



2020-2021

ANNUAL REPORT

 DOUGLAS
STUDENTS
UNION BCFS LOC. 6

 DOUGLAS
STUDENTS
UNION BCFS LOC. 6



DSU

TABLE OF CONTENTS

| | |
|---|---------|
| MESSAGE TO MEMBERS | PAGE 4 |
| CAMPUS LIFE | PAGE 5 |
| MEMBERSHIP OUTREACH & COMMUNICATIONS | PAGE 7 |
| CAMPAIGNS | PAGE 11 |
| COLLECTIVES | PAGE 14 |
| SERVICES, SPACES & BUILDING | PAGE 18 |
| GOVERNMENT RELATIONS | PAGE 25 |
| COLLEGE RELATIONS | PAGE 26 |
| INTERNAL AFFAIRS & FINANCES | PAGE 30 |
| BOARD OF DIRECTORS & STAFF | PAGE 34 |

DEAR MEMBERS,

Please accept for your consideration the Students' Union's Annual Report covering September 2020 to August 2021.

This was a unique year for many of us. With the 2020-2021 school year being held almost exclusively online, the Students' Union took a different approach to the services, advocacy, and campus life that we offer students and found new ways to connect with members.

Campus life continued throughout the year with virtual events. From Netflix movie nights to online game nights and guided painting, our online events allowed members to stay connected during this challenging time.

We continued to support the important work of the DSU Collectives through virtual events such as the DSU Accessibility Collective's guided stretching, the DSU Indigenous Students' Collectives virtual Artisans Fair, the Pride Collective's socials and Pride month celebrations, and the Womens' Collective's movie screenings and self-defense workshops.

A major campaign that we worked on during the 2020-2021 year was our election campaign called, Take it Over. The goal of the Take it Over campaign was to increase and encourage youth participation in the October 24 Provincial Election. This was also the first full year that the Students' Union was signed on to the Moosehide and Period Promise campaigns, and we were able to do a lot of work on both of those campaigns, including participating in our first Moosehide Campaign Day in February 2021.

Throughout the year, we saw an increase in membership engagement through our online spaces such as our DS App and on all our social media platforms. We used Instagram and Facebook as our main way to interact and communicate with members.

Services were expanded to offer more to support members: we created more business partnerships in the Deals App to offer more discounts for members, expanded the emergency food bank to allow for students to request e-gift cards for financial food support, and created a program to mail students handbooks to anywhere in Canada.

The DSU building was open for the majority of the 2020-2021 year. Summer 2021, we saw a slow increase in members returning to campus over the summer semester, and by August 2021 we were able to re-open our student lounges and study spaces at both campuses in a safe manner for members.

Looking at the year ahead, we will continue to offer and expand the most important services to our members. We will continue to build our community online, and in-person for members to stay connected and safe, and we will continue to focus on advocating for increased access to post-secondary education. We have been able to accomplish a lot this past year and these goals were only achieved because of the support and work of you, our members. We hope to continue to work together with you, tackling the challenges on the road ahead.

**In Solidarity,
Douglas Students' Union Board of Directors**

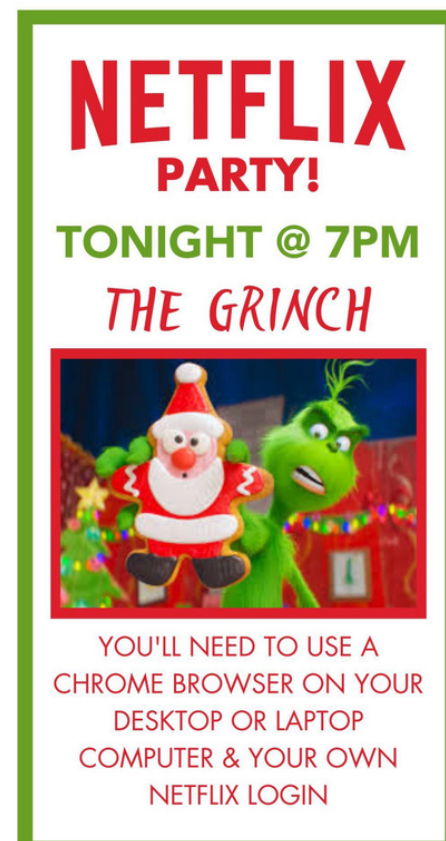
CAMPUS LIFE

The Students' Union provides a wide variety of events throughout the year to create a fun and enjoyable experience outside of the classroom for our members! The Students' Union hosts events for members to build community, to learn outside of the classroom and to provide an opportunity to meet and make new friends - in a fun and memorable way. Whether members attend social events, dog therapy days, wellness events or advocacy-centered events, we hope participation supports members to feel more connected to the Douglas community.

As classes remained online for the 2020-2021 year, Students' Union events remained online and virtual for the majority to ensure the safety of our members. Events were held using Zoom, Teleparty, Instagram Live, as well as videos recorded by Students' Union Representatives were posted, and released interactive shareables on social media for members to stay connected with the community.

FALL 2020 EVENTS

- Welcome Week tabling (on campus) - September 8-11, 2020
- EDGE (virtual) - September 18-19, 2020
 - DSU Virtual Guided Painting
 - Game of Loans EDGE Station
 - DSU Live DJ Party
- Netflix Party "Venom" - September 24, 2020
- Online Halloween Videos - October 25 & October 28, 2020
 - Halloween Baking
 - DIY Halloween Craft
- Halloween Netflix Party "Scooby-doo" - October 29, 2020
- DSU Virtual Hangout- Halloween Spooky Storytelling - October 30, 2020
- DSU Engagement Videos - November 2 - November 4, 2020
 - Baking Video
 - Workout Video
- Long Night Against Procrastination - November 25, 2020
- Netflix Party "Dr. Seuss's The Grinch" - December 10, 2020
- Holiday Virtual Hangout - December 17, 2020



WINTER 2021 EVENTS

- DSU Virtual Hangout - Pictionary & Jackbox Games - January 6, 2021
- EDGE - January 15, 2021
 - Charades Activity
 - Guided Painting Afterparty
- Valentine's Day Challenge on Social Media - February 14, 2021
- Netflix Party "Spiderman: Into the Spider-Verse"- February 23, 2021
- Long Night Against Procrastination- March 10, 2021
- Health Fair March 15-19, 2021
- Netflix Party "MOXIE!" - March 25, 2021
- Tik Tok Study Contest - April 6, 2021
- International Movie Week - April 12-16, 2021
 - Okja – April 12, 2021
 - Zindagi Na Milegi Dobara – April 13, 2021
 - A Silent Voice – April 14, 2021
 - Because we are Girls (with Women's Collective) - April 15, 2021
 - Letters to Juliet – April 16, 2021
- Virtual Games Hangout- April 23, 2021

SUMMER 2021 EVENTS

- Summer Welcome & Virtual Hangout - May 13, 2021
- DSU Wellness Event "The Power of Compassion w/ Eman Salem"- May 19, 2021
- Netflix Party "Spirited Away"- May 26, 2021
- Netflix Party "Grown Ups"- June 30, 2021
- Tik Tok & Reels Video "BC Parks & Activities"- July 12, 2021
- DSU Wellness Guided Painting - July 15, 2021
- Netflix Party "Fatherhood"- July 21, 2021



MEMBERSHIP OUTREACH & COMMUNICATIONS

CLUBS

Students' Union clubs are a great way for members to make connections & build social networks outside of the classroom on common interests. It was a busy year of club activities, engagement, and improvements to services to support clubs.

Club Registration Packages

- 13 club packages received and accepted in Fall 2020
- 5 packages received and accepted in Winter 2021.
- There were 18 ratified clubs and the Students' Union allocated \$4,788 in funding based on requests from clubs.

Clubs Fair Events

The Students' Union hosted club fairs both in the Fall and Winter semesters. The club fairs were hosted virtually through zoom, as well as Instagram takeovers for the clubs.

