



agm.

2023



The SCSU's Annual General Meeting.
November 14th | Location | 4PM-8PM



+ TABLE OF CONTENTS.

+ LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVES.

HEY MEMBERS!

Welcome to the Scarborough Campus Students' Union (SCSU) Annual General Meeting! Students have been resilient these last couple years, and we are so excited to be together again! We can't wait to inform you, our members, of all the hard work we've done for you so far.

The SCSU, over the years, has worked diligently to provide the best programming that engages our membership. Whether through our events, campaigns and advocacy work, or our members-only cost-saving services, we hope to meaningfully support our members both virtually and in-person; throughout your classrooms and community.

And guess what? Working together, works! We wouldn't be able to achieve all of our incredible victories to date – like Fall Reading Week, free menstrual products, Credit/No Credit policy improvements, Second Attempt for Credit Policy, Self-Diagnosed Sick notes, and more, without the united efforts of all of you, our 14,000+ student membership at UTSC. We are excited to continue to work together to achieve victories like the Second Chance Policy and greater mental health supports!

We know studying has its challenges. Your SCSU team has done our best to plan exciting programming to help keep you motivated through your studies. We hosted our largest Frosh in four years, which welcomed First-Year students and got them excited about joining the UTSC community. To combat the

difficult financial times, we joined the ALL OUT November 8th National Day of Action calling for increased public funding in working towards free and accessible education!

Throughout these past few years, one thing is always sure; collective action works, and when students work together, we see results! All of our accomplishments would not have been made possible without every one of you! Recognizing that Ontario students pay one of Canada's highest tuition fees, the SCSU takes collective action through the Canadian Federation of Students, alongside over 500,000 students across the country. Together, we are united in the fight for accessible and affordable Education For All! This movement requires everyone's support. It is our collective responsibility to ensure that all students have equitable access to a high-quality education.

A united voice can create amazing things. This is your student movement, and the possibilities become endless when we join together. Although we should take great pride and joy in our victories, we are reminded that the work does not end here. There is still much to do, so get involved with your Students' Union and let's get to work!!!

In Solidarity,

Your 2023-2024 SCSU Executive Team

+ ROBERT RULES OF ORDER.

TO DO THIS:	YOU SAY THIS:	MAY YOU INTERRUPT THE SPEAKER	MUST YOU BE SECONDED?	IS THE MOTION DEBATABLE?	IS THE MOTION AMENDABLE?	WHAT MAJORITY IS REQUIRED?
Object to incorrect procedure being used	Point of Order	Yes	No	No	No	No vote taken, chair rules
Seek clarification from the previous speaker	Request for information	Yes, if urgent	No	No	No	No vote taken, chair rules
Object to something which prevents your continued participation (eg. Excessive noise)	Point of personal privilege	Yes	No	No	No	No vote taken, chair rules
Object to a motion being considered	I object to consideration of this motion	Yes	No	No	No	2/3 Majority
Consider something out of its scheduled order	I move the agenda be amended in order to deal with the following item...	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	2/3 Majority
Appeal the ruling of the chair	I appeal the ruling of the chair on...	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Majority
Change a motion	I move that the motion be amended to read...	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Majority
Have a motion studied before voting on it	I move that the motion be referred to...	No	Yes	Yes, advisability of referral only	Yes	Majority
Postpone further discussion on a motion until later in the meeting	I move that the motion be postponed until...	No	Yes	Only to time	Yes	Majority
Postpone further discussion on a motion until a future meeting	I move that the motion be postponed until...	No	Yes	Only to time	Yes	Majority
Defer consideration of a motion temporarily	I move that motion... be laid on the table	No	Yes	No	No	Majority
Raise a matter previously tabled	I move that motion... be taken from the table	No	Yes	No	No	Majority
Reconsider a motion already voted on earlier in the meeting	I move that the motion... be reconsidered	No	Yes	Yes (if original motion was)	No	Majority
End debate on a motion	I call the question	No	Yes	No	No	2/3 Majority
Ask that everyone's vote on a particular motion be recorded in the minutes	I call for a roll call vote	No	No	No	No	No vote taken, chair rules
Recess the meeting	I move that the meeting recess until...	No	Yes	Only to time	Yes	Majority
End the meeting	I move that the meeting adjourn	No	Yes	No	No	Majority

+ EQUITY STATEMENTS.

EQUITY STATEMENT & ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF LAND.

1. EQUITY STATEMENT

As members of the Scarborough Campus Students' Union, mutual respect, cooperation and understanding are our goals. We shall neither condone nor tolerate behaviour that undermines the dignity or self-esteem of any individual or creates an intimidating, hostile or offensive environment. It is our collective responsibility to create a space that is inclusive and welcomes discussion. Any form of discrimination and harassment will not be tolerated. Hate speech rooted in, but not limited to, anti-Muslim, anti-Semitic, sexist, racist, classist, ableist, homophobic, or transphobic sentiments and/or remarks will also not be tolerated. We all have an obligation to ensure that an open and inclusive space, free of hate is established. Any behaviour that does not demonstrate an understanding of these principles and/or creates an unsafe atmosphere will not be tolerated.

2. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF LAND

We do a land acknowledgement as a means of recognizing and centering the Indigenous land that the University of Toronto and, by association, SCSU occupies and operates on. For settlers, the act of performing a Land Acknowledgment is now a very familiar but still fundamental step towards highlighting the colonial context of the Indigenous ancestral lands where a gathering like this is taking place while also allowing space for our own individual reflections on our relationships between land and its peoples, realising that we all may be on different ancestral lands in this virtual context.

We'd like to acknowledge that we as a collective union operate from the traditional ancestral land of the treaty of the dish with one spoon, the Anishinaabe of which the Mississauga of Credit peoples are a part of, and the Haudenaasaanee, the people of this traditional ancestral land. Indigenous peoples have been here since time immemorial and this is still the home to many Indigenous peoples from across Turtle Island, and we are grateful to have the opportunity to coexist on this land. Settlers in Canada have directly benefited from the genocide and colonization of Indigenous peoples, including the robbing of their land and spiritual identification. In order to engage in resistance and solidarity against injustices inflicted on Indigenous peoples, it is imperative we constantly engage in acts of decolonization. In recognising the colonial violence still at work the SCSU commits towards the fight against systemic and institutional violence; with an end goal of complete liberation. This can only be achieved by including Indigenous people in our collective decision making for social justice and equity and working from an anti-colonial framework. I would also like to pay my respect to their elders past and present, and to any who may be here with us today, physically, mentally, emotionally, and spiritually.

Land Acknowledgements are just that, acknowledgements. Liberation has yet to come out of the hands of sole acknowledgements. We'd like to highlight some resources and initiatives currently active that folks can support in order to take their next steps in solidarity. Please visit scsu.ca/index#indigenous for a starting place to reflect on what resources (monetary or not), space and capacity you have to offer in order to more support Indigenous communities.

