

Board Annual Report. 2022 - 2023

Prepared by Sri Krishna Rajan, Director of Communication and Internal

Reporting Period: June 2022 - April 2023

A message from the Board.

We Are the Student Union founded 29 years ago by George Brown students, with a shared philosophy to represent your crucial interests.

We are committed to supporting one another in the fight for student's rights and the pursuit of high-quality education through Provincial and National educational reforms and campaigns. As a SA family member, you have the right to participate in shaping our future through governance reviews and organizational strategies, as we prioritize your interest. Our strength is our unity in diversity; together, we will keep working to make our campus respectful, inclusive, supportive, and safe for both us and prospective students.

Our Mission, vision, and values allow us to provide a living and learning environment where we all can pursue our dreams and reach our highest potential, and this is only possible when we stand together. Thank you for your trust and support.

2022-2023 Board of Directors

Achievements of the Board.

The Board of Directors approved donating \$94,000 to the GBC Office of Advancement. This was done to strengthen our learning community and to continue building bridges between current students, alums, and other stakeholders.

With Key essential goals:

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- Attract and engage diverse learners.
- Building connections and networks that contribute to the future of our students, alums and the College community.
- Cultivate a foundation of equity, reconciliation and belonging.

Sustainable Development Goals 2030 Agenda: Board members organized events to support and spread awareness about sustainability through various initiatives in all major campuses.

Steps towards Truth and Reconciliation

The Student Association was honoured to sponsor one of the key speakers in the Indigenous Knowledge Keeper Series during Treaties Recognition Week in November. Maurice Switzer facilitated a two-part event in November, entitled "We Are All Treaty People."

The Board of Directors updated our Land Recognition Statement. This was done as a small first step in reconciliation and the TRC Calls to Action. Taking this action demonstrates allyship and is a way for building meaningful relationships with Indigenous peoples.

The Student Association partnered with Indigenous Initiatives and extended support by donating all proceeds from sales of items in the SA Dollar Space. The SA also added \$2 to each student purchase.

Governance Review Process: For several years, the Board of Directors of the SAGBC recognized the need to review, update and revise its governance model, including its by-laws, policies and overall structure. The report was presented to the members at the 2022-2023 Annual General Meeting.

The SAGBC committed to the 2030 agenda with a roadmap to work together to build a more inclusive society, protect the planet and increase the quality of life for all. The board of directors worked to motivate the college president and presented all the documents in support.

- The Board of Directors and the Management negotiated with the Ontario Public Service Employees Union and ratified a new Collective Agreement.
- Expansion of Waterfront East LRT is a need to Enhance Educational Access. The
 expansion of East LRT will improve connectivity and make it easier for our students to get to our College.

The increase in the number of students, the construction of the new building, and the shift in the student population from the Casa Loma campus to the waterfront made it essential for SA to negotiate with the College regarding the space to increase services to support our student's needs.

- The Director of Education & Equity hosted a video screening of the CBC show The Fifth Estate. The episode "Sold a Lie," addresses the disparity between domestic and international tuition fees and educates on the exploitation of international students.
- TSA Leaders and Management and the College senior leaders participated in the college campus master planning process to serve as a road map for all future project development and with the goals and objectives of GBC.
- SA Leaders worked and advocated on behalf of students to GBC senior leaders
 regarding the charges on E-text book. The issues were resolved by GBC, and the E-text charges were set to be returned to the students
- The Student Association worked on initiating culturally appropriate food through SNAP, ensuring that we are meeting the unique dietary needs and preferences of our community as we are committed to providing food to meet the nutritional needs of our community.
- **15** SAGBC started work on plans to support students with transit challenges through various options
- **16** The Student Association, partnered with the Canadian Federation of Students, participated in Lobby Weeks.
- Board members, along with the management and College, worked to improve the food quality, options, and operating hours of food vendors at the Waterfront campus.
- Equity Care Relief Fund Student Association supported students through the delivery
 and disbursement of the Equity & Care Relief Fund for equity students impacted by the pandemic.
- 19 The Board of Directors and Management worked on Holiday Treat bags; more than 1,000 bags were distributed among students on all campuses.

- 20 Student petition for extending the Athletics Facilities Hours at Waterfront and Casa Loma was successfully advocated for by board members.
- 21 Showed solidarity with Iranian Women and added voices to the calls to end systemic state violence.
- **22** The SA Board and Management negotiated with the health insurance provider to ensure the coverage of all essential needs.
- The SA developed three policies and presented them to the Board of Directors for discussion and approval. These policies include: Disconnecting from Work, Electronic Monitoring Policy, and Social Media Guidelines and Procedures Policy.





A New Year.

Reporting Period: May 2023 to October 2023

The SA received a preliminary report for our advocacy efforts on E-Textbooks. For the 2022-2023 Academic Year, GBC has reported that 9,839 unique (individual) students for an amount of \$3.47M were reimbursed for E Textbook charges.

2 The Board of Directors endorsed spending \$6.7-million of the collected Athletics Capital Fee on a new Athletics Facility at the currently under construction Limberlost Place.

- 3 In 2020 SAGBC adopted key organization priorities and as a result engaged in an evaluation process to refresh our strategic plan.
- The Director of Communications and Internal resigned in September 2023. The Board of
 Directors followed an appointment process through the CRO for an interim Director of
 Communications and Internal.

Upon recommendations from the Auditors, the Board of Directors approved and
 implemented the Contingency& Reserve Policy which supports the organization's ability to plan and respond to any potential liabilities and unforeseen circumstances.

Board Directory.

2022/2023 Board of Directors

Director of Communications & Internal	_ Sri Krishna Rajan
Director of Operations	_ Dhwani Bhalavat
Director of Education & Equity	Angie Nijmeh
Director of Student Experience	_ Simran Malhotra
Community Services & Early Childhood	Luke Bowden
Arts, Design, & Informational Technology	_ Mehak Khana
Health Sciences	Shriya Gupte
Hospitality & Culinary Arts	_ Ashmeet Kaur
Business	Arlinda Sokoli
Construction & Engineering Technologies	_ Nirmala Singh

2023/2024 Board of Directors

Director of Communications & Internal	_ Shadabkhan Pathan "Sid"
Acting Director of Communications & Internal	_ Max Davidson
Director of Operations	_ Hadja Bah
Director of Education & Equity	
Director of Student Experience	
Community Services & Early Childhood	Barichisu Osman Abugbila
Preparatory & Liberal Studies	_ Manveer Johal
Arts, Design, & Informational Technology	_ Manvi Gumber
Health Sciences	_ Max Davidson
Hospitality & Culinary Arts	_ Sahil Arora
Business	_ Sonakshi Chanana
Construction & Engineering Technologies	_ Zin Hein

General Manager

Rosalyn Miller