organizing and hosting events while implementing campaigns regarding women's and gender issues. My goal is to bring a fun, safe and open-hearted place for all women to feel empowered.

U-Pass Platforms

YES CAMPAIGN



U-Pass BC is a universal transit program offered by Douglas College in partnership with the Douglas Students' Union (DSU), TransLink and the Province of British Columbia. U-Pass BC provides affordable access to public transit in Metro Vancouver for eligible students. All public post-secondary institutions in the lower mainland are part of the program.

Douglas College students have participated in the U-Pass BC program since September 2011. The original agreement was renewed in January 2013 through a referendum held by the DSU. Eighty-seven percent of students supported the renewed U-Pass BC agreement. In December 2016, a 2-year extension was agreed upon.

Our current agreement is approaching its' end. The Province and TransLink are proposing a new 5-year agreement starting in May 2020 at \$42.50/month, followed by annual increases of 2% until April 2025. This means that the cost to students would only be \$46/month (which is only \$5/month more).

Currently, the amount that students pay per semester (a 4 month pass) is less than a 1 month 3-zone pass for the general public. Voting YES for the U-Pass BC program and these fee changes will not only keep the cost of the U-pass lower, but also make it predictable, unlike the price increases faced by the general public (which may increase by an unknown amount any given year).

The U-Pass BC program is an important service to our members. We are a commuter school whose campuses reside along Skytrain lines, with members from communities who rely heavily on public transit.

The benefits of this program are clear, and, for the benefit of all students, members need to vote YES in order to keep the U-Pass BC Program at Douglas College.

For more information, visit www.thedsu.ca/elections or email voteyes@thedsu.ca

NO CAMPAIGN - There is not a registered No campaign

Voting Times and Locations

	NWC: CONCOURSE	COQ: AB ATRIUM	ANVIL: 7TH FLOOR
MONDAY	12:00-7:00	12:00-7:00	-
TUESDAY	9:00-3:00	9:00-3:00	2:00-4:00
WEDNESDAY	12:00-7:00	12:00-7:00	11:00-1:00
THURSDAY	9:00-4:00	9:00-4:00	-
FRIDAY	9:00-12:00	9:00-12:00	-

***STUDENTS MUST SHOW VALID DOUGLAS COLLEGE ID OR VALID GOVERNMENT ISSUED ID TO BE ELIGIBLE TO VOTE**