+ agenda.

1. CALL TO ORDER.

2. EQUITY STATEMENT & LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT.

3. APPROVAL OF THE CHAIR.

MOTION:

MOVED: David

SECONDED:

BE IT RESOLVED that _____ be approved as the Chair for the 2023 Annual General Meeting.

4. WELCOMING REMARKS & INTRODUCTIONS.

5. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA.

MOTION:

MOVED: David

SECONDED:

BE IT RESOLVED that the November 14th, 2023 Annual General Meeting agenda be approved as presented.

6. APPROVAL OF MINUTES.

MOTION:

MOVED: David

SECONDED:

BE IT RESOLVED that the 2023 Winter General Meeting minutes approved as presented.

7. RECEIPT OF THE 2022-2023 SCSU AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS.

MOTION:

MOVED: David

SECONDED:

BE IT RESOLVED that the 2022-2023 Audited Financial Statements be approved as received.

8. APPOINTMENT OF THE AUDITORS FOR 2023-2024 FISCAL YEAR.

MOTION:

MOVED: David

SECONDED:

BE IT RESOLVED that Yale and Partners be appointed as the external auditors for the Scarborough Campus Students' Union for the fiscal year ending April 30, 2024.

9. REVIEW OF MOTIONS SUBMITTED WITH DUE NOTICE.

» AMENDMENT TO CHARTER OF REFERENDA

MOTION:

MOVED: Patel

SECONDED:

BE IT RESOLVED that the Charter of Referenda be amended as follows:

- Remove: “For referenda under Schedules B and C to be considered, question(s) must be submitted to the Elections and Referenda Committee in the Summer semester before August’s board meeting.” and replace it with “For referenda under Schedules B to be considered, question(s) must be submitted to the Elections and Referenda Committee and approved by the SCSU Board in the semester before the referendum is to be held.” [Page 3]
- Remove: “Quorum required for a referendum of the Union shall be no less than ten percent (10%) of the membership affected by the referendum question. Quorum shall be established no later than 10 days before the voting period.” and replace it with “a. Quorum required for a referendum of the Union shall be 3% of the membership affected by the referendum question.” [Page 6]
- Add: “As per both Robert’s Rules of Order and Standard Canadian Parliamentary Procedure, while abstentions and spoiled ballots contribute to achieving the quorum of 3% of the affected membership, they are not considered as part of the total votes cast. This means they do not influence the count of “yes” or “no” votes in determining if the referendum passes, which requires a majority of 50%+1 from those who have cast a vote.”
- Amend 6.1 c. from “\$250” to “\$1000.” [Page 8]
- Remove from Schedule A “Referenda can be held during the Fall By-elections.” and replace with “Referenda can be held during the Fall By-elections, Winter elections, or at the time determined best suited by SCSU.”
- Remove from Schedule B “Referenda for Schedule B can only occur in conjunction with Fall by-elections.” and replace with “Referenda can be held during the Fall By-elections, Winter elections, or at the time determined best suited by SCSU.”

» EXECUTIVE REMUNERATION POLICY

MOTION:

MOVED: Palaparthi

SECONDED:

WHEREAS the SCSU Executives are elected to represent and advocate on behalf of the 17,000 undergraduate students at UTSC; and

WHEREAS the Executives hold extremely diverse and complex roles that often require them to work beyond the minimum 35 office hours per week; and

WHEREAS the Executives are also students and often unable to take on additional work outside of the SCSU; and

WHEREAS the SCSU Bylaws prohibit Executives from working at another job for more than 30 hours per week; and

WHEREAS the Executives have not received an honorarium adjustment beyond the consumer price index since 2021; and

WHEREAS the Executive honorarium has not adjusted with government increases to minimum wage; and

WHEREAS in October 2023, the SCSU part-time wages increased to \$17.55 per hour for general part-time and \$19 per hour for coordinators; and

WHEREAS the SCSU Executives currently make \$20.14 per hour; and

WHEREAS the SCSU advocates for a basic living income; and

WHEREAS the [cost of living in Toronto for the year 2023 is \\$23.15 per hour](#);

BE IT RESOLVED that the Executive Committee honoraria be increased from \$19.00 to \$23.50 per hour, effective immediately; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the existing Executive Remuneration Policy be amended to as follows:

PREAMBLE

The purpose of this policy is to outline remuneration of the Officers for the Scarborough Campus Students' Union. The By-laws stipulate the roles and responsibilities of the Executive members. The Bylaws do not, however, provide guidelines for the reporting and administration of this remuneration. To ensure accountability and transparency, the following policy has been adopted as the Executive Remuneration Policy. Every Executive member is required to work on behalf of the membership and for the University of Toronto Scarborough students for a minimum number of hours each week, as outlined in their signed start-of-term contracts and this policy.

There shall be a set amount of remuneration established for the Executive members with the understanding that part of the role is to volunteer for the improvement and betterment of students' lives and a socially just society.

HONOURARIUM

- The President and Vice-Presidents shall receive an honorarium of ~~\$19~~ **\$23.50 per hour in 2021 2023**, up to a maximum of 40 hours worked per week.
- The honorarium of Officers shall be increased each year by the Consumer Price Index (CPI) as set by the University of Toronto.
- SCSU recognizes that the amount of honorarium is not reflective of the total amount of work hours conducted to service students, but rather that it is a nominal recognition of the service conducted as an elected representative.

OFFICE HOURS

- Executives are required to hold a minimum of thirty-five (35) office hours per week, for twelve (12) consecutive months, from May 1 to April 30.
- Attending meetings, seminars, conferences (i.e. CFS) off campus will be recognized as office hours.
- Where the minimum number of hours is worked, honorarium will be provided bi-weekly in recognition of the work to represent and advocate for the membership.

OFFICE HOURS (CONT.)

- In recognition of changes in required work and meetings; an Executive may balance out their minimum required hours of work in any given pay period (two week period).
- In any pay period where hours have not been balanced, and are less than the minimum required, Executive members will be paid a pro-rated honorarium.
- During weeks where weekend or other extenuating work is required, office hours may be adjusted.
- During the Reading Week and Winter Holiday shutdowns, all Executive members are required to respond to emails and correspondences but are not required to maintain the minimum amount of hours; honorarium for this time period will be automatically issued in recognition that the University is closed but the work of the Executive continues.

BENEFITS

- In addition to the honorarium awarded, each Executive shall be offered the option to be part of the SCSU health and dental plan for one year during their term of office.
- In accordance with the Mobile Phone Allowance Policy, a \$50.00 cell phone reimbursement is awarded on a monthly basis.
- Executive members are eligible for up to two weeks of paid vacation; not including the Winter Holiday and Reading week shutdowns, to be taken at times to be determined with the President and the Executive Director's approval.

