

SAGBC BOARD OF DIRECTORS ELECTION 2020

VOTE

YOUR VOICE • YOUR VOTE • YOUR GEORGE BROWN

CANDIDATES  
STATEMENTS



# CERTIFIED LIST OF CANDIDATES

Student Association of George Brown College

Chief Returning Officer

## CERTIFIED LIST OF CANDIDATES

I, Charles Wilson, Chief Returning Officer of the Student Association of George Brown College:

To all members of the Corporation  
and all others whom these presences shall come or concern;

Greeting;

By virtue of these presences, I do hereby publish the following as certified candidates for the 2020 fall election of the Student Association of George Brown College:

Director of Communications and Internal  
Taranjeet Singh Manchanda  
Vishali Sitharthan

Director of Operations  
Sagar Sharma

Community Services and Early Childhood Educational Centre Representative  
Stefan Enrique Joseph Kallikaden  
Victoria Villanueva

GIVEN Under my hand at Toronto this 16th day of November, 2020.



Charles Wilson  
Chief Returning Officer

# DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INTERNAL

## Taranjeet Singh Manchanda

The Student Movement has been really close to my heart and I started my journey as a Board Member at the Student Association and having a passion to advocate for students on campus and making our schools inclusive and accessible.

I am running for the position to bring a change in our systems and making sure student voices are heard at our own institutions. My plans if elected are to lobby with the school for more inclusive and accessible policies for the students, plan and implement plans for the student association to provide more to the students and have a strong ground to work towards solidarity from dismantling racism , advocating for our constituency groups, domestic and international students.

My plans are to also work on a consistent and strong internal policies and procedures to ensure accountability and transparency of the organization.

We are essential and we all deserve better.

So, The Students United will never be Defeated.



This is a statement by the candidate published under the authority of the Chief Returning Officer. This statement has not been edited in any by the Chief Returning Officer.

# DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INTERNAL

## Vishali Sitharthan

I am Vishali Sitharthan, a first-semester student at George Brown College. I am originally from India, where I was born and grew up, and obtained my early education. I later moved to the United States of America to pursue my higher studies. I possess a diverse spectrum of experience in terms of culture, lifestyle, profession, and education. This diversity in some of the most vital areas of life has made me a team-building champion and team management. I have worked in a highly cross-functional environment throughout my career, and it has allowed me to exhibit leadership skills.

Fashion designing is one of the most exciting and demanding professions of today. The world of design has always fascinated me. Since my childhood, I have enjoyed designing my dresses and helping my friends and family members to manage their outfits. From my primary stage of education, I have a passion for drawing, sketches, etc. From that very beginning stage, I believe that I must be a Fashion Designer. Even though "designing" is one of the youngest professions, it is one of the oldest human acts.

To gain global knowledge and experience of fashion culture, I decided to earn a master's degree in Fashion Designing from the Academy of Arts University, San Francisco, United States of America.

I have completed my bachelor's degree in Visual Communications from Ethiraj college in Chennai, India, in 2014. After my bachelor's education, I also worked as a Costume Designer for Desi Fab company. This allowed me to research more about the fashion field, and I decided to go for my master's education abroad. During my master's education, I worked with various designers as an intern to improve my designing skills.

Hailing from a metropolitan city in India has given me enough exposure to the fashion industry's growing trends. Despite my educational background, work experience, and exposure to fashion trends, I feel that I have been unable to portray my abilities and aptitude in the essential portfolio I could manage to prepare myself. A dedicated Fashion designer must have complete knowledge about garment combinations of line proportion, colour, and texture. Therefore, I have decided to pursue my future education at George Brown College.

I truly enjoy designing clothes and its various accessories. I intend to learn everything about fashion designing because complete knowledge is essential for success. I want people to dress in the outfits designed by me. Today, many interested in designing are crossing continents in search of new artistic sensibilities, methodologies, and opportunities. I want to be one of those design students to break my barriers for higher and the best education I can get in an organization like George Brown College.

Along with acquiring fashion design knowledge, I want to add more value to this esteemed organization. Therefore, I decided to run for the position of Director of Communications and Internal.



This is a statement by the candidate published under the authority of the Chief Returning Officer. This statement has not been edited in any by the Chief Returning Officer.

# DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS

## Sagar Sharma

Running an organization needs a good governance, which further needs operatives who have the caliber to derive the organization in benefit of its people. I have served the role of such member in most of my working experience. For instance, my current role as Assistant Operations Technician with City of Brampton makes me resolve issues for the people of the city. It demands my expertise in matters and then my operational skills to take those matters towards conclusion and hence serving and satisfying people. I also act as a responsible face of organization who represents the organization on site.