Fall 2020

- 6 clubs participated - September 16, 2020
- 5 clubs participated - September 17, 2020

Winter 2021

- 13 clubs participated - January 19, 2021

DSU Clubs Council

DSU Clubs Council met twice during the 2020-2021 year

- Fall 2020 - October 2, 2020
- Winter 2020 - February 5, 2021

In summer 2020, clubs requested more support from the Students' Union via social media, as well as a better form of communication. A club SLACK workspace was created in July 2020 and in Fall 2020 it became a main form of communication for clubs, within their club and with the Students' Union.



VOLUNTEER PROGRAM

The DSU Crew volunteer program was created as a way for members to have an opportunity to engage with the Students' Union on events and campaigns, the program is a way to train members on the work of the Students' Union.

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the volunteer program was put on pause for the majority of the 2020-2021 year. In February 2021, the Students' Union began meeting to transition the volunteer program to an online format for members.

The program transitioned to a points-based system for volunteers to collect points based on the different tasks available.

With the new volunteer format, the Students' Union began to advertise the volunteer program and again and hosted trainings on:

- Friday March 26, 2021
- Monday March 29, 2021
- Tuesday April 13, 2021

As of May 2021, there were 16 active volunteers.

In the Summer of 2021, when Douglas College announced that classes and services would begin to return to campus, the Students' Union decided to resume in-person volunteer training sessions and volunteer program.

Volunteer Training sessions were hosted on:

- Thursday August 19, 2021
- Friday August 20, 2021
- Monday August 23, 2021

As of August 2021, there were 59 active volunteers.



COMMUNICATIONS

The Students' Union has a number of different ways to communicate with members and this year, expanded some of those channels to increase engagement. With the ongoing pandemic, the Students' Union focused resources to ensure open and responsive communications with members about services and directed them to various Douglas College departments for specific needs and concerns.

DIGITAL COMMUNICATIONS

DSU WEBSITE

- www.thedsu.ca

SOCIAL MEDIA @THEDSU6

- Instagram
- Facebook
- Twitter
- Tik Tok

THE DS APP

The DS App is a platform where members can access information on Students' Union services and connect with other Douglas members through the social tools.

The Students' Union partners with DC Global Engagement and International Education departments to deliver more information to members. This was a partnership created in early 2020 and continued into 2021.

ON-CAMPUS COMMUNICATIONS

BULLETIN BOARDS & CONCOURSE/TRIUMS

The Students' Union limited the use of bulletin boards and rolling boards in Concourse and Atrium as the main form of communication to members this year as not a lot of students were on campus. In Summer 2021, the Students' Union began to use rolling boards and bulletin boards on campus as students began to visit campus for in-person services.

CLASS TALKS

The Students' Union was invited to speak at 6 classes in September 2020 and 2 classes in January 2021 about the Students' Union (as part of Welcome Weeks).

E-NEWSLETTER

In fall 2020, the Students' Union launched an e-newsletter to members using the program Constant Contact. The e-newsletter was sent out monthly and included upcoming campus life, services, and advocacy information. The newsletter was also used to email members when prizes were won and for follow-up feedback from events. The E-newsletter had over 2200 members sign up throughout the year. The students' union sent out 14 newsletters updates during the 2020-2021 year.

COMMUNICATIONS:

IN RESPONSE TO COVID-19

During the 2020-21 year, all Students' Union communications continued to be in online formats. The Students' Union utilized all platforms to keep members updated and as informed as possible. The Students' Union supported members with questions they had about updates or requests for Douglas College.

- Responded to any, and all members who reached out to us within 2 business days.
- Created videos for New Student Orientation about Students' Union service updates.
- Created video messages from the Board of Directors to members.

WEBSITE

- Campus and Students' Union updates were posted on the COVID-19 webpage on the Students' Union website www.thedsu.ca/covid-19
- The COVID-19 webpage was updated as new information was released and included information from the BC and Federal governments and their programs, CDC information, health and wellness resources, income assistance links, and more

SOCIAL MEDIA

The Students' Union utilized all social media channels to communicate with members.

- Facebook
- Instagram
- DS App
- Twitter
- Tik Tok

The Students' Union utilized social media to promote the work ongoing work, this included promoting events, raising awareness of campaigns and awareness days, sharing service updates, and hosting events (social media lives and video events).

February 2021, the Students' Union created a TikTok account to reach more students and to provide some fun and light-hearted content for members. Social media, specifically Instagram, continued to be the most popular and commonly used form of communication from our members.

The Students' Union utilized Instagram and Facebook stories as a form of engagement with members. Features such as polls, multiple choice questions, quizzes, open questions. Used these for campaign engagement, as well as asking members what they want to see from us were utilized.

EMAILS

- Due to COVID-19 office closure, the Students' Union received a high volume of emails to info@thedsu.ca requesting support, information on services and questions about changes to daily operations which the Students' Union responded to in a timely manner.

CAMPAIGNS

It was a busy year for the Students' Union with campaign and advocacy work. Even though COVID-19 disrupted many plans, the Students' Union was still able to accomplish many goals and achieve some important wins for members. Working together with over 170,000 students from 15 students' unions across the province through the British Columbia Federation of Students, we share our collective wins together and continue the fight towards our common goal to make post-secondary education more accessible and affordable.

During the 2020-2021 year, the Students' Union focused their campaign efforts on the following campaigns:

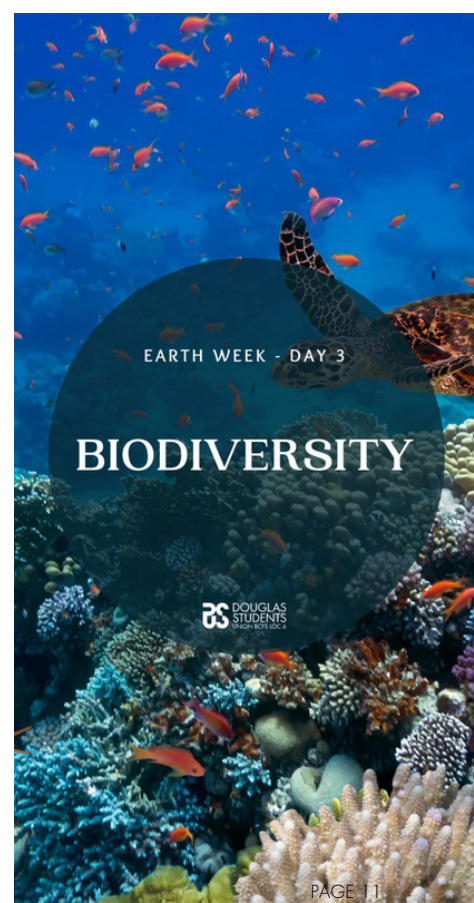
- Knock Out Interest
- Fairness For International Students
- Open Textbooks Now
- Take It Over
- Period Promise
- Moosehide Campaign
- Earth Week
- Advocacy Weeks

TAKE IT OVER

September 2020 started off with the Students' Union working on an election campaign for the Provincial Election, called 'Take it Over'. The campaign was mainly promoted online to members to encourage students to get out and vote on October 24, 2020.

During the election campaign, the Students' Union hosted Candidate Q&As on zoom with candidates in the New Westminster and Coquitlam-Burke Mountain ridings. During the Q&As, candidates were asked questions to allow students to get to know them better and the issues that they were prioritizing in their platforms. These sessions were recorded over zoom and released to students afterwards.

The Students' Union also conducted a giveaway incentive to encourage students to pledge to vote in the election. Students who signed the pledge to vote were automatically entered into the giveaway and then additional bonus entries were entered when they shared and tagged friends on social media.



OPEN TEXTBOOKS NOW!

Fall 2020, the Students' Union ran an Academic Materials survey amongst members to learn about The survey ran throughout the month of September 2020 and asked about student experiences with academic materials, textbooks, and Open Educational Resources (OERs).

From the information gathered, the Students' Union put together a report outlining the findings and submitted the report to Douglas College to advocate for additional Open Educational Resources.