SICK DAYS

- Executives are granted ten (10) paid sick days each year during their term.
- There is no carryover of sick days from year to year.
- It is understood that upon resignation or termination of position, the executive will not be issued a pay in lieu of any accumulated sick day credits.
- Executives will notify the Executive Director of their impending absence prior to the start of the work day.

REPORTING

- To ensure that honorarium is issued on a bi-weekly schedule, each Executive member must submit a timesheet to the Executive Director every second Monday by 3:00pm.
- Timesheets must be submitted within four (4) weeks of the time worked, otherwise it will be considered as volunteer time and no payment of honorarium will be issued.
- All timesheets will be kept and logged by the Executive Director.

CONTRACT

- All officers, in order to hold a position, shall enter into a contract with the SCSU pursuant to its By-Laws and Policies.

- The contract shall also be signed by the Vice-President Operations and a witness.
 - If the contract is for the employment of the Vice-President Operations, then the contract shall also be signed by the President and a witness.
- The officer shall accept the duties and responsibilities which may be outlined in the position's description and/or By-Laws and Policies of the SCSU.
- A copy of the job description shall be given to the position holder and the contract shall be held on file by the Vice-President Operations.
- The Vice-President Operations shall make the position holder fully aware of all provisions of the position description before the contract is signed.

10. EXECUTIVE REPORT.

MOTION:

MOVED: David

SECONDED:

BE IT RESOLVED that the 2023 Annual General Meeting Executive Report be accepted as presented.

11. ADJOURNMENT.

MOTION:

MOVED: David

SECONDED:

BE IT RESOLVED that the 2023 Annual General Meeting be adjourned.

1. CALL TO ORDER.

@5:54PM

Quorum has not been reached

@6:10PM

Quorum has been reached

2. EQUITY STATEMENT & LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT.

READ OUT LOUD BY ABDELHAMEED

3. APPROVAL OF THE CHAIR.

MOTION:

MOVED: David

SECONDED: Crawford

BE IT RESOLVED that Alice Wu be approved as the Chair for the 2023 Winter General Meeting.

VOTING

MOTION CARRIED

4. WELCOMING REMARKS & INTRODUCTIONS.

Welcoming remarks were done and introduction of Executives.

5. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA.

MOTION:

MOVED: David

SECONDED: Simpson

BE IT RESOLVED that the March 27th, 2023 Winter General Meeting agenda be approved as presented.

VOTING

MOTION CARRIED

6. APPROVAL OF MINUTES.

MOTION:

MOVED: David

SECONDED: Abdelhameed

BE IT RESOLVED that the 2022 Annual General Meeting minutes be approved as presented.

NO MOTIVATION

VOTING

MOTION CARRIED

7. RECEIPT OF THE 2020-2021 SCSU AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS.

The following motion has been recommended for adoption by the Board of Directors.

MOTION:

MOVED: David

SECONDED: Sobowale

BE IT RESOLVED that the 2021-2022 Audited Financial Statements be approved as received.

The 2021 SCSU Audited Financial Statements were presented prior to Quorum being achieved.

No additional comments or questions once quorum was achieved.

VOTING

MOTION CARRIED

8. APPOINTMENT OF THE AUDITORS FOR 2022-2023 FISCAL YEAR.

MOTION:

MOVED: David

SECONDED: Femi-Johnson

BE IT RESOLVED that Yale and Partners be appointed as the external auditors for the Scarborough Campus Students' Union for the fiscal year ending April 30, 2023.

NO MOTIVATION

NO DISCUSSION

VOTING

MOTION CARRIED

9. EXECUTIVE REPORT.

MOTION:

MOVED: David

SECONDED: Higashihara

BE IT RESOLVED that the 2023 Winter General Meeting Executive Report be accepted as presented.

A motivation was given by executives and they presented their reports.

Questions were posed.

Executives answered the questions.

Speakers list exhausted.

VOTING

MOTION CARRIED

10. ADJOURNMENT.

MOTION:

MOVED: David

SECONDED: Fernandes

BE IT RESOLVED that the 2023 Winter General Meeting be adjourned.

VOTING

MOTION CARRIED

ADJOURNED @6:57PM

EXECUTIVE REPORT

+ CAMPAIGNS & ADVOCACY.

CAMPAIGNS.

PUT EQUITY IN ACADEMICS | POLICY INTRODUCTION.

CR/NCR EXTENSION

Vice President Academics and University Affairs has been working on advocating for the credit / no credit deadline to be extended to ensure that students are able to make informed decisions about their grades. A petition has been released for students to be able to sign to show support for this petition which has garnered hundreds of signatures already. In spaces with University administration VP Academics has been campaigning for the extension of the CR/NCR deadline as well as working with tri campus partners to ensure that this is made a priority for the University.

COURSE RELIEF POLICY

Vice President Academics and University Affairs has also been working on advocating for the course relief policy which enables eligible students who have changed their area / major of study to exclude courses that were completed towards their previous area of study from their cumulative GPA for their new program. Students can show support by signing the Course Relief petition which has been released and can be found across campus on SCSU poster boards, in the SCSU office or available when the Academic Support Centre is tabling. In spaces with University administration VP Academics has been lobbying for this policy to be offered to students at UTSC.

WEB OPTION FOR ALL COURSES WITH AN ATTENDANCE OF GREATER THAN 100 STUDENTS

Vice President Academics and University Affairs has been advocating for an increase in the courses offered for web-option in meeting with University administrators

MANDATORY ANTI-OPPRESSION TRAINING AND SEXUAL VIOLENCE PREVENTION TRAINING FOR ALL STUDENTS, FACULTY & STAFF

The SCSU team has been advocating for mandatory anti-oppression training and sexual violence prevention training for all students, faculty and staff in meeting with University administrators. As for now the Sexual Violence Prevent and Support centre is the main point of contact for any training for UTSC community. The SCSU team will to advocate for mandatory anti-oppression and sexual violence training for all community members but especially faculty, staff and students.

MULTI-FAITH SPACES

INCREASE NUMBER OF BLACK STUDENT ADVISORS (CURRENTLY ONLY ONE)

MORE OPPORTUNITIES TO STUDENTS IN NON-STEM PROGRAMS TO ENSURE NETWORKING OPPORTUNITIES (EXPAND CONNECTIONS)

RESOURCE EXISTING CLOSED SPACES

PUT EQUITY IN ACADEMICS PETITION.

With over 500 signatures, the petition is demanding the university to extend the CR/NCR deadline, to pass the Second Attempt for Credit Policy at the University Affairs Board, to include a Ramadan Accommodation policy, to bring back hybrid options for learning and finally to take away exam deferral fees. The petition demands have been brought up to the Dean of Academics and the Registrar's Office. The fight will never stop and students united will never be defeated. For more information, please contact Afsana at academics@scsu.ca.