My nomination for the role of Director of Operations in Student Association GBC, is because of my willingness to serve this job along with increasing my chances of learning while performing. I believe my experience will help me in better representing this role and I would have advantage of understanding the tasks and operations needed to be performed. I very well know that having knowledge of the task, directing it to the right person/department, and inspecting the task till it is done, all of this comes into task operations, and I know that because I have performed likewise in my previous jobs. Recently, I have managed to deliver a part of one hundred thousand dollars of contract in very few days by operating it according to the right schedule and budget, for the City of Brampton. I have experience in directing various operations to the teams working on a particular task. Being in the role of Director of Operations I will be accountable for attaining all goals and objectives of Student Association made by board and ensuring compliance with internal and external policies, procedure, and standards. I can work in focus to various directions like keeping the Budget and Finance in accordance with delivering most benefits out of it, to the students. I would work towards assessing the current performance of projects and services, targeting regions for improvements and emerging issues, managing feedback/criticism reviews and continually working in making the Student Association to provide more services to students to get them full support. I will be able to direct supervision and support to several student services staff who are responsible for delivering key student activities and programs.

As a responsible candidate I understand the need of Student Association in a student's life throughout his/her time in college, because apart from studies a student needs various welfare supports for an all-round development of their knowledge and personality. I believe that I am well suitable for the role of Director of Operations in SAGBC, because I am willing to work and put my skills and understanding for the benefit of college, and its students, which gave me a platform of learning in past year and served me well when I was in my true learning phase. Now, I want to serve and deliver my duties towards the organization along with attainment of more learnings, to become better every day and contribute towards making a better society.

This is a statement by the candidate published under the authority of the Chief Returning Officer. This statement has not been edited by the Chief Returning Officer.

# COMMUNITY SERVICES AND EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATIONAL CENTRE REPRESENTATIVE

## Stefan Enrique Joseph Kallikaden

I believe that the access to quality education is a vital part of the growth of society, and as a community worker student, I am aware that the students graduating from my centre hold the responsibility of assisting and shaping the way society functions, that in turn influence the systems of our upcoming generation. Upholding this ideal, I would, given the opportunity, do my best and then some, to voice the concerns and suggestions of my fellow students and act in a respectable and approachable manner as a liaison and confidant between my fellow students, centre faculty and the Student Association for our collective advancement, while being mindful and upholding the best interest of my centre of Community Services and Early Childhood and the missions statement of the Student Association.



Additionally, I believe as a gay person of colour, who also happens to be an international student with lived experience, I would bring an added diverse perspective to the Board while representing my peers and centre and work towards effective change that would benefit all. I also believe that my professional demeanor and teamwork skills paired with my flexibility, openness to grow and experience as a teacher in an educational setting prior to enrolling George Brown College will help me better understand and approach situations as a potential member of the Board.

Alongside these attributes, through feedback from interactions with my peers and others, I also possess great interpersonal people skills and impeccable integrity, even when it is hard to do so. These skills would help me better serve my peers and excel at this job.

Finally, I would like to conclude by saying that I understand the responsibilities and commitments this job entails and that this position is a job that shouldn't be taken lightly, and am ready to assume the position provided my peers believe I am the right candidate to do so.

# COMMUNITY SERVICES AND EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATIONAL CENTRE REPRESENTATIVE

## Victoria Villanueva

Hello Everyone! My name is Victoria Villanueva and I am running to be the Community Services and Early Childhood Education Centre Representative. Currently, I am pursuing my 2nd semester of the Fast-Track Community Worker program at George Brown College and I have already received my Early Childhood Education diploma some years ago. I currently volunteer as a Youth Advisor at CAMH and am a Young Adult Council member at Stella's Place. At CAMH and Stella's Place, I provide feedback on policies and programming, support CAMH's research projects, and have been a key organizer for the Young Adult Council.



In my work, I have always strived to make meaningful connections through authentic communication and to build relationships with the people I work with. Most of all, hearing my peers' feedback and voice would be the guiding light in my leadership approach to be your representative. These will be my assets as your representative to George Brown College. As a representative, I will advocate for the following:

### Transparency/ Clarity

- Starting a student advisory board
- Asking for more financial transparency, i.e. how is GBC spending and investing their money during COVID?
- Having the OCSWSSW let us know if they are able to adjust their hours of placement requirement since we might be finishing with low hours or possibly none at all
- When making the program planning adjustment to online, having students be a part of the consultation process
- Having more of an open dialogue with student, staff, and admins
- Having the faculty and students get more clarity and the current processes on what is being done for the next steps Placement
- Pressing for more placement guidance in how we will learn under COVID and a clear placement protocol
- Restructuring the placement design by providing more clarity and support in these uncertain times, including adapting to an online platform; make a standard framework for an online placement available; what this would look like
- Involving more CW students in the restructuring consultation
- Knowing what the online placement framework entails
- Listing relevant placements that are still accepting students during COVID
- Having certainty that our placements will give us relevant work experience

### Tuition

- Adjust the tuition fees! We are not receiving the same amenities and experience pre-COVID.

I understand I have many big asks to advocate for, but I see it as me shooting for the moon because even if I miss, we could land on the stars. If you have any questions, suggestions, or feedback; you can email me at [victoria.villanueva@georgebrown.ca](mailto:victoria.villanueva@georgebrown.ca). Thank you so much for your time for reading this and I wish the best of luck in your journey.

This is a statement by the candidate published under the authority of the Chief Returning Officer. This statement has not been edited by the Chief Returning Officer.