Here are some highlights from the data reported in the survey:

- Over 77% of students were surprised by the cost of academic materials (and not in a good way)
- Over 74% said that academic materials cost more than expected (what a horrible surprise)
- Over 70% of students did not buy recommended materials because it was cost prohibitive
- 66% of students had to pay additional money for access codes (another bad surprise)
- Over 90% would use an OER if it were available as an option
- Students would utilize different options to access OERs - print, digital and a combination of both

The Students' Union also announced and committed to an annual \$3000 contribution to the Douglas College OER Grant to support new OER adoptions at Douglas College.

EARTH WEEK

April 16-23, 2021, the Students' Union celebrated Earth Week to bring awareness to climate crisis and sustainability to members.

Each day highlighted a different aspect of Earth Week; Climate Crisis & SDG accord, Plastic Pollution, Biodiversity, Clothing Industry, and Sustainable Food, and how students can learn more about Earth Week and sustainability issues.

The Students' Union also signed on to the SDG (Sustainable Development Goals) accord as an organization, which was created by the United Nations. The SDG accord are high goals set for a better future.

MOOSEHIDE CAMPAIGN

February 11, 2021, the Students' Union participated in the Nationwide Moosehide Campaign Day. This event happened virtually with members attending to show support and to recognize the issues that Indigenous women and girls still face today.

The Moosehide Campaign is a grassroots movement of Indigenous and non-Indigenous men and boys who are standing up against violence towards women and children. The campaign was created to support each other and stand together to end violence towards women and children.

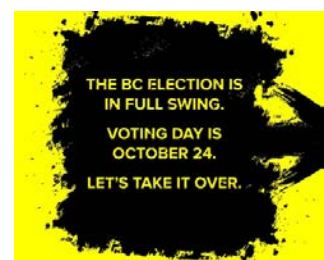
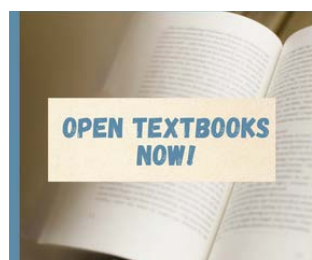
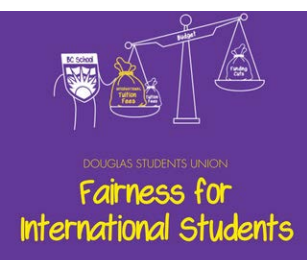
ADVOCACY WEEK

Fall 2020 – September 28 - October 2, 2020

The Students' Union hosted the DSU Advocacy Fair to highlight the campaigns and advocacy work. This year, the advocacy fair was held virtually through the Students' Union Instagram, Facebook, and Twitter accounts. There were online engagement activities and campaign actions for each campaign featured. This year, the advocacy fair was structured to highlight a different campaign each day.

- Monday September 28, 2020 – Fairness for International Students
- Tuesday September 29, 2020 – Knock Out Interest
- Wednesday September 30, 2020 – Reconciliation through Education and Orange Shirt Day
- Thursday October 1, 2020 – Open Textbooks Now!
- Friday October 2, 2020 – Take it Over

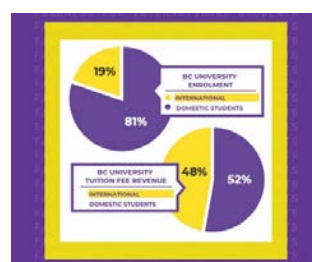
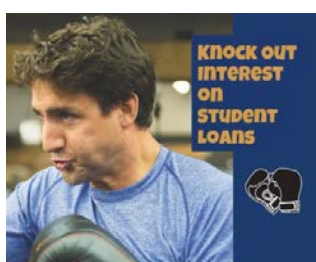
Every day, 5 members were selected to win prizes, for participating in our online engagement activities. Prizes included DSU swag and gift cards.



Winter 2021 – January 11-15, 2021

Similar to the Fall 2020 semester, the Students' Union hosted its Advocacy Fair virtually, through social media. A different campaign was selected each day, and an engagement activity to go with it. Students who participated in the activity were entered into a draw to win prizes every day.

- Monday January 11, 2021 – Moosehide Campaign
- Tuesday January 12, 2021 – Knock Out Interest
- Wednesday January 13, 2021 – Period Promise
- Thursday January 14, 2021 – Fairness for International Students
- Friday January 15, 2021 – Fund It, Fix It



COLLECTIVES

Students' Union Collectives are sub-organizations of the Students' Union that represent equity groups on campus. They are run by the Students' Union constituency representatives, and they coordinate meetings, events and advocacy for issues that relate to the collective.

ACCESSIBILITY COLLECTIVE

The DSU Accessibility Collective's goal is to create an inclusive and welcoming environment for all members as well as advocate for the equitable treatment of members with accessibility needs on campus and in the community.

The collective members participate in social and recreational activities as well as support special events on campus such as:

- Virtual Guided Stretching – September 22, 2020
- Cooking Video- September 24, 2020
- Virtual Guided Meditation – November 30, 2020
- Virtual Animal Therapy, part of Douglas College Virtual Health Fair – March 15-19, 2021
- Virtual Guided Painting- April 9, 2021
- Virtual Mindfulness Workshop w/ Malina Dawn – June 16, 2021
- Virtual Bees, Beeswax & Candle Making: Connection to Nature Workshop- July 27, 2021

The DSU Accessibility Collective also honoured the following awareness dates this year through various social media outlets:

- Mental Health Week- October 5-9, 2020
- International Day of Persons' with Disabilities- December 3, 2020
- Mental Health Posts- January 25, 28, 2021
- Earth Day- April 22, 2021
- World Environment Day- June 5, 2021

GUIDED

MEDITATION

Join us on Zoom & IG live for a 30 minute guided meditation session facilitated by Tess Sloane

MONDAY NOVEMBER 30TH
2:30-3:00PM



DSU INDIGENOUS COLLECTIVE

The DSU Indigenous Students' Collective's goal is to provide an inclusive and welcoming environment to all members, encouraging community, enriching cultural identity, and gathering strength through learning.

The collective members participate in social and recreational activities as well as support special events on campus. such as:

- Indigenous Self Care Workshop – November 24, 2020
- Indigenous Artisan Fair – December 4, 2020
- Indigenous Wellness Workshop w/Shayla Stonechild – March 18, 2021
- Virtual Indigenous Artisan Fair – March 26, 2021
- Art Therapy & Wellness Event – April 20, 2021
- Discovery of 215 bodies of Indigenous children from Residential School in Kamloops on campus Gathering & Awareness post - June 3, 2021, June 28, 2021 (COQ) and June 30, 2021 (NW)
- Dreamcatcher Workshop – June 21, 2021

The DSU Indigenous Students' Collective also honored the following awareness dates through various social media outlets:

- Orange Shirt Day – September 30, 2020 – Shared videos and resources
- Sisters in Spirit Day Awareness Video- October 4, 2020
- Indigenous Remembrance Day- November 8, 2020
- Moosehide Campaign Day video – February 10, 2021
- MMIWG2S+ Memorial March Video Post w/ Womens' Collective - February 16, 2021
- National Indigenous Peoples Day – June 21st, 2021 - Shared resources and compiled list of voices to listen to and support.
- Canada Day – July 1, 2021 - Shared resources and awareness of colonization impacts, shared resources

May 27, 2021, 215 bodies of Indigenous children which were found in a mass burial site at a former Kamloops Residential school. The Students' Union released a statement across all social media platforms and website to raise awareness to members. This discovery was a reminder of the racist and genocidal approach to Indigenous people in Canada.

In response to the discovery, the Douglas Students' Union put up 215 orange ribbons at both campuses of Douglas College for 215 days. These ribbons were placed to encourage members to remember why they are there and take time to remember the children that were taken by the hands of residential schools and other unfair practices towards Indigenous people that continue to happen.

DSU PRIDE COLLECTIVE

The goals of the DSU Pride Collective are to provide a safe and inclusive space for members of the LGBTQ2S+ community. The Collectives hold fun, safe and inclusive events for members and to provide information and materials regarding LGBTQ2S+ members on campus to make friends, utilize services specific to their needs.