MY MENTAL HEALTH MATTERS.

ON-CAMPUS

1. Protocol that all students know what to do when need help; chain of access
 - Publicly available to students - where to go if need help
 - Guide/flow chart so students know process
 - List of free off-campus resources; tabling & presentations
2. 1 counselor per 1,000 students

OFF-CAMPUS

1. MediCare - include mental health supports in coverage

WHERE IS THE JUSTICE?

ON-CAMPUS

1. Introduce breadth requirement for Indigenous culture preservation
2. Recognize Indigenous knowledge holders
 - Permanent knowledge holders
 - Procedures for how to access
 - Compensation for Elder's time

FIGHT THE FEES!

ON-CAMPUS

1. Academic Amnesty for Day of Action
2. Emergency grant for Black & Indigenous students
3. Fully-funded study abroad courses
4. Elimination of Exam Deferral Fees

OFF-CAMPUS

1. Reducing tuition fees; increase grants not loans
2. Increased provincial funding
3. Student Fares for Transit
 - UPass
4. Co-op housing options and reduced rental fees

FAIRNESS FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS.

International students pay 4-6 times more than domestic students for the same education.

While fees are capped for domestic students, international student fees are deregulated which means they can be raised to any amount at any time.

ON-CAMPUS

1. Residences: guaranteed spots within residence for at least First year, working towards all years
2. Financial support while studying at UofT
 - Scholarship expansion
 - Bursaries (Policy that regulates financial support for students from war-torn countries)
 - Diversity focus for admission recruiters
 - Guaranteed on-campus work positions

OFF-CAMPUS

1. OHIP for International Students
2. Inclusion in Canada Summer Jobs program

TRI-CAMPUS SOLIDARITY.

SCSU is part of the tri-campus solidarity group, UTEAU that unites student and labour unions across the three UofT Campuses.

CANADIAN FEDERATION OF STUDENTS.

CFS-ONTARIO SKILLS SYMPOSIUM

Your SCSU executives attended the CFS-Ontario Skills Symposium to learn more about the work of the Federation and to also meet other executives from other Unions across Ontario. It was a very comprehensible and informative session on lobbying, event organizing, and campaigns. As the Treasurer for CFS-Ontario, Amrith was able to connect with other executives from other unions to develop opportunities for the SCSU's growth. For more information please reach out to Amrith at president@scsu.ca.

Your President organized for 2 Indigenous identifying students at UTSC to attend the Canadian Federation of Students - Ontario's Circle Stand-alone Meeting. The cost of the stay is being covered by SCSU and the students will have the opportunity to participate in various activities as well as network with other Indigenous Students and Groups from across Ontario to foster a sense of community. For more information please reach out to Amrith at president@scsu.ca.

EXECUTIVE REPORT

+ SOLIDARITY.

EXECUTIVE REPORT + EVENTS.

MAY.

BEING BLACK AND MUSLIM CONFERENCE: TACKLING ISLAMOPHOBIA & ANTI- BLACK RACISM IN THE WORKPLACE

JUNE.

REACH FOR PEACE CONFERENCE

INDIGENOUS HISTORY MONTH AND PRIDE PROGRAMMING

Vice President Equity organised and executed all campaigns, informational material and events with respect to Indigenous History Month and Pride Month. Thus, VP Equity organized a collaboration with Scarborough Campus OUT, SC:OUT with transportation to the Pride Parade. This event had a registration of 23 students. The monitoring of attendance and promotion of upcoming events like the Indigenous Garden Tour, Cupcake Decorating and Voguing Workshop is being overseen by the VP equity alongside Events and Policy Coordinator. For more information, please contact equity@scsu.ca.

DEMO DAY AND REACH FOR PEACE CONFERENCES

Vice President Equity secured a sponsoring role to endorse demo day by Nobellum amongst students. Your VP equity shared Land acknowledgement, African Ancestral Acknowledgements and Equity Statements to open Demo Day and Reach for Peace Conferences. For more information, please contact equity@scsu.ca.

JULY.

VOGUEING WORKSHOP AND CUPCAKE DECORATING X FOOD CENTRE FOR PRIDE

Vice President Equity equity oversaw the promotion of Cupcake Decorating and Voguing Workshop through multiple tables and outreach initiatives. The Cupcake Decorating had a turnout of 19 attendees. For more information, please contact equity@scsu.ca.

SCSU SUMMER FEST (JULY 13TH & 28TH)

SCSU hosted a series of free fun summer activities including a beach day at Scarborough Bluffs and free hot dog and freezies giveaway!

SCSU RIDES (JULY 29TH)

SCSU hosted a free bike clinic for students, followed by a group ride through the Highland Creek Valley and Morningside Trail Park!

UTMSU X SCSU

JULY 29

SEPTEMBER.

FROSH (SEPT 2-3)

VP Campus Life worked alongside the Orientation Team to host the biggest Frosh SCSU has ever hosted. Having a total of 1,100 first years and leaders present throughout the two days. We had a variety and accessible opportunities for everyone to enjoy; including a comedian show from Hassan Phils, 6ix fest, and to wrap up the event our first ever foam and paint party. SCSU also took students to the first UofT Tri-Campus Parade since 2019!

WEEK OF WELCOME (SEPT 5TH AND SEPT 7TH)

VP Campus Life tabled alongside the rest of the exec team and gave out free BBT to students on their first day back on campus. Part of our Welcome Week festivities we had our first Puppy Yoga event of the year held in the TV Lounge. We had over 60 students come out and enjoy the yoga workshop and puppies.

BLACK STUDENT ORIENTATION

VP Equity worked alongside VP External in bringing programming and community for black students at UTSC through a collaboration with Black Student Engagement and Black Student Orientation (ST. George Student life program). Orientation for black students composed of 3 events- Culture Fest, Semi-Formal Gala which took 24 UTSC students and had a rough attendance of 50 students. As well as a partnership with Black Student Engagement to aid programming through an invitation of active black clubs to meet Students.

BLUE JAYS (SEPT 14TH)

VP Campus Life worked towards getting SCSU to participate in the University/College Night Blue Jays Game Event. As part of SCSU's FROSH giveaway students were able to attend the game, get transportation to and from campus, and get a custom Blue Jays Hat with SCSU's Logo all for free. The event went smoothly and everyone was able to watch the game.

QUEER ORIENTATION

VP Equity worked in collaboration with International Students Association and Women and Trans Center to provide programming for LGBTQ+ students and Allies. VP Equity worked on promotional and outreach strategies that led to an attendance of 43 students. VP equity worked in communication with SGDO to report numbers and engagement for programming.

