



2022-23 Annual Plan  
Prepared by: Executive Director, Sydona Chandon  
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Our annual priorities were developed during our Policy and Planning conference in the Summer. Many of our prior committees were restructured and reduced for efficiency purposes. We now have six working committees; three internally and three externally. We hope to achieve more success in policy creation with this new structure. We aim to keep external policies at the core as those directly affect students while internally we will divert our focus to creating a more sustainable financial system for the NBSA. Therefore, having our governance work hand in hand with finance and communication is the channel through which we share our successes, and failures whilst forming connections and increasing cooperation with our stakeholders.

**ORGANIZATIONAL PRIORITIES (INTERNAL)**

**1. ORGANIZATIONAL PRIORITY: Finances**

Last year, the board expressed the need to review the financial structure of the organization and the need to hire a bookkeeper. The new executive director has hired a bookkeeper and has started the review of bank statements and prior budgets. The chair will continue to monitor the financial structure along with the finance committee to provide reviews to the board with a redo of our budget to reflect inflation and proposed changes for the future.

Accountability: Rohin Mckenney

Members: Alex Nguyen, Devin Debly

Deadline: updates- Bi-monthly

**1. ORGANIZATIONAL PRIORITY: Communications and Consultation Committee**

This year, the board will look at having an internal communications committee to ensure effective communication internally and externally. This year we aim to focus on building campus presence through presentations on each campus. The committee will also look at executing campaigns during the academic year as well as creating accessible, digestible and engaging



content. As consultation and communication go hand in hand, with the merging of both these committees we will continue to have board members ensure there is consultation with underrepresented groups. We will explore questions like who we consult with and what are our consultation procedures, how will a consultation session operate and more.

The NBSA will continue to work in ensuring transparency with our members by keeping our website updated, posting engaging content online and doing in-person events when/where appropriate. We plan to ensure frequent member check-ins, looking at more innovative social media campaigns to expand following or engagement.

Accountability: Executive, Ridhima

Member: Alex, Ngoc

Deadline: updates quarterly

### **1. ORGANIZATIONAL PRIORITY: Governance**

Governance is an important part of any organization, this year the NBSA Board will create a new committee that will focus on reviewing governing documents. This will include a review of the internal documents such as: committee terms of reference, and observer status guidelines, and reviewing committee restructure as well as our By-laws. The ideal goal would be presenting an end-of-year report on the things that can be amended to increase governance within our organization.

Accountability: Devin Debly

Executives: Alex, Rohin

## **POLICY PRIORITIES (EXTERNAL)**

### **1. POLICY PRIORITY A: Equity, Diversity and Inclusion (Review, Research & Advocacy)**

As a non-Indigenous and colonial organization, the NBSA must acknowledge and recognize the role it can have in respectfully addressing systemic racism and discrimination and the recommendations laid out in the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, through proper consultation and dialogue with international students, Indigenous elders, support staff,



community leaders, and students.. Anti-racism training for conferences/seminars is a key element in achieving the education we need around matters regarding racism. This year we aim to put some focus on consulting with mature students and the issues they face, we also should put more focus on mental health resources for international students. The committee should also review past EDI policies before creating new ones to ensure there is synchronicity moving forward.

Committee: Alex Nguyen, Ridhima Dixit

Lead: Ngoc Huynh

## **2. POLICY PRIORITY C: Health Wellness and Sustainability (Review, Research & Advocacy)**

Improving mental health services and advocating for better services to prevent sexual violence within post-secondary education have been priorities for the NBSA for quite a few years now. The board has decided to continue this advocacy work, emphasizing how to improve mental health services and access to more ER rooms within our Hospital system as waiting times have increased since the pandemic. We also aim to advocate for accessible food banks as food insecurity continues to be an issue that students face. Our committee can also explore creating policies around food waste.

The NBSA strongly believes that sustainability within our campuses is critical to the post-secondary experience. This year we plan to commit to auditing how our organization can be more sustainable.

Committee: Ridhima Dixit, Rohin Minocha-Mckenney

Lead: Julia Evans

## **3. POLICY PRIORITY D: Affordability and Accessibility of Education (Review, Research & Policy)**

The recent tuition increases at our member institutions pose significant financial obstacles to obtaining a degree within the province. We also faced financial aid clawbacks this year with the cancellation of the NB-EI program. The board will research, review and advocate for financial



support for both domestic and international students. Affordable housing has also been an issue with the rising cost of living. We will create more discussions around housing with a focus on rental caps and tenancy rights while asking for more units built specifically for students to afford living spaces. We will also push for more transparency around financial assistance which is already available to students. Likewise, student loan applications are very one-dimensional and filter out students that are deserving because of factors such as parental income. We will explore how we can restructure the latter and make it more accessible.

Other issues we can focus on this year are textbook fee alleviation programs. This will highlight that there are other financial demands outside of tuition and OERs objectives play a role in solving these problems. Additionally, we will continue the conversation around the operating grant and make it one of our main policies this year.

Accountability lead: Julia Evans  
Committee: Devin Debly, Ngoc, Alex