The Collective also advocates for LGBTQ2S+ members at Douglas College and the greater community.

- Pride Coming Out Event – October 16, 2020
- Virtual Movie Night “Disclosure” - November 12, 2020
- Virtual Pride Event – November 20, 2020
- Virtual Social – January 29, 2021
- Virtual Social – February 19, 2021
- Virtual Hangout – March 11, 2021
- Virtual Hangout – April 30, 2021
- Virtual Hangout – June 25, 2021
- Pride Flag Raising Events (ON CAMPUS) - July 28, 2021– New West campus / July 29, 2021 – Coquitlam campus
- Vancouver Pride Virtual events and virtual parade – August 1, 2021 - DSU sponsored, shared posts social media
- City of New Westminster Pride Virtual events and Virtual Pride Parade – August 8, 2021 - sponsored by the DSU, shared posts on DSU social media

The DSU Pride Collective also honoured the following awareness dates through various social media outlets:

- Pride Coming Out Day- October 11, 2020
- International Transgender Awareness Week- November 9th- November 13, 2020
- Transgender Day of Remembrance- November 20, 2020
- Transgender Day of Visibility- March 31, 2021
- Lesbian Visibility Day- April 26, 2021
- International Day Against Homophobia, Transphobia & Biphobia- May 17, 2021
- Pride Months – June, July, August
- Honouring Stonewall Riots- June 28, 2021



DSU WOMENS' COLLECTIVE

The goal of the DSU Women's Collective is to create a safe and inclusive space for all self-identified women; to support, grow and learn from each other with a focus on social justice, awareness and community building through workshops, resources, speakers, and meetings.

- Virtual Safety & Self Defense Workshop- March 9, 2021
- What's the Tea?! - March 10, 2021
- Because we are Girls – April 15, 2021
- Understanding Fatphobia & Weight Stigma Workshop w. Athena Affan – July 6, 2021

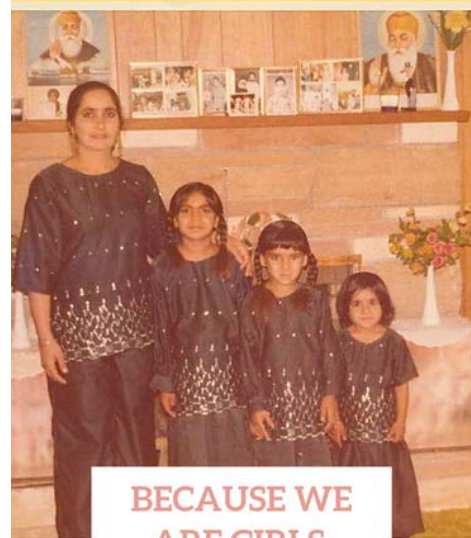
The DSU Women's Collective also honoured the following awareness dates through various social media outlets:

- International Day for the Elimination Against Violence Against Women- November 25, 2020
- National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence against Women post & video – December 6, 2020
- MMIWG2S+ Memorial March Video Post w/Indigenous Collective- February 16, 2021
- International Women's Day awareness & celebration post & video- March 8, 2021
- Sexual Assault Awareness Month – April 2021

ADDITIONAL EQUITY WORK

Throughout the year, the DSU also honoured, celebrated, and highlighted a variety of other social justice and equity awareness dates:

- Diwali – November 14, 2020
- Black History Month – February 2021
- Lunar New Year- February 12, 2021
- Douglas College's Let's Do Consent campaign – February 8 – 13, 2021
- Pink Shirt Day – February 24, 2021
- SHIFT – joint event w/ Douglas College – March 2 – 5, 2021
- International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination – March 21, 2021
- BC Parks Day- July 17, 2021



BECAUSE WE ARE GIRLS.

FILM SCREENING AND
PANEL DISCUSSION

THURSDAY APRIL 15, 2021
6:00-8:30PM
ON ZOOM

JOIN FOR ENTIRE EVENT OR PRE-
WATCH THE FILM & JOIN ONLY FOR
THE DISCUSSION FROM
7:45PM-8:30PM



Tracing the social impacts of COVID-19

SERVICES

The Students' Union runs a variety of services to meet the needs of members that include services to support members saving money, succeed in school and to stay healthy.

VIRTUAL OFFICE HOURS

Last year, the Students' Union implemented weekly virtual office hours to support members. This service continued this year. Virtual Office Hours are held on Tuesdays 1:00pm-3:00pm and Thursdays 10:00am-12:00pm on Zoom. Students are invited to drop in with any questions for the Students' Union.

HEALTH AND DENTAL PLAN

The Students' Union's Health and Dental plan is a brokered service provided by the insurer Green Shield Canada and brokered by Gallivan and Associates. Gallivan and Associates is a subsidiary of the publicly traded company People Corporation.

January 2021, the Students' Union created a video to help students with the opt-in process for the Health and Dental plan. This video was distributed across all social media platforms. Plans were made to create additional videos to support other aspects of the Health and Dental plan.

[Link to Health & Dental Winter opt in Video](#)

MEMBER HANDBOOK AND DAYPLANNER

The Students' Union produces its annual handbook through a service of the BC Federation of Students. The British Columbia Federation of Students continually keeps the price stable, with handbooks arriving early in August every year in time for orientation and welcome back events.



2020-21 Handbook

- Cover – sunset scene of New Westminster skytrain bridge.
- Handbooks were distributed to members, the majority by the mail out service that was implemented in August 2020. The Students' Union mailed out over 1500 handbooks to members anywhere within Canada.

2021-22 Handbook Production

- This year, the Students' Union decided to outsource artwork for the front cover of the handbook. Art was commissioned and created by artist Edwin Neel.
- Cover – Indigenous Art – Thunderbird.
- Handbooks were delivered on time, at the end of August 2021.
- Decreased number of Handbooks ordered this year to 6500.

DEALS APP

The Deals App is a discount program designed to help students save money on services and at restaurants, retail shops, fitness studios and even travel companies across BC.

Solicitation of Discounts for 2020-21

- Secured 17 discounts from businesses.

Promotion of Deals App

- Promoted program through posters on campus and social media
- With the increased number of businesses on the program, promotion was found to be easier, as students recognized businesses on the plan.
- The BC Federation of Students created a Facebook page for the Deals App to widely share the provincial-wide discounts for students. The Students' Union shares BC wide and local businesses which are shared through that page.

MEMBERSHIP DEVELOPMENT AND MEMBER SUPPLIES

Fall 2020 Materials

- Ordered \$17,000 worth of materials from the BCFS bulk purchase store with Fairware, in August 2020, and materials arrived for September 2020.
- Materials included: water bottles, notebooks, reusable shopping bags, touch tools, pens, highlighters, stickers, and lanyards.
- Materials were well received by members
- The students' Union also ordered branded cloth face masks and hand sanitizers for members for a total of \$13,400. This order was not done through Fairware, but outsourced through other companies like Union Proud.

Winter 2021 Materials

- Ordered \$7,725 worth of additional materials to restock from Fall 2020, along with some new limited additional items to provide members at the 2021 Annual General Meeting.
- Items included: pens, highlighters, dark green T-shirts, and grey crewneck sweatshirts.

2021 – 22 Materials

- Ordered \$30,700 worth of branded materials for members from the BCFS bulk purchase store with Fairware.
- Materials included: navy sweatshirts, purple t-shirts, white t-shirts (DSU Crew), ceramic travel mugs, sweatpants, crewneck sweatshirts, toques, visors, dad hats, water bottles, cutlery sets, reusable shopping bags, pencil cases, sunglasses, flag tab sets, sunflower and basil planters, pens, highlights, and notebooks.
- These items will be given to members starting September 2021.