PARLIAMENTARY SERIES

The Board of Director for Political Science launched a series of events under a new initiative, The Parliamentary Series. The series is designed to engage Political Science Students to get hands-on experience which will sharpen the skills they will be using in future careers such as policy analysis, deliberation, legal writing or advocacy and so forth. Vice President Equity helped and guided the board of director in ensuring the launch of the series. For more information, contact politicalscience@scsu.ca.

HOMECOMING (SEPT 22)

VP Campus Life hosted Clubs/DSA Tabling outside the Student Centre Quad with music being catered through Radio FWD. VP Campus Life was also selected to be a judge for the UTSC's Got Talent aspect of the evening alongside staff from both the Marketing and Communications Office and OSEW.

EAST MEETS WEST CONCERT (SEPT 29)

As a part of our add ons from FROSH, SCSU X UTMSU collaborated for a NAV concert at the Queen Elizabeth Theatre! Over 1800 students attended and SCSU provided transportation to and from the campus for students.

OCTOBER.

ANNUAL BOAT CRUISE: DEEP DIVE INTO THE CITY OF ATLANTIS

SCSU brought back our annual boat cruise where students were given a three-course meal and got to dance the night away in this year's theme of Atlantis. Students looked incredible sporting their blue, white and gold best looks and it was a fun event to kick off the year!

CHECKMATE CHESS TOURNAMENT

On October 1st, your Vice President AUA in collaboration with the Data Science and Statistics Society Club as well as our Computer and Mathematical Science Board of Director hosted a chess tournament in the 1265 Bistro. The tournament had over 80 participants who competed to win \$1500 worth of prizes. The tournament was an all day event and had participants in both advanced and intermediate categories. The tournament ended with a total of 6 winners and sparked an interest in developing an official Chess club on the UTSC campus. For more information please contact Afsana at academics@scsu.ca.

EQUITY SERVICE CENTRES.

FOOD CENTRE

Free, quality food access to all students, staff, and faculty at UTSC. This year, the Food Centre continued to serve students during weekly grocery pick-up on Friday and Monday. Keep up with all the amazing work they're doing by following them on Instagram: [@scsu_foodcentre](https://www.instagram.com/scsu_foodcentre)

For more information, please contact foodcentre@scsu.ca and operations@scsu.ca.

GROWING DEMAND

This fall, we are supporting almost 400 students on a weekly basis. The food centre has seen a 260% increase in weekly sign ups since the summer semester. In fact, we have been forced to operate two grocery pickup days, instead of one, to meet our growing demands. This poses several challenges to our operations such as food procurement, volunteer support, and infrastructure. Our food centre coordinators are working tirelessly to meet these demands.

HYGIENE PRODUCTS GIVEAWAY

The Food Centre has continued to distribute hygiene products to students on a monthly basis. In addition to our partnership with Global Medic, the Food Centre purchases hygiene products from local stores on an ongoing basis to meet the growing needs of students on our campus.

SUSTAINABLE MEAL PREPPING WORKSHOP

This past semester, the FC held a sustainable meal prepping workshop. The workshop was led by Chef Tharwat Awamleh from Bread and Salt. It aimed at teaching students how to meal prep groceries in a method that is zero waste. The FC provided free produce boxes to students through a partnership with 100km Foods, a local business that supports small scale farmers in the greater toronto region.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

This past semester, the FC has held several small scale events aimed at creating a vibrant community within the food centre user base. This included events such as Friendship Bracelet Making, Tote Bag Decorating, a trip to Forsythe Farms, and the Indigenous Garden Tour.

INCREASED DONATIONS

On October 19th, 2023, SCSU's VP Operations, Equity Centre Coordinator, Executive Director, and FC Coordinator met with the university administration to request increased funding for the food centre. The Alumni Office has pledged to donate \$20,000 to the operations and renovations needed to expand the food centre. We also discussed introducing the food centre to wider conversations surrounding food insecurity in Scarborough via the UTSC Business Development and Food Partnerships office.

EXECUTIVE REPORT

+ SERVICES.

EQUITY SERVICE CENTRES. (CONT.)

ACADEMIC SUPPORT CENTER

One of many extensions of the Scarborough Campus Students Union (SCSU), the Academic Support Center (ASC) is a service center that is focused on holistically supporting students in access to education. Building on the success of ASC's previous programming, ASC has extended our pillars to better serve and support students. This year, the Academic Support Center will serve students through our revamped pillars: Services, Programming, and Resources. The ASC also recognizes the prevalence of important campaigns and goals such as Free Education for all, Fight the Fees and Put Equity in Academics. Thus, ASC strives to support the advocacy and promotion of various academic campaigns. For more information, please contact asc@scsu.ca.

SERVICES

Recognizing that providing cost-effective services benefits students in achieving their academic aspirations, the ASC provides three services: the Academic Bursary, the Laptop Rental Program (in collaboration with the UTSC Library), and Free Printing (coming soon). The Academic Bursary provides financial support for academic related expenses such as textbooks, tuition, internet, and electronic resource necessities. The Laptop Rental Program aims to assist in the reduction of technological barriers that may arise when accessing education by allowing students to sign out a laptop to support their digital access needs. This year, the ASC partnered with the UTSC Library in order to jointly rent out 6 laptops. Recognizing that high printing costs are a barrier for students, the ASC is in the midst of launching a free printing service. Watch out for more information as the ASC hopes to launch this new service soon!

PROGRAMMING

The ASC runs Career Building Workshops; and Study Sessions. This semester, the ASC hosted a LinkedIn photoshoot where students were able to receive a copy of their professional headshot. The ASC also hosts study sessions year-round. This past year, the ASC regularly hosted weekly accountability study sessions, around midterm and exam season.

The ASC in collaboration with the UTSC library has officially launched the laptop loan program where students can rent out laptops for the duration of the semester. Laptop rentals are determined by the laptop loan committee consisting of VP Academics, VP Equity and the ASC Coordinator. Applicants for the laptop loan program are prioritised based on immediate need to a device as well as accessibility. The laptop loan program will be open for students to apply to in the winter semester as well.

The ASC is also offering free printing services for students in need, which is available on the second floor of the student centre on weekdays.

The Academic Support Center recognizes the reach of various campus groups, departments and organizations. With this in mind, it is our goal to collaborate with other academic groups to expand reach, raise awareness of the available support and resources and connect with the diverse student population through new and applicable initiatives and events. This year, we partnered with UTSC's Centre of Learning and Teaching, the African Students' Association, and Roundtable UTSC.

RESOURCES

The Academic Support Center acknowledges the importance of connecting students to resources on and off campus. In conjunction with the VP Academics, we assist with Academic Appeals Support and Academic Integrity Support.

