



Capilano Students' Union

ANNUAL REPORT 2016/17



Events

Captivate

On September 14, the CSU kicked off the academic year with one of Capilano University's biggest events ever — Captivate. The event featured a professional sound and stage setup, local DJs, beer garden, prizes and giveaways, and food trucks from around the Lower Mainland. Attendance goals were met and surpassed, making it one of the most highly attended events in Capilano University history.

Clubs and Collectives Day

Clubs and Collectives Day sought to connect students with involvement opportunities on campus. 15 CSU clubs and collectives set up in the CSU Members Centre to advertise involvement opportunities and attract new members. There were hundreds of new sign-ups, with the newly formed Yoga Club getting 60 new sign-ups alone.

Self-defense training

On April 6 and 11, the CSU brought Women Educating in Self-Defense Training on campus to facilitate two intro-

ductory self-defense classes on campus. The event was a success and there is discussion surrounding making it a regular event.

Tenants' rights event

In September, as a part of our #adulting events series, the CSU invited the Tenant Resource and Advisory Centre on campus to answer questions about the rights of renters all across the Lower Mainland. Attendees were given information about common misconceptions and how to pursue action against bad landlords.

Recreation events

With the introduction of the CSU's new fee for recreation and intramurals, the CSU has expanded its event planning capacity to expand recreation-focused events. A hike around Rice Lake served as the inaugural event, with skating excursions currently planned for students taking classes at both the Sunshine Coast and North Vancouver campuses later in the fall semester. The CSU looks forward to growing its recreation program over the year.

Advocacy

Government relations

As part of its mandate to advocate on behalf of students, the CSU has maintained relations with lawmakers in order to influence policy development on the local, provincial, and federal level.

External partnerships

The CSU is a member of two external lobbying groups that lobby different levels of government — the Alliance of BC Students (ABCS) and the Canadian Alliance of Students Associations (CASA).

The ABCS lobbies government on the provincial level. The CSU is among the most active member associations of the ABCS, with our vice-president also serving on the ABCS board of directors. The CSU participated in ABCS Lobby Days, which enables representatives to meet with lawmakers in Victoria. The CSU officially joined CASA this year, which represents a great opportunity for Capilano University students to have their voices heard at the federal level.

BC legislative budget committee participation

CSU representatives made a presentation to the Province of British Columbia's standing select committee on finance and government services in order to advocate for mental health funding for campuses, student housing, needs based grants and the continuation of the U-Pass BC program.



Representatives with whom the CSU has met

- Melanie Mark (MLA and minister of advanced education)
- David Eby (MLA and attorney general)
- George Heyman (MLA and minister of environment and climate change strategy)
- Ravi Kahlon (MLA and parliamentary secretary for sport and multiculturalism)
- Bowinn Ma (MLA and parliamentary secretary for TransLink)
- Mable Elmore (MLA and parliamentary secretary for poverty reduction)
- Jane Thornthwaite (MLA for North Vancouver-Seymour)
- Don Davies (MP for Vancouver-Kingsway)
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Social justice

Let's Get Consensual campaign

The CSU hosted a barbecue for residence advisors for Capilano's first-ever off-campus student residence. The CSU provided residents with welcome packages that included laundry bags, safety whistles, flashlights, copies of the CSU's agenda, local recreation centre passes, and other freebies. The CSU also installed a vending machine in order to give residents easy access to toiletries, over-the-counter medications, and feminine hygiene products.

National Coming Out Day

The CSU's queer students collective and Capilano University's counselling services department co-hosted an event in the Birch Cafeteria for National Coming Out Day. Students were given the opportunity meet members of the collective while making their own buttons and discussing gender and sexuality issues.

Accessibility

The CSU has continued to work towards increased accessibility for students with disabilities. These efforts in-

clude meeting with the university regarding potentially adding an American Sign Language class to Capilano University's course offerings, collaborating with accessibility services on how to best serve students' needs, and lobbying for open education resources in order to convert textbooks into accessible mediums.

Sustainability

The CSU hosted Green Drinks at Seymours, a social event at the end of Capilano University's Sustainability Week that aimed to connect like-minded students and promote discussions on sustainability on campus. The event featured appetizers with an environmentally friendly theme.

Community involvement

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Services

IT repair service development

The CSU has been conducting research on the potential to launch a new IT repair service on campus based on the model used by the Reboot computer repair service at the Kwantlen Student Association. The feasibility of the program is being explored along with projections on fees and expenses, which may lead to a referendum on a new IT repair service fee in the spring of 2018.

Policy

Investment policy development

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Mental health strategy development

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Welcoming students

Orientation

Representatives from the CSU addressed thousands of Capilano students as part of Capilano's new student orientation as well as international student orientation. The CSU has worked with the Centre for International Excellence to hold events and reach out to international students with great success.

Residence

The CSU hosted a barbecue for residence advisors for Capilano's first-ever off-campus student residence. The CSU provided residents with welcome packages that included laundry bags, safety whistles, flashlights, copies of the CSU's agenda, local recreation centre passes, and other freebies. The CSU also installed a vending machine in order to give residents easy access to toiletries, over-the-counter medications, and feminine hygiene products.

Student representation

Different faculties continue to be well represented at the CSU's committees and collectives. Students from the various Capilano University faculties serve in various roles, including volunteer at-large committee member positions, faculty representatives, and as committee chairs. The CSU continues to encourage representation from all parts of campus.

CAPILANO STUDENTS' UNION BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Executive Committee

Perry Safari, president and vice-president finance and services

Andrew Willis, vice-president academic

Owen Sigurdsson, vice-president equity and sustainability

Noah Berson, vice-president external

Yatharth Palat, vice president student life

Collective Coordinators and Liaisons

Andrew Dillman, accessibility justice coordinator

Geronimo Alec, First Nations students liaison

Feras Bingursain, international students liaison

Divya Nanray, students of colour liaison

Kaschelle Thiessen, queer students liaison

Katie Japaridze, women students liaison

Faculty Representatives

Madeleine Fyffe and Christina Schulz, arts and sciences

Nicole Cousin and Camila Stankevicius, business and professional studies

Anna Rempel, global and community studies

Abbey Doucet and Sofia Avelino, fine and applied arts

Senate and Board of Governors Representatives

Hassan Merali, Capilano University board of governors representative

Erik Steele, Capilano University senate representative

Megan Fretz, Capilano University senate representative

Joshua Larsen, Capilano University senate representative



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