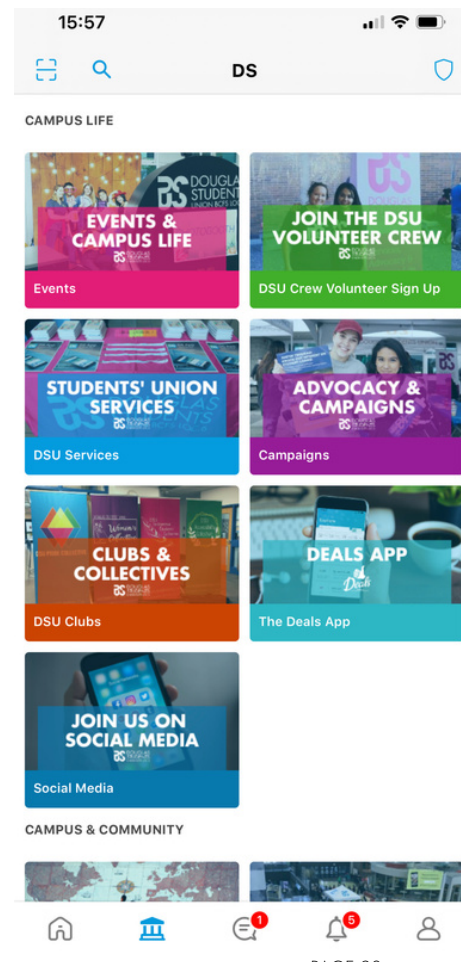
DS APP - READY EDUCATION MOBILE APP

The READY Education mobile app is provided to Douglas members in the form of the DS app. The app service is an important function in providing an avenue of communication between the Students' Union Board and members. In addition to its membership development functions, the app also provides a valuable service to students.

2020-21 Usage:

- 1700+ accounts created
- 100k+ messages amongst members
- 800+ connections between members
- 500+ posts

The app also supported members accessing services digitally with close to 1000 clicks to update monthly U-Pass, 1500+ accessing their Blackboard/MyAccount and 800+ accessing the Deals app and links to other Students' Union services. It also acted as a source of information about COVID-19 for members with a tile dedicated to COVID-19 information.



U-PASS BC

The Students' Union participates in the U-Pass BC Program along with all other students' unions at the public post-secondary institutions in the lower mainland. The program provides for a unified U-Pass across the region under which all members pay a common price, and the total cost of the service is subsidized by the government of BC. The program is implemented through a series of contracts between government, students' unions, institutions and the transit provider, TransLink. The current agreement limits increases to 2% annually until 2025.

Response to COVID-19:

The Students' Union worked with TransLink, Douglas College and 9 other post-secondary institutions and their student unions to reintroduce the U-Pass for the Fall 2021, as classes were returning to in-person and on campus. Students who were registered in classes that were categorized as on campus were assessed the U-Pass fee, and students whose classes continued online were not assessed the U-Pass fee.

HERE2TALK

Following years of advocating for more mental health support for members and working in consultation with students across the province, the BC Government announced an early launch of its mental health counselling and referral service for post-secondary students.

The service, called Here2Talk, is a welcome aid for those currently struggling with the uncertainty brought about by COVID-19.

This service is free to all public post-secondary students and meant to support and complement counselling services provided by institutions. It offers confidential, free, single-session services by app, phone, or online chat 24 hours a day, seven days a week. The service can be accessed through here2talk.ca

STUDENT GRANT FUND

The Student Grant Fund is designed to support members engaged in student initiatives at Douglas College and other post-secondary institutions. The fund provides grants that will support and encourage participation in conferences, lectures, events, and competitions centered on students and enhancing educational experiences.

FINANCIAL AID

The Students' Union funds a number of awards, bursaries and emergency aid programs administered through the Douglas College Financial Aid office. The aid is focused on financial need and is accessible to domestic and international students in all programs. The awards include the DSU Mature Students' Bursary, DSU Daycare Bursary, DSU Domestic Student Award and the DSU Emergency Bursary.

Financial aid can be accessed directly from the Financial Aid Office at Douglas College.

EMERGENCY FOOD BANK

In response to COVID-19 campus closures, the food bank service transitioned to online and during the 2020-21 year, the food bank service continued in an online format. The service offered \$30.00 e-gift cards that were emailed to members directly. Students were eligible to apply for the food bank twice per semester, but only once per month.

Over 1700 e-gift cards were sent out to members for the emergency food bank between September 2020-August 2021

FIRST AID CLASSES

With the ongoing pandemic, the Students' Union delayed bringing back first aid courses for Fall 2020. In Winter 2021 the Students' Union held 2 courses in-person in the Student Union Building as a trial back to in-person.

The DSU First Aid courses are partially subsidized by the Students' Union for members. The cost to members starts at \$50 per course, after the DSU subsidy.

Summer 2021, full service of first aid courses resumed. Courses offered were Emergency First Aid, Standard First and CPR C, and Standard First aid with Basic Life Saving courses. All courses were filled with safety protocols in place.

PRINTING SERVICES

Printing services transitioned to bringing a USB to the front desk for support with printing. Students are offered 100 free black and white prints each semester from the Students' Union.

LOCKERS

Throughout the 2020-2021 year, locker rentals continued but at a decreased rate. Locker rentals were available for students each semester for \$10/semester.

The Students' Union also continued to hold on to members items from old lockers during this time, if members were unable to come to campus to pick up their items, as a result of the pandemic closures.

OMBUDSPERSON

To date, Douglas College does not have an independent ombudsperson service to assist members with appeals, conflicts and disputes on matters relating to student rights and fairness. As mandated by the Bylaws, the Students' Union provides an ombudsperson service to assist members.

Ombudsperson Drop-In's continued in 2020-2021 virtually, on Zoom.

The number of members that the Ombudsperson support has grown steadily over the past 5 years and has seen an increase of over 200% in 2020-21 from 2016-17 alone.

The cases the Ombudsperson support members range from conflicts in the classroom between instructors and members, final grade appeals, academic dishonesty concerns to accommodation issues. This year there was an increase in academic dishonesty and other concerns related to COVID-19, remote and online learning, and adapting to learning back on campus.

EMERGENCY MENSTRUAL PRODUCTS

The Students' Union continued to offer free menstrual products for students in all washrooms in the students' union building. They were also available for pick up from the kiosk in Coquitlam as needed. Products available include pads and tampons, as well as condom (internal & external). The students' union advocated for the college to provide these items in the washrooms of the college throughout the year as well.



STUDENTS' UNION BUILDING AND SPACES

The Students' Union operates spaces at both the New Westminster and Coquitlam campuses. The Students' Union Building in New Westminster is a fully separate and operated building, while the spaces at Coquitlam serving members are integrated into the AB Building.

In fall 2020, the DSU front desk and kiosk opened for in person services and support to members. Opening hours were reduced and safety protocols were implemented to accommodate re-opening during the pandemic.

Office hours were Tuesday-Friday 10:00am-3:00pm in Coquitlam and Monday-Thursday 10:00am-3:00pm in New Westminster. Summer 2021, the DSU front desk and kiosk resumed normal hours, Monday-Friday 9:30am-4:30pm at both campuses.

The DSU meeting rooms, student lounges and offices were closed to members for the majority of the 2020-21 year, due to the ongoing pandemic.

In summer 2021, the Students' Union began re-opening student lounges and offices to better support students in person.



GOVERNMENT RELATIONS

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT RELATIONS

Open Letter to the Prime Minister

February 8, 2021, the Students' Union participated in a Canada-wide Week of Action to Knock Out Interest on Canada Student Loans. In support of this week of action, the Students' Union and Justice Institute Students' Union joined together to create a video open letter to Prime Minister Trudeau.

The video included students and members of the community who are impacted by interest on student loans in Canada. The video included: current and former post-secondary students and alumni, high school teachers and students, parents, and community members from across the country, all asking Prime Minister Justin Trudeau to eliminate interest on student loans. The video was shared across all social media platforms and viewed by over 2.7k people.