RACIALIZED STUDENTS' COLLECTIVE

The Racialized Students' Collective is an SCSU Equity Service Centre which seeks to be the safer space for those excluded from the traditional university design. We know that society routinely & systemically marginalizes Black, Indigenous and Racialized folks; creating numerous barriers to 'higher education'. Proudly championing the diversity of our UTSC community; the RSC exists to oppose racism, colonialism and all forms of oppression on and off campus, directed at our Racialized, Black and Indigenous students. Through our creative work of advocacy, services and collective allyship, we aim to continually reshape our campus culture that celebrates and honours our Racialised students. The RSC will be an open physical space reflecting the importance of racialized students and their identities taking up space in their University!

The RSC's mandate is centered around intersectionality and bridging gaps between different cultural groups. The RSC seeks to increase solidarity between racialized groups and seeks to increase awareness about the importance of closed spaces. The RSC continues to educate students through events and programming. For more information, please contact rsc@scsu.ca.

OFFICE HOURS

This semester, the RSC launched its fall office hours. The lounge is open to all racialized students on Tuesdays to Thursdays from 12-4pm.

BSE LET'S TALK

Every Thursday, the RSC is used by BSE to host their Let's Talk series. This is a safe space for Black students to be themselves and have open conversations while building a community on our campus.

RSC INITIATIVE

RSC launched a marketing campaign to further support cultural clubs on campus. Cultural Clubs who sign up get access to RSC funding in an effort to support events for diverse groups on campus. These clubs can also book the space for their events further achieving the mandate of the RSC. Cultural Clubs that have joined or used the initiative include, the Indian Students Association, the African Students Association, Afghan Students Association, Tamil Students Union, University of Toronto Hong Kong Student Club (UTHKSC), and FSAS - Filipino Students Association of Scarborough for more information contact equity@scsu.ca, rsc@scsu.ca, and equitycentre@scsu.ca.

FOOD SOVEREIGNTY EVENT FOR ORANGE SHIRT DAY

Students got a chance to join the RSC in learning about food sovereignty while eating food from an Indigenous owned shop called PowWowCafe. Students also got to reflect on the meaning of a land acknowledgement and got to engage in an exercise of personalising their land acknowledgements. For more information contact rsc@scsu.ca.

TOGETHER WE WATCH

RSC collaborated with the African Students Association on October 30th for the season of Halloween to watch Jordan Peele's Get Out. The movie was followed by a discussion on the movie led by ASA and RSC. For more information contact rsc@scsu.ca.

EQUITY SERVICE CENTRES. (CONT.)

VOLUNTEER NETWORK PROGRAM

With a look at more sustainable and forward thinking programs that the SCSU offers, we decided to revamp the VNP to create a volunteering structure with an internal shift. We will still have many of the traditional aspects of the program such as the ranking of the hours each volunteer puts in and having a day of appreciation for our volunteers. We believe the core tenets of volunteerism and SCSU would like to uphold this through greater reach and participation by our student body. In short, to get greater involvement with our student body we have shifted our focus inwardly.

BRONZE

- 9-19 hours
- Certificate of Recognition
- Volunteer Appreciation Night
- Chance to win a gift card

SILVER

- 20-59 hours
- Certificate of Recognition
- Volunteer Appreciation Night
- CCR Recognition
- General Reference Letter
- Eligible for the Community Scholarship (\$500)
- Silver Level Gift

GOLD

- 60 hours +
- Certificate of Recognition
- Volunteer Appreciation Night
- CCR Recognition
- Personalized Reference Letter
- Eligible for the Community Scholarship (\$500)
- Gold Level Gift

VOLUNTEER TRAINING

With student engagement doubling over the past few months, the SCSU hosted a second Winter Fall Volunteer Training and a makeup training where we promoted various volunteer opportunities with each service center and trained students in anti-oppressive practices. Overall students were thankful to be trained and the opportunity to work with SCSU. For more information please contact Li at equitycentres@scsu.ca.

FINANCIAL SUPPORT.

ACADEMIC BURSARY

Now administered outside of the Financial Aid Office, the Academic Bursary was created by the Scarborough Campus Students' Union and is intended to support members that are dealing with financial hardship regarding their academic costs (e.g. textbooks, outstanding tuition fees, barriers to education). For other types of financial hardship (e.g. lost employment, need support accessing food or housing) the Emergency Grant form should be accessed. The move from the Financial Aid Office allows students to access their funds in a more accessible way, (e.g. via e-transfer) allowing for the bursary to be used for various costs as opposed to tuition on ACORN solely. For more information, please contact equity@scsu.ca.

EMERGENCY GRANT

Students who are eligible will be able to receive up to \$500 in emergency support. Application remains open until all available funds have been administered, or until the end of the Academic Year on April 30th when the Grant will reset. For more information, please contact equity@scsu.ca.

DOLLAR FOR DAYCARE

The Dollar for Daycare Bursary was created by the Scarborough Campus Students' Union. It is intended to support members with dependents that need support with affordable care. This grant relieves some of the financial burden on students while they're navigating their studies and have their dependents taken care of. For more information, please contact equity@scsu.ca.

GREEN SHIELD: HEALTH & DENTAL.

SCSU provides students' extended health care coverage through Green Shield Canada.

New this year, SCSU successfully lobbied our Health and Dental Insurance Provider for the following:

- We are also upgrading the dental plan from 30% to 20% copay for fillings, basic oral surgery, and comprehensive oral surgery.
- We are also adding bruxism appliance coverage.
- All this was achieved with no increase to your health and dental premium!

For any questions relating to the health plan, please email health@scsu.ca.

GRADUATION PHOTOS.

The SCSU is now partnered with Lassman Studios to offer graduation photos for students that will be graduating from UTSC in June and November. This change has made graduation photos more affordable by reducing the sitting fee to FREE for basic sitting and \$20 for advanced sitting fee. Students should note, anyone who purchases a graduation package has access to 25% discount for future photo needs - including wedding, baby showers, etc! In addition, SCSU has been able to offer complimentary Linked-In Photo Shoots. For more information, please contact Akaash at operations@scsu.ca.

PART-TIME STAFF.

The SCSU hired students for different part-time jobs such as the Administrative Associate through our Canada Summer Jobs grant. We also hired students for the following positions: Orientation Coordinator: Events and Risk Management, Orientation Coordinator: Sponsorship & Materials, Academic Support Centre Coordinator, Racialized Students Coordinator, Street Team Coordinator, and 3 Member of Services Staff.

CLUBS/DSA TRAINING.

CLUBS TRAINING MAKE-UP DATE

In order to accommodate those clubs that could not attend our preliminary training, VP Campus Life held a make-up training for Clubs, to discuss funding, SCSU supports, room bookings, and recognition more generally. Over 30 students joined this training and participated actively.

EXECUTIVE REPORT

**+ UNIVERSITY
AFFAIRS.**

PRINCIPAL'S OFFICE.

