

VOTE

ASHLEY MCDOUGALL

FOR UFV SUS PRESIDENT



VOTING PERIOD: MARCH 13-16



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@ASHLEYMCDOUGALL_



ABOUT ME

Hi! My name is Ashley and I'm a student in the Bachelor of Arts program studying Economics and Political Science.

I have had the incredible experience of serving as your SUS Vice President External since October 2021 and have achieved many advocacy wins, including the successful implementation of a Fall reading break set to begin in the 2023 Fall semester. I am excited to be running for President in order to continue my work in advocacy, leadership, and engagement, and put forward my vision for SUS in the 2023-2024 year.

WHY I AM RUNNING FOR PRESIDENT

Throughout my time as VP External of SUS, I led advocacy campaigns, including the successful Fall Reading Break campaign, and was part of the organization and execution of many SUS events. I saw the positive impact these projects had for UFV students and am inspired to continue this work as President.

My work as VP External provided me a lot of insight into student priorities, including the events students like to see on campus, and priorities surrounding the Campus Shuttle and public transit. As a mainly commuter campus, on-campus events and accessible transportation services are integral to UFV's campus community.

As President, I will focus on increasing and building a sense of community on campus through focusing on hosting more events like Kickback and our Student Rush Nights. I will also ensure transportation services are accessible. I want every student to feel welcome and a sense of belonging on campus and will work to ensure this is felt by all.



2021-2023 ACHIEVEMENTS

Successful Implementation of a Fall Reading Break

In my work as VP External of SUS, I have been advocating for the implementation of a Fall Reading Break as a way of supporting students' mental health. During the last year, I strategically ran advocacy campaigns and collaborated with stakeholders to successfully achieve the implementation of a Fall reading break at UFV beginning in the 2023 Fall semester.

Provincial & Federal Advocacy

Through SUS's membership with the Canadian Alliance of Student Associations and in collaboration with provincial student advocacy groups, I represented UFV's 15,000 students' interests to the provincial and federal government. In meetings with MLAs, MPs, and provincial and federal ministers, I advocated for increases to student grants, interest-free student loans, fairness for international students and more accessible post-secondary education for Indigenous students. I also made strong connections with elected members of the provincial government, strengthening UFV students' individual voice at the provincial level.

Know Your Rights Series

The SUS Know Your Rights series has been an important advocacy project at SUS, with the goal of shedding light on UFV policies in order to make navigating the UFV system easier. As VP External of SUS, I led Know Your Rights videos on topics such as Final Grade Appeals, Bullying, Harrassment and Discrimination, and Instructional Responsibilities.



2023-2024 GOALS

Campus Events: Second Kickback and Abbotsford Canucks Student Rush Nights

Throughout my time as VP External at SUS, I was able to be part of the planning and execution of many of SUS's most successful events, including Kickback and our Abbotsford Canucks Student Rush Nights. In my next term as President, I will work with the SUS team to host a successful Fall Kickback, as well as a second Kickback in the Winter semester. I will also continue partnering with the Abbotsford Canucks to host more Student Rush Nights throughout the 2023/2024 term. Community-building events like these are essential to creating connections and building up UFV's campus culture.



2023-2024 GOALS

Working to Ensure Accessible Transit for Students: Fraser Valley Express 66 Bus & Campus Shuttle

UFV is a primarily commuter campus and many students rely on transportation services like the Campus Shuttle or public transit to get to campus. It is essential that these services are reliable and accessible. The SUS team has already been hard at work looking at ways to improve the Campus Shuttle service and improve accessibility to public transportation with the Fraser Valley Express bus. As President, I will work with our team on these initiatives to expand the hours of the Campus Shuttle and continue collaboration with BC Transit to ensure more accessible transportation at UFV.

Expanding and Improving Student Perks Program: More Student Discounts

SUS's Student Perks Program (SPP) offers discounts at local businesses in the Fraser Valley. As President, I will work to expand this program by promoting more awareness for students and creating more reciprocal partnerships with both new and existing SPP Partners. Post-secondary education is expensive and discounts for students in the community can take some of this pressure off.



2023-2024 GOALS

Strengthening SUS Provincial Advocacy Voice: Post Secondary Funding Review

In 2022, the provincial government initiated a review of the post-secondary funding formula in order to determine issues within the funding system and how to resolve them. As VP External of SUS, I was part of consultations with the leaders of the funding review, in which I advocated for more funding for UFV, which would help to alleviate the institution's financial dependence on international student tuition and student housing fees. As President, I hope to work with the next VP External to continue this advocacy for equitable funding of the BC post-secondary education system.

Coffee with Executive: Office Hours

I intend to make sure that the SUS Executive is transparent and always open to listening to students. In order to do this, I will begin hosting monthly "Coffee with the SUS Executive" office hours, where students can come enjoy a cup of coffee, bring up concerns, or even just pop in to say hi to the SUS Executives. I want students to feel heard and involved at SUS and I believe this initiative will be a step in the right direction.

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