



Dalhousie Student Union Building | 6136 University Avenue
PO Box 15000 | Halifax, Nova Scotia, B3H 4R2

T 902.494.2140 F 902.494.6647 dsu.ca • [@dalstudentunion](https://twitter.com/dalstudentunion)

To Dalhousie Student Union Members and Surrounding Community,

The Dalhousie Student Union Council stands in solidarity with 2SLGBTQ+ Students at Dalhousie and we denounce the decision of Dalhousie University to provide space for the Advance Summit keynote speakers on campus.

The Advance Summit has invited speakers including Laura-Lynn Tyler Thompson, who has consistently touted anti-2SLGBTQ+ rhetoric. Dalhousie University has approved their presence on our campus. This event is scheduled to take place on November 23rd, 2019.

In the last year, Dalhousie added priority 5.2 of their Strategic Plan titled "Diversity and Inclusion Strategy", to further support a diverse student body in succeeding at university. The ideas that have been expressed by Laura-Lynn Tyler Thompson go beyond hatred and can be seen as an extreme manifestation of bigotry and prejudice. By inviting both 2SLGBTQ+ students to attend Dalhousie, and simultaneously allowing speakers with such harmful rhetoric, the institution has created an opportunity for speakers to delegitimize marginalized student groups and created an unsafe and isolating campus environment. Despite their clear outlines in this policy, Dalhousie has neglected their fiduciary duty to support marginalized students.

As the DSU, we aim to create safer spaces for our student body and are disappointed in Dalhousie's lack of action at this time. We have asked that Dalhousie University use this as an opportunity to support its students' needs and cancel this event. We are also asking that Dalhousie review their conference procedures to ensure that they are eliminating the opportunity for speakers to incite hatred or discriminatory treatment on campus. We encourage Dalhousie University to apologize to its student body and acknowledge the harm that this has caused to our campus community.

We hope that all 2SLGBTQ+ students find the support they need, and we are working to ensure these risks do not arise again. We understand the distress this event has brought to the 2SLGBTQ+ community and welcome students to voice their concerns and aim to help students find the support they need. Below are some of the relevant student services on campus and please reach out to the Dalhousie Student Union if you require further support.



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Campus Supports

Dalhousie Student Health and Wellness:

Phone: 902-494-2171

Booking available online [here](#)

Same Day counselling available on Studley campus and Walk-in counselling Tuesday 8am-8pm on Sexton Campus.

South House Sexual and Gender Resource Centre:

Phone: 902-494-2432

Email: outreach@southhousehalifax.ca

DalOUT:

SUB Office 280

Monday 8-9:30am

Wednesday 8-10am

Friday 8-10am

Sunday 12-2pm

Email: dalout@dal.ca

DSU Sexualized and Gender Based Violence Survivor Support:

Phone line: 902-425-1066 (12pm-12am)

Survivor Support Manager: Shannon Pringle

Office hours: Monday-Friday 9am-5pm

Office Number: 902-494-1367

Email: survivorsupport@dal.ca

VPSL Office Hours – Active Listening Support:

SUB Office 280

Email: dsuvpsl@dal.ca

Peer Support Workers:

Wellness room Office

Monday – Thursday 12pm-2pm



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In solidarity,

Aisha Abawajy
DSU President

Calista Hills
DSU Vice President (Internal)

Isa Wright
DSU Vice President (Finance and Operations)

Ruby Coles
DSU Vice President (Student life)

Hasan Sinan
DSU Vice President (Academic and External)

Fatima Beydoun
Board of Governors Representative

Fallen Matthews
Faculty of Graduate Students Representative

Joshua Yusuf
Faculty of Health Professions Representative

Bakhmala Khan
Faculty of Science Representative

Herman Stubeda
Faculty of Medicine Representative

Shivam Mahajan
Faculty of Computer Science Representative

Naomi Bird
*Indigenous Students Community
Representative*

Claudia Castillo-Prentt
Black Students Community Representative

Murray Lyu (Proxy)
*International Students Community
Representative*

Hannah Drake
LGTBQ Students Community Representative

Lenka Wicha
Faculty of Agriculture Representative

Meghan Faught
Faculty of Law Representative

Ameir Yahia
Faculty of Management Representative

Sandra Sunil
*Residence Students Community
Representative*

Julia Sarty
Faculty of Engineering Representative

Ryan Callahan
Faculty of Dentistry Representative