Members of the Executive team meet monthly with the Principal, Dean of Students and Vice-Principal Academic & Dean to discuss ongoing lobbying efforts. In addition, on September 19th the Executive Team met with the Upper Executives to share our campaign priorities for the year. We are hoping to see a lot of student victories and we are especially excited for the return of SCSU's Lobby Week next semester, where students will again get to join in lobbying UTSC's senior executive team.

EQUITY, DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION.

BI-WEEKLY MEETINGS WITH EDIO

VP Equity continuously meets with the EDIO to discuss equity matters that students face and provide updates to the department so that better cohesion is maintained. Some of the matters that are brought up during these meetings are Ramadan Accommodations, Multi-faith prayer rooms, event planning and specific student issues.

MEETINGS WITH ANTI-BLACK RACISM- BLACK INCLUSION ADVISORY TASK FORCE

VP Equity and VP External meet with the Anti-Black Racism and Black Inclusion Advisory Committee in amplifying student voices and bring the issues of black students and clubs. The committee is an advisory body to the Vice President and Principal of the University of Toronto Scarborough with the aim of enhancing Black inclusion on campus. The task force is currently working on an issue brought up by the SCSU which is the increasing rate of Black student dropouts at UTSC. For more information, please contact equity@scsu.ca and Khadidja at external@scsu.ca.

MEETINGS WITH BLACK STUDENT ENGAGEMENT

VP Equity coordinates and meets with the Black Student Engagement Coordinator to discuss programming and initiatives to support our Black Students. These include the Black Student Orientation. VP equity and VP External partnered with BSE in outreaching to black clubs to engage with first years during black student orientation. For more information, please contact equity@scsu.ca and external@scsu.ca.

POSITIVE SPACE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

VP Equity submitted a report on the positive impact of coordinated communication during programming initiatives such as Pride and Queer Orientation. The verbal and written response explains how this Semester, the coordinated efforts of the SGDO office helped make many queer orientation events across campus successful through high attendance and a need to keep this coordination will better facilitate events for students. For more information, please contact equity@scsu.ca.

HEALTH & WELLNESS.

VP equity is in close collaboration with the Dean of Health and Wellness and Director of Health and Wellness in efforts to hire more counsellors for students. VP Equity also coordinates in getting and finding out about resources available to students and discusses ways of promotion to students. This semester, during the period of the on-going war in Palestine, communication went out about increased after hours counselling through a lister to all students and resources were included in SCSUs published statement provided by the Office of Student Experience and Wealth and Wellness. For more information, please contact equity@scsu.ca.

VICE-PRINCIPAL AND DEAN OF ACADEMICS.

UTSC SEARCH COMMITTEE FOR VICE PRINCIPAL AND DEAN OF ACADEMICS

Your President alongside UTSC higher administrators are currently in the process of hiring an individual to take on the role of Vice Principal and Dean of Academics here at UTSC. The process consults various departments here at UTSC and my role in the committee reflects the student perspective which is much needed in the hiring process. At the past meeting your VP AUA represented SCSU at the committee level and spoke on behalf of the membership to demand that we hire an individual who will advocate for the needs of students here at UTSC. For more information please reach out to Amrith at president@scsu.ca.

AA&CC ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Your VP AUA has attended the AA&CC Advisory Committee meetings throughout the semester to discuss the growth of the AA&CC office including new updates to the office as recommendations proposed through a student lens. For more info please contact Afsana at academics@scsu.ca.

MEETINGS WITH THE OFFICE OF THE VICE-DEAN ACADEMICS AND THE DIRECTORS OF REGISTRAR

VP AUA meets with the Vice Dean Undergraduate Programs, Vice Dean Recruitment and Student Success, and the Directors of Registrar each month to discuss student concerns, recommendations and possible solutions. We have received updates on the Credit No Credit deadline extension, issues with academic integrity, concerns around mandatory training on sexual violence prevent and anti oppression as well additional student concerns brought up during these meetings. We have also received updates on the CR/NCR policy. The University has struck a tri-campus working group surrounding the CR/NCR policy, VP AUA is working to ensure that tri-campus unity is met and will continue to lobby for the policy until it is amended and implemented.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY, APPEALS AND PETITIONS

VP AUA has worked to ensure that students are supported during any academic appeals process or academic integrity meetings. VP AUA has routinely met with students to discuss next steps in their academic integrity / petition process as well as provide information and resources for those that require external assistance. This is to ensure that students are fairly treated and are aware of their academic rights and freedoms. For more information on how students are supported or if you know a student in need of support please contact Afsana at academics@scsu.ca.

VICE-PROVOST STUDENTS.

The SCSU team met with the SVPS office to speak about Sexual Violence and Prevention Programming for Orientation. The teams also discussed future collaborations and the Consent is MANDATORY campaign with the opportunity to have all students, faculty and staff be trained with SVP. For more information please reach out to Amrith at president@scsu.ca.

OFFICE OF STUDENT EXPERIENCE & WELLBEING.

COUNCIL ON STUDENT SERVICES

The Executive team are voting members on Council on Student Services. The purpose of CSS is to convene a voting body to approve permanent fee increases as it is required for increases in excess of the “year-over-year rate of inflation” (CPI) or as determined by a calculation of the “UTI” according to the methodology outlined in the long-term protocol. They are responsible for reviewing annual operating plans of program and services, reports on services and programs funded by mandatory fees; and receive reports for inflation on programs supported by optional fees; advise on proposals for expansion or reduction of student services including recommendations for new services and for the elimination of services; to serve as a forum for discussion of student experiences at UTSC.

ENHANCEMENT FUND

With clubs working to create a vibrant community here at UTSC. Vice President External and Former President Sobowale discuss funding with the administration, granting over twenty applications. For more information, please contact Khadidja at external@scsu.ca.

COSS MEETING

With the rise of student fees. Vice President External sat on the Council of Student Services to discuss the increase in fees, where fees are going and what student fees are used for on the Downtown campus. Vice President External raised questions on the fee structure of COSS. Overall this was a productive discussion. For more information, please contact Khadidja at external@scsu.ca.

E&C FUND

VP Equity sits on the Equity and Community fund to approve and advocate for student groups that apply to the fund. This is a great fund in which student groups who are hosting equity-related events and initiatives receive funding from UTSC. Having a student voice on this committee is essential. For more information, please contact equity@scsu.ca.

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER.

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE FORUM

The SCSU executives met with UTSC’s Chief Administrative Officer to go over the operational aspects of UTSC. We went over topics including UPASS, Co-op Housing, Parking on campus, and a Fee Breakdown Budget Townhall. The meeting consisted of key takeaways that would overall benefit the student body. For more information please reach out to Amrith at president@scsu.ca.

TRI-CAMPUS.