[Link to Open Letter](#)

Meetings with Local Members of Parliament

MP Ron McKinnon (Liberal)

The Students' Union met with Member of Parliament for Coquitlam-Port Coquitlam, Ron McKinnon, on February 25, 2021

PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT RELATIONS

On July 29, 2021, the Students' Union and Douglas College held a Pride Flag Raising at the Coquitlam Campus. Honourable Selina Robinson (Minister of Finance and MLA for Coquitlam-Maillardville) and Fin Donnelly (MLA Coquitlam-Burke Mountain) attended. Premier John Horgan was not able to attend but sent a message to be read on his behalf.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT RELATIONS

The Students' Union meets and corresponds regularly with local city government bodies to address issues facing members within the communities and to discuss opportunities to work together on community events and campaigns.

City of New Westminster

City Councilors - On July 28, 2021, the Students' Union and Douglas College held a Pride Flag Raising at the New Westminster Campus, where City Councilor, Chuck Puchmayr attended.

City of Coquitlam

City Councilors - On July 29, 2021, the Students' Union and Douglas College held a Pride Flag Raising at the Coquitlam Campus where 3 Coquitlam City Councilors attended.

COLLEGE RELATIONS

Over the past year, the Students' Union has strengthened its relationship with Douglas College at various levels. There is strong student representation at decision making governance bodies at the college and strong relationships with individuals including the various vice presidents and directors that represent administration, front line staff that provide services to members as well as many faculty members.

RELATIONS WITH SENIOR MANAGEMENT TEAM

The Students' Union meets every semester with members of the Senior Management Team through the Joint Operations Committee. The meetings offer the opportunity to discuss issues facing members, student initiatives, and operational considerations affecting both parties.

The Director of College Relations and a staff member regularly attend meetings of the Senior Management Team to provide feedback and ask questions about policy changes and updates as they relate to the member experience at Douglas College.

With the outbreak of COVID-19, the Students' Union corresponded regularly with members of the Senior Management Team to express the concerns of members and worked together to address issues as they arose throughout the winter and summer semester.

ACADEMIC LEARNING CHALLENGES

Meeting with Vice-President Academic and Provost and Vice-President Academic and Student Affairs and Director of Student Affairs & Services

In November 2020, Douglas Students' Union representatives met with Vice-President Academic and Provost Thor Borgford, Associate Vice-President Academic and Student Affairs Sarah Dench and Director of Student Affairs & Services Patty Hamblen to share and discuss learning challenges faced by Douglas students in the summer and fall semester.

LEARNING CHALLENGES EXPERIENCED BY DOUGLAS STUDENTS

Summer & Fall 2020



Prepared by the Douglas Students' Union
November 25, 2020



PROPOSAL TO DOUGLAS COLLEGE

SUPPLYING EMERGENCY MENSTRUAL PRODUCTS AT DOUGLAS COLLEGE



PREPARED AND PRESENTED BY
DOUGLAS STUDENTS' UNION
SEPTEMBER 2021

PROPOSAL TO DOUGLAS COLLEGE: SUPPLYING EMERGENCY MENSTRUAL PRODUCTS AT DOUGLAS COLLEGE

In summer 2021, the Students' Union worked on a proposal to Douglas College, for the college to supply emergency menstrual products in all washrooms on campus. This work was ongoing throughout the summer semester and ready to submit to the college Senior Management Team August 2021. The proposal outlined the need for emergency menstrual products by the college community, how not having access to menstrual products provides an unnecessary barrier for academic success.

The proposal formally requested Douglas College to fund and supply emergency menstrual products in all washrooms at all campuses. Students and the whole Douglas community deserve and should have a dignified experience on campus. Douglas College can ensure a welcoming and comfortable environment by providing emergency menstrual products to support students managing a basic, normal biological function without interference with their academic success or barrier to their education. By knowing that their biological and menstrual needs are met while they are on campus, students can focus on their education rather than their menstrual management needs. This simple but powerful action will demonstrate to students Douglas College's commitment to their success. It demonstrates leadership in combating stigma and period poverty and creates an equitable environment for all genders.

The Students' Union met with the Senior Management Team in September 2021.

COLLEGE GOVERNANCE

College Board

The Students' Union sends representatives to observe College Board meetings and keeps the Board of Directors informed of issues arising at the meetings. The Students' Union also works with the elected students on the College Board to ensure they are able to present their views and represent members in discussions and decisions.

Education Council

The Students' Union sends representatives to observe Education Council meetings and keep the Board of Directors informed of issues arising at the meeting. The Students' Union also works with the elected students on the Education Council to ensure they are able to present their views and represent members in discussions and decisions.

2020-2021 BUDGET CONSULTATIONS

The Students' Union undertook significant work to present a comprehensive budget proposal for investments in key services, financial aid systems and open educational resources.

The Students' Union undertook a consultation process with members in the form of virtual zoom chats about where they felt Douglas College should allocated funds in their 2021-2022 budget.

The zoom chats happened over a 2-week period and allowed students to drop in to discuss the topics they felt needed to be highlighted and prioritized in the budget.

- November 16 & 23, 2020 – Quality of Education
- November 17, 2020 – Services
- November 19, 2020 – Tuition & Ancillary Fees
- November 25, 2020 – Technology
- November 27, 2020 – International Students

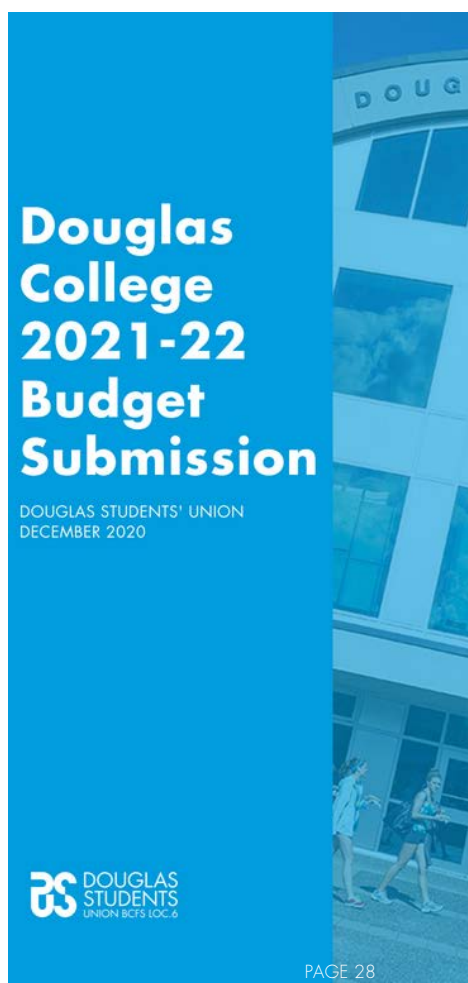
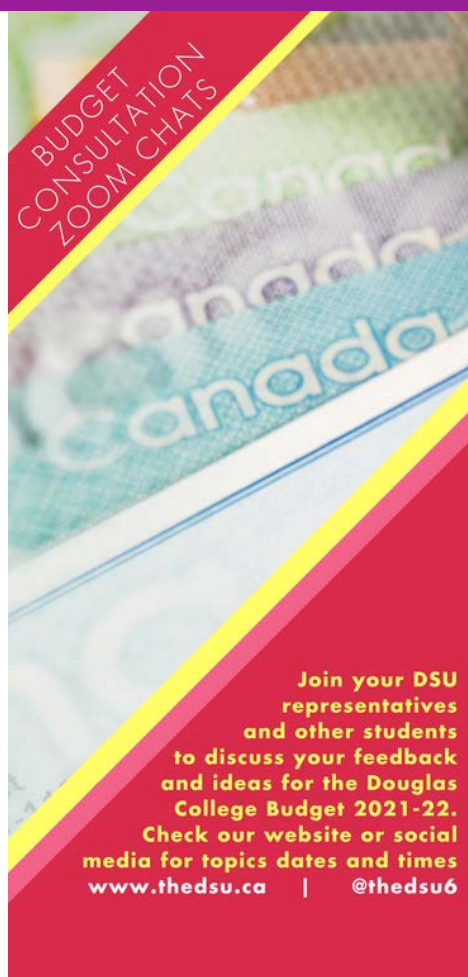
These consultations zoom chats were recorded and the Students' Union created the Budget Submission based on the content students brought forward in these sessions.

