What you need to know to run for the WUSA Election

Learn more at wusa.ca/student-bodies
What is WUSA?

The Waterloo Undergraduate Student Association (WUSA) is committed to improving the lives of Waterloo undergrads both in and outside the classroom.

It is the central student voice advocating for accessible, affordable, accountable, and quality education.

Ins and outs of running for the Board of Director positions.

At the heart of WUSA is a group of dedicated student leaders, making informed decisions that resonate with the authentic needs and desires of the Waterloo student body. But how do these leaders embark on such a pivotal journey?

This is your guide to becoming a decision-maker within WUSA. This isn’t just about working on student issues; it’s about honing your leadership skills, making impactful decisions, and truly understanding the intricacies of student representation.
What is the role of the Board of Directors?

The Board of Directors governs WUSA on behalf of Waterloo undergraduates.

- Advocates for students to the university, federal, provincial, and municipal governments.
- Sets the strategic direction of WUSA, ensuring the organization is set up to accomplish their goals.
- Expected to always act honestly, ethically, and diligently for the organization and its members.
- Govern WUSA on behalf of the membership and to represent the student voice on a variety of university committees and working groups.
- Collectively determines advocacy stances and strategizes how to achieve them through meetings with relevant stakeholders.
- Meet officially once a month.
What is the role of individual Directors on the Board?

The Director position is a volunteer position with an honorarium (payment). Individual directors are owner-representatives of the membership.

- Advocate the Board’s officially adopted positions to university and external bodies when acting as organizational representatives.
- Support the legitimacy of Board decisions made in accordance with due process.
- Attend and participate in Board meetings and meetings of WUSA and other committees as assigned by the Board.
- Review the agenda and supporting materials in advance of each Board and committee meeting.
- Be knowledgeable about organizational documentation and policies as well as applicable laws and regulations.
- Bring the various perspectives of the ownership to Board meetings.

Please note that you cannot be an employee of WUSA while serving on any of the positions on the Board.
What is the role of the President?

The President is a full-time position, and is the leader and chair of the Board.

- Act as the head spokesperson of the organization; leading the Board in its ownership consultation and organizational evaluation activities.
- Act as the lead representative of the organization to university governing bodies and administration.
- Provide leadership and promoting collegiality and professionalism to all Directors.
- Ensure the Board’s focus remains on strategically important issues to provide cohesion of direction and purpose to the organization.
- Lead the Board in determining long range and annual planning and budgetary priorities.
- Works alongside leadership team within WUSA.
What is the role of the Vice President?

The Vice President is a full-time position, and is the deputy leader and vice chair of the Board.

- Act as the lead representative of the organization to the federal, provincial, and municipal governments.
- Support the President in the performance of the President’s role.
- Be sufficiently knowledgeable to take over the President’s role when the President is absent.
- Works alongside leadership team within WUSA.
Interested, but need more information?

Get involved by:

⭐ Join our mailing list!

- Detailed insights into nominations for our Board of Directors and Officer roles.
- Deadline reminders to ensure you never miss an opportunity.
- Invitations to meet-ups, offering the chance to network and learn.
- Resources to prepare for a successful campaign.
- Motivational content to inspire and guide your leadership journey.

⭐ Applying to be a part-time student staff or a front line volunteer.
⭐ Participating and benefiting from WUSA’s programs, services, and activities.

Sitting on a Board of Directors isn’t for everyone and that’s ok. There are plenty of other opportunities to get involved with WUSA that are more hands-on!