BOARD OF STEWARDS

Vice President Academics & University Affairs, as the official SCSU designate, attended the Board of Stewards Meeting. The Board of Stewards Committee is the highest form of governance at Hart House. The VP AUA introduced herself and listened through the virtual Hart house presentations, a series of presentations that touch base on the various opportunities, programming and clubs.

EXECUTIVE REPORT

+ OPERATIONS.

SPONSORSHIP & PARTNERSHIPS.

1265 BISTRO

1265 Bistro has had a very successful 2nd year in operation. We also executed the Patio Renewal Project including new flooring, furniture, lighting, and advertisements. The Bistro also got a new mural painted across the outdoor wall by the patio. This was done by DuroTheThird Industries. The artists put a focus on student engagement and allowed several students to participate in painting the mural and learn about the process. We are also working on renovating a space within the Bistro called The Lab. This will be a new bookable space available for clubs and student societies for social events.

In the restaurant's end, the catering program has been very successful. We have partnered with Scarborough Shooting Stars, The Hub, The Scarborough Business Association, and student clubs to cater events. Some events that highlight the space are: SCSU Chess Tournament, ISA Desi Stand-up Night, Glee Club Karaoke Night, etc. The Bistro has also transitioned to sustainable cutlery. Additionally, the restaurant plans to join UberEats soon. There has also been a renewed marketing campaign for the 1265 Bistro, featuring Vegan Sustaina-Bowls, drinks, and combo specials such as Taco Tuesday. Owing to this success, we are looking to expand our feature items in the future.

MURAL PROJECT

Over the past semester, VP Operations has been working closely with UTSC's Chief Administrator's Office, UTSC's Maintenance and Carpentry Services, the 1265 Bistro, and DuroTheThird Industries to pursue a mural project in the patio area of 1265 Bistro. This mural is centred around the idea of creating a colourful space that engages students and creates a space for exchanging ideas, having a good time, and building relationships. Ultimately this outdoor space would be a place students could go to unwind and relax. UTSC's Chief Administrator's Office sponsored the construction of a plywood canvas mount for the wall on which the mural was to be painted. The final painting was completed on October 9th.

FROSH AND TORONTO BUSINESS SUMMIT

VP Operations led the sponsorship team that received a total of \$6500 in sponsorships for Frosh. This led to a close partnership with the Scarborough Business Association. We continued this partnership by supporting the Toronto Business Summit with a hardworking volunteer team on September 15th at Highland Hall. For more information, please contact Akaash at operations@scsu.ca.

FREE BREAKFAST PROGRAM - COFFEEHOUSE

VP Operations inaugurated a new monthly Free Breakfast program called CoffeeHouse. On September 13th, we had the first Coffeehouse. We provided 300 students with hot breakfast, baked goods, coffee, tea and orange juice. We also had student musicians perform during this program. They were provided with an honorarium for their performances.

EXECUTIVE REPORT

+ EXTERNAL.

SOLIDARY PARTNERS.

SCARBOROUGH BUSINESS ASSOCIATION

The VP external held a mayoral candidates debate alongside the Scarborough Business Association on May 24th 2023 at the UTSC Campus. Five students were given the opportunity to attend the well-sought for event free of charge on behalf of the SCSU. Students were also given the opportunity to volunteer at the candidates debate, providing them hands-on experience into the political sphere. To ensure students' voices were reflected within candidate discussions, the VP External gathered student concerns via a form and posed a question on their behalf which encompassed public transportation cost and the introduction of a post-secondary discounted fare.

MAYORAL ELECTIONS

Your Vice President External attended the virtual Olivia Chow meet and greet along with the Vice president Equity to ask student related questions specifically related to housing safety in multi-tenant housing as well as mental health resources. Your Vice President External gathered the top 6 mayoral candidates' campaign points and made them available for our students through the SCSU's social media platforms. The SCSU executives have filmed a voting day advertisement video incentivizing UTSC students to vote and have their voice heard.

TTC RIDERS

On August 23rd 2023, the VP External joined the TTC LRT memorial held by TTC Riders, to which she had the opportunity to provide a speech denouncing the TTC and the city of Toronto for their trivial effort in public transportation development in the region of Scarborough. This speech was broadcasted by multiple news outlets including CTV news, City news and more. Your VP External shared students' concerns to the Members of Provincial Department present at the memorial to gain their support in the SCSU's demands for post-secondary student fares. For more information, please contact Khadidja at external@scsu.ca.

ADVOCACY.

UPASS AND POST-SECONDARY STUDENT FARES

On Friday August 11th, the VP External received an interview invitation from the CBC news outlet to discuss public transportation accessibility within the region of Scarborough through students' lens. During the interview, the VP External discussed how the closure of the LRT and the existing public transportation options in Scarborough affect UTSC students commuting to and from campus. Commuting time, lack of diversity within public transportation services, and transit fares were amongst the points highlighted in the interview. The VP External concluded with a statement urging the city of Toronto, Metrolinx and the TTC on endorsing post-secondary student discounted fares.

On September 13th 2023, the VP External invited the TTC on campus to distribute TTC Post Secondary student ID Passes that would allow students to receive discounted fares for a one time fee of \$7. This pop-up event addressed accessibility challenges faced by students unable to acquire their TTC Pass as this service is typically offered at the Sherbourne and Bathurst subway stations, which could be located far from their usual routes. By obtaining the TTC post-secondary student I.D pass, students paying the adult fare which stands at \$3.30 would have access to a reduced fare of \$2.50 until October 2024, wherein they would have to repurchase their post-secondary student I.D pass for the next year.

The current VP External is in the process of finalising a letter of support co-signed by the CAO and Vice-provost, which, with the assistance of the former VP External's lobbying efforts, aims to secure upper administration support for the implementation of a Universal Pass (UPass). This pass would grant students access to all public transportation systems at a subsidised fee. Along with the letter of support, the VP External aims to release a petition to the student body, to collect signatures and showcase the need of such service. For more information, please contact Khadidja at external@scsu.ca.

CANADIAN FEDERATION OF STUDENTS - NATIONAL DAY OF ACTION

The VP External has been collaborating with the Canadian Federation of Students to advocate for free and accessible education for all students. She is well-informed about the current education and tuition fee landscape in Ontario and is mobilising UTSC students to participate in the National Day of Action protest on November 8th, where students nationwide will be uniting to demand free and accessible education from government officials. These demands centre around increased public funding for post-secondary institutions and legislation to protect students' right to organise. Together with the VP of Academics and University Affairs, the VP External has been promoting academic amnesty to ensure students face no penalties for participating in the protest. The VP External has hired a student team of marketing and outreach leaders to implement a comprehensive strategy for informing and engaging students about the upcoming protest. This includes events such as poster-making workshops, a banner drop, an event breakdown/rundown, and breakfast programming on the day of the protest. For more information, please contact Khadidja at external@scsu.ca.