Recommendations put forward included improving the student consultation process, capping international tuition fees from exceeding the rate of domestic fee increases, increasing open educational resources, increasing services for international members, increasing college service hours, and improving on campus parking.

The Budget Recommendations were submitted to Douglas College Senior Management Team in December 2020.

[Link to Budget Consultation Submission by the DSU](#)

February 8, 2021 Douglas College hosted a Student Forum for the Douglas College Budget. Students were invited to share their feedback on the 2021-2022 Budget. The forum was online, and there was a significant increase in attendance from students compared to the previous year.



OTHER COLLEGE COMMITTEES, INITIATIVES AND DEPARTMENTS

Open Douglas Working Group

The Students' Union participates at the Open Douglas Working Group, which is composed of faculty and staff to discuss initiatives to promote open learning and OER adoptions on campus.

Mental Wellness Strategy Initiative Working Group

The Students' Union sends one staff and student representative to participate in the Douglas College Mental Wellness Strategy Initiative Working Group, which is composed of faculty, staff, and students to discuss mental health strategies to implement at Douglas College.

Student Services Advisory Committee

The Students' Union sends one staff and student representative to participate in the Douglas College Student Services Advisory committee, which is composed of Douglas staff and students to discuss in person and virtual service improvements on campus.

Student Housing Project and Consultation

May 2021, the Students' Union submitted a letter of support for the Development Project at 808 Royal Avenue. This project is to create a new building for Douglas College that would include on campus student housing.

Directors and Staff of the Students' Union participated in all levels of Douglas College's consultation process, providing feedback and recommendations on the needs of students.

Relations with Institutional Staff and Faculty

The Students' Union has a generally positive relationship with institutional staff, who are members of the British Columbia Government and Service Employees Union (BCGEU), Local 703.

Members of the Board of Directors participate regularly with the institution's faculty on various College committees, and the Students' Union continues to share a strong relationship with faculty, who are organized with the Federation of Post-Secondary Educators of BC, Local 4.

Relationship with Douglas College Student Life

The Students' Union maintains a positive relationship with Douglas College Student Life, working closely throughout the year on events, such as New Student Orientation, EDGE, and mental health awareness events. The Students' Union and Student Life support each other throughout the year by sharing events on social media and encouraging involvement of members to all events at Douglas College.

This positive relationship has continued while we have transitioned to online engagement, and both parties support each other via social media whenever possible.

INTERNAL AFFAIRS & FINANCES

It was a busy year for the Students' Union internally, work was undertaken to ensure compliance with government regulatory statutes with the BC Societies Act and the College and Institutes Act which governs how the Board of Directors run the union and how fees are collected. Due to COVID-19, the Students' Union had to make adjustments to operations to fulfill fiduciary obligations.

GOVERNANCE

BC Societies Act

The Students' Union operates under the BC Societies Act and remained in compliance with the Act through the 2020-21 year.

College and Institute Act

The Students' Union maintains compliance with the College and Institute Act in order to ensure that its fees, and the fees it collects in trust, can be maintained by Douglas College. The Students' Union was in compliance with the Act through the 2020-21 year.

BC Lobbyist Act

The BC Lobbyist Act came into effect in May 2020, the Students' Union remained in compliance with the Act through the 2020-21 year.

Annual General Meeting

The Students' Union held its Annual General Meeting on January 27, 2021, virtually, on Zoom in Webinar format. The meeting was quorate with more than 60 members participating. Members received the 2019-20 annual report and approved the 2019-20 audited financial statements.

All members who attended the Annual General Meeting received a prize for attending the meeting. The Students' Union followed up with all attendees via email for contact and mailing information. Prizes were then mailed out the following week.

Board of Directors Elections

The Students' Union held its annual election between January 25 and February 12, 2021, with two slates of candidates and two individual candidates running for office.

The election was held entirely online, and voting was conducted online through ElectionBuddy. After five days of online voting across, over 1000 members cast ballots.

Board of Directors Orientation

The Students' Union's Board Orientation was held virtually over Zoom May 3-6, 2021. The sessions were hosted by the staff of the Students' Union and assisted by BC Federation of Students Organizer, Jenelle Davies.

Sessions held at the meeting taught Directors about the Students' Union's structures and finances, the legal responsibilities of directors, staffing and labour relations, and the regular responsibilities of directors. The board used the time to develop a set of basic goals and plans for the year ahead.

Strategic Planning

A Strategic Planning session was held in Summer 2021 between the Executive and staff of the Students' Union.

Normally the session is a one full day meeting to discuss goals and priorities and to strategize short term and long-term initiatives. Due to COVID-19 public health orders, the Executive and staff met over two days, one session was held on Zoom on June 28, 2021, and another in-person on July 7, 2021

POLICY AND BYLAW UPDATES

Bylaw Updates

There were no bylaw amendments made during the 2020-2021 year.

Policy Updates

The Students' Union regularly reviews and updates the policies of the organization. During this year, policies revised were:

- 40.02- Clubs Policy
- 10.04 - Elections Regulations
- 40.01 - Financial Assistance and Food Security Policy
- Procedure 40.01-06 Food Bank Service Guidelines.

New policies created were 20.06 - Ethical Investments and 30.06 COVID Office Safety Policy.

DOUGLAS STUDENTS' UNION ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

WEDNESDAY JANUARY 27
@ 2:30 PM
ON ZOOM

Zoom link sent to your
Douglas College email.



DSU STUDENT ELECTIONS

Nominations NOW OPEN!

Nomination Period -

January 25-29, 2021

Stop by our offices or email
elections@thedsu.ca to pick up your
nomination package.

Questions? Email elections@thedsu.ca

STAFFING

All Staff are members of CUPE 2396.

Regular Staff and Staffing Changes

The Students' Union employs 6 full-time staff. There were no changes in regular staffing during the academic year.

In August 2021, the DSU went through a staffing re-structuring that included re-assigning roles and 1 new position being created. The Students' Union began engaging in the hiring process for a new Organizer – Campus Life and Organizer - Campaigns.

Student Staffing

The Students' Union employed 5 members in part-time positions to work at the front desk in New Westminster and the kiosk in Coquitlam.

FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

Audited Financial Statements

The Students' Union's fiscal year is September 1 to August 31. Each September and October, the Students' Union prepares its annual financial statements for auditing, a process that occurs in November and December each year. The following January, the audited statements are adopted by the Board and forwarded to the membership at the annual general meeting.

2019-20 Audited Financial Statements

The Students' Union's 2019-20 financial statements were prepared on time and audited prior to December 2020. The statements, along with the auditor's report were presented at the annual general meeting held January 27, 2021 and received by the general membership.

2020-21 Audited Financial Statements

Work on the 2020-21 financial statements began in late August 2021 and the bulk of the statement and audit preparation was completed by December 2021. The audited financial statements and report of the auditor will be presented to the general membership in January 2022 at the annual general meeting.

Donations

June 7, 2021, the Students' Union donated \$1000 to the Indian Residential School Survivors Society.

Dues Collection

The Students' Union collects its fees through automatic assessment and collection by Douglas College in accordance with the College and Institute Act. The Students' Union also uses the same mechanism to collect fees on behalf of the British Columbia Federation of Students.

Students' Union Fees

The Students' Union fees were increased in 2020-21 by the rate of change in the consumer price index for Vancouver per the Students' Union's bylaws.

British Columbia Federation of Students Fees

The Students' Union collects fees on behalf of the British Columbia Federation of Students consistent with Douglas students' membership in the Federation. In 2020-21 the fees for the BCFS were increased by the rate of inflation per the organization's bylaws.

BRITISH COLUMBIA FEDERATION OF STUDENTS

General Meetings

39TH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING - JANUARY 2021

The Students' Union sent Directors Ramkumar, Chirino, Lal, and Sundmark along with staff persons Ho and Dalton, to the general meeting. This meeting happened virtually over Zoom. In the January Annual General Meeting, the BCFS hosts elections for their board of directors. DSU delegate Chirino was elected as the BCFS Chairperson for the 2021-2022 year during this meeting. Her term began May 2021.

