



2024-2025 ANNUAL REPORT

ABOUT US

Since its inception in 1964, the University of Victoria Students' Society (UVSS) has been run by students, for students. As a UVic undergrad, you're automatically a member of a dynamic community of about 19,000 students working together to make campus life better.

We're more than just a student union – we're a movement. We advocate for student rights, organize unforgettable events, and provide the essential services you need to thrive. From the Student Union Building (SUB), we run nine student-focused businesses, creating a space that's built to put you first.

We operate independently from the university, which means we aren't afraid to speak up and fight for what students deserve – on campus, in our community, and at all levels of government. Whether it's pushing for affordability, safer spaces, or a more sustainable future, we've got your back.

This is your student union. This is your UVSS.

MISSION AND VISION

Our mission is to be a leader in providing high-quality accessible services, advocacy and events that enhance the student experience, and to build a campus community that embodies our values.

Our vision is to see full student engagement in our core components of advocacy, events, services, businesses and society governance.

Our values are what we stand for. They are at the core of everything we do, and guide how we make decisions, perform our work, and work with each other:

- **Good Governance** – Transparent, accountable, and student-driven decision-making.
- **Sustainability** – Leading climate justice efforts and reducing our environmental impact.
- **Service** – Providing essential, student-centered resources.
- **Decolonization** – Challenging colonial systems and uplifting Indigenous voices.
- **Excellence** – Innovating, learning, and leading with compassion.

- **Social Justice** – Fighting oppression and advocating for equity.
- **Fun** – Creativity, spirit, and making campus a place students love.

GOVERNANCE

The UVSS is governed by a democratically elected student Board of Directors, which meets twice a month to oversee the Society's operations, advocate for students, and manage policy and financial decisions. Students are encouraged to attend Board meetings and get involved through committees, elections, and advocacy.

The Board of Directors consists of:

- **Five Lead Directors** (Campaigns & Community Relations, Finance & Operations, Student Affairs, Events, Outreach & University Relations);
- **One Director of International Student Relations;**
- **Two Directors at Large;**
- **Nine Faculty Representatives** (Social Science, Science, Humanities, Fine Arts, Engineering & Computer Science, Business, Education, Human & Social Development, and Law)*;
- **Five Advocacy Group Representatives** (Students of Colour Collective, UVic Pride, Gender Empowerment Centre, Society for Students with a Disability, Native Students Union)

*If Faculty Representative positions are unfilled, additional Directors at Large may be appointed.

All undergraduate students can run in UVSS elections held each March and participate in Board and committee meetings. The Board also holds General Meetings twice a year, where students can help shape the UVSS by voting on major decisions like bylaw and issues policy amendments.

The UVSS operates through various committees, many of which are open to student participation. These committees focus on key issues such as advocacy, student services, financial oversight, and governance.

The Society's funding is set by student referenda, ensuring that student fees directly support services like mental health resources, harm reduction initiatives, affordable services and advocacy, and student-led campaigns and events.