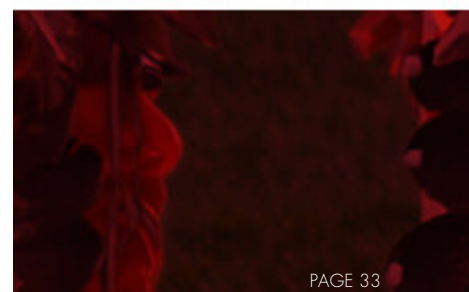
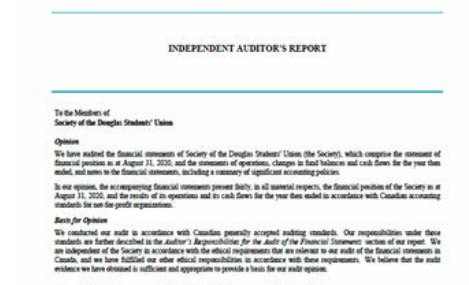
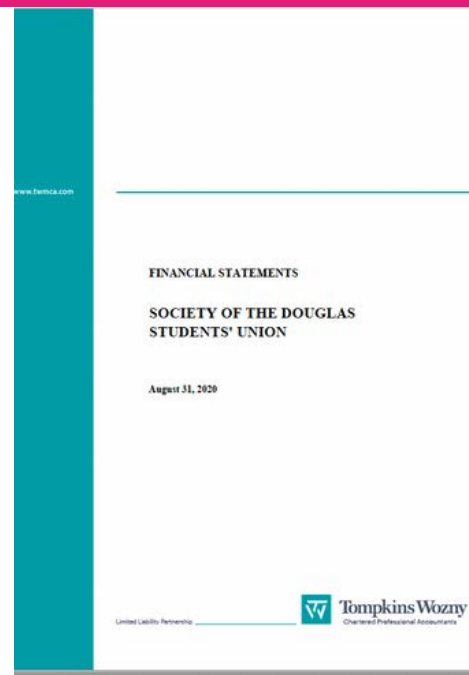
79TH SEMI-ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING - JULY 2021

The Students' Union sent Directors Ramkumar, Dhir, Palad, and Domasig along with staff persons Ho, as delegates to the general meeting held over Zoom. Delegates had a productive and overall positive experience. The Students' Union was happy to be able to conduct business and get work done.

Executive Committee

Between September 2020 and April 2021, the Students' Union's representative to the Executive Committee was Eric Sundmark, Director of Finance.

Between May 2021 and the end of the fiscal year, Douglas members have been represented on the Executive Committee by Amrita Ramkumar, the Director of Finance.



BOARD OF DIRECTORS & STAFF

2020-2021 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

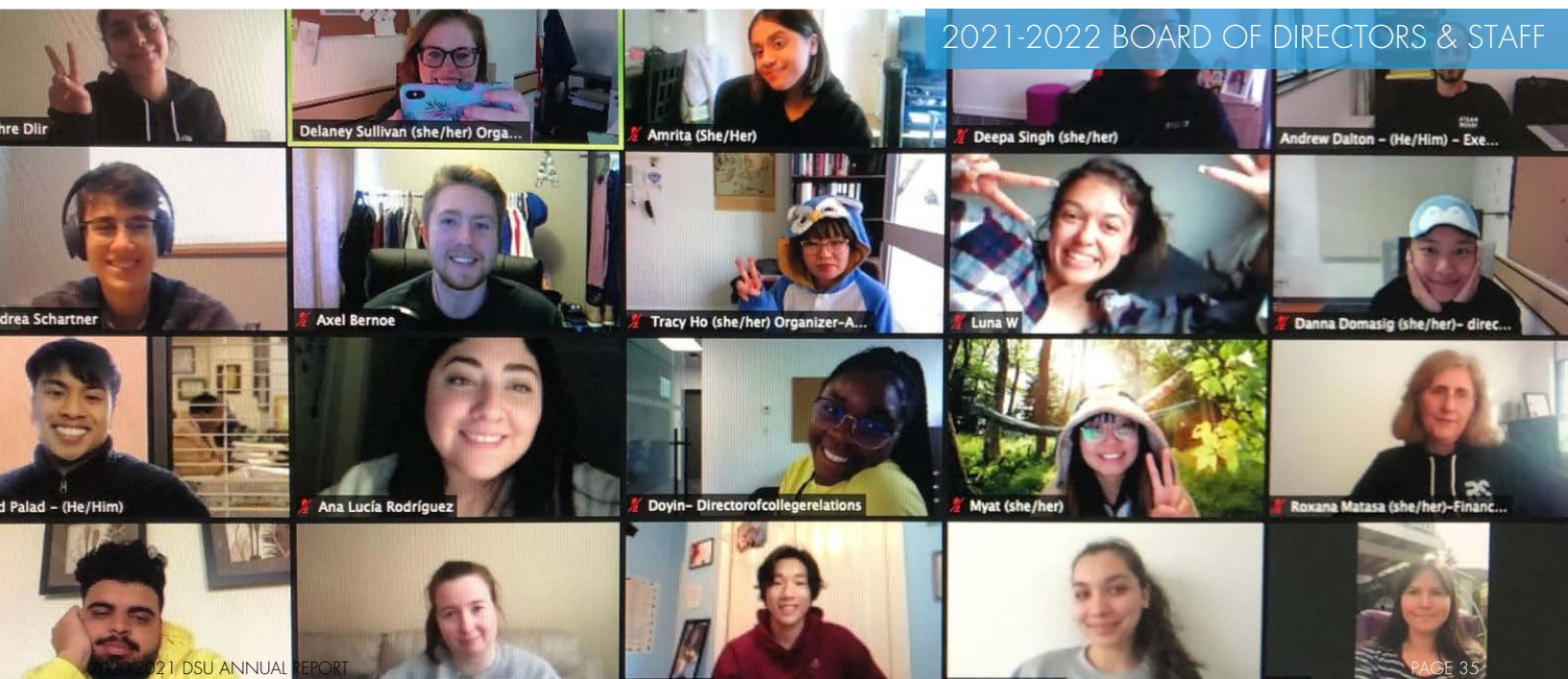
Accessibility Representative - Matthew Somerville
Campus Representative – Coquitlam - Danna Domasig
Campus Representative – Coquitlam - Bikrum Hothi
Campus Representative – New Westminster - Michael Gomez
Campus Representative – New Westminster - Jinia Mand
Campus Representative – New Westminster - Jed Palad
Campus Representative – New Westminster - Amrita Ramkumar
Director of Campus Life - Melissa Chirino
Director of College Relations - Nikiel Lal
Director of Finance - Eric Sundmark
Director of External Relations - Caitlin Spreeuw
Director of Membership Development - Ariel Ataiza
Indigenous Students' Representative - Vanessa Le Mercier
Pride Representative - Mae Jamisola
Women Students' Representative - Gurbinder Gaidu

2021-2022 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Accessibility Representative - Olya Galianova
Campus Representative – Coquitlam - Axel Bernoe
Campus Representative – Coquitlam - Myat N. Pwint
Campus Representative – New Westminster - Jessica Castillo
Campus Representative – New Westminster - Bikrum Hothi
Campus Representative – New Westminster - Elijah Kim
Campus Representative – New Westminster - Luna Wagner
Director of Campus Life - Jed Palad
Director of College Relations - Doyinsola Agbaje
Director of Finance - Amrita Ramkumar
Director of External Relations - Mehre Dllir
Director of Membership Development - Danna Domasig
Indigenous Students' Representative - Alysandra Hillaby
Pride Representative - Andi Schartner
Women Students' Representative - Ana Lucia Rodriguez

STAFF

Executive Director – Andrew Dalton
 Finance & Accounting Coordinator – Roxana Matasa
 Organizer – Advocacy – Tracy Ho
 Organizer – Campus Life – Deepa Singh
 Organizer – Membership Outreach – Delaney Sullivan
 Services Coordinator – Ashley Gordon





DSU