



WUZA MEMBERSHIP POCKETBOOK

Get the most out of your WUSA membership.

As an undergraduate
student at
Waterloo, you are
automatically a
member & co-owner
of the Waterloo
Undergraduate
Student Association.



WUZA

Membership Pocket Book

Name:

Faculty:

Program:

WatIAM:

If found, please return to Turnkey Desk in the
Student Life Centre.

Published for our undergraduate students at the University of
Waterloo. Printed 2025. Complete and up-to-date information is
posted on our website.

WELCOME TO YOUR STUDENT ASSOCIATION JOURNEY!

Starting university is an exciting step, and we're here to make your transition as smooth and enjoyable as possible. This pocketbook is your guide to all the amazing resources, support systems and opportunities that your student association offers. From essential mental health services to vibrant clubs and events where friendships flourish, we offer a range of experiences to enhance your student life.

Dive into these pages to discover what's in store for you. Get involved, reach out and explore all the opportunities awaiting your participation. Your feedback and enthusiasm are vital—they help us continuously evolve and tailor our services to better meet your needs. We support you, listen to your concerns and transform your ideas into action.

Together, let's make your university experience unforgettable. Use this pocketbook as a roadmap to navigate all the benefits and services available. With support and active involvement, we can ensure your time at university is fulfilling.

Welcome aboard—let's make your university journey remarkable!

ALLOW US TO INTRODUCE OURSELVES

WUSA is a not-for-profit, member-driven organization that acts as the official voice of current undergraduate students at Waterloo. Where the University's primary goal is their global reputation, publishing research papers and academic roster; WUSA's primary goal is improving student life at Waterloo.

We have 4 main approaches for achieving this goal:

1 We structure the Board of Directors (made up of elected undergraduate students) as the guiding light for what we need to focus on as an organization. They take feedback from the student body and make decisions about where WUSA's resources should be distributed.

2 We advocate on behalf of students to make systemic improvements. We bring power in numbers to discussions with the University administration, all three levels of government (local, provincial, federal) and any organization that affects student life at Waterloo. We tackle the root causes of issues students are facing to improve the Waterloo student experience for years to come.

3

We provide services in three cases: when the student body demonstrates it's a necessity, when the University does not recognize it as a necessity or when there are perceived deficiencies in the University's resources to address it properly.

Our services include community-building, peer support services and commercial services that bring affordability and variety to daily student life. When we cannot deliver to our standard of service in-house, we bring in outside providers: GRT U-Pass, Legal Protection Service and your Health & Dental plan.

4

We provide students with experiences by hosting events that slap (Welcome Week and Wellness Week are two popular ones) and managing our student groups. We help 200+ student clubs plan events, book space on campus and meet health code regulations with food. We help set the stage for long-lasting, positive memories!

The following pages dive deeper into our philosophy while listing the programs, services and offerings that we encourage you to use to the fullest. Everything we do is put in place for students, by students.

A MESSAGE FROM ZEUS

Welcome to WUSA!

Hey you. Yeah, you with the “what have I gotten myself into” face. I’m Zeus, WUSA goosefluencer and unofficial ruler of Ring Road.

First off: congrats on making it to Waterloo! Second: good luck.

If you’re reading this, you’ve either cracked it open out of curiosity or you’re already procrastinating readings. Either way, you’re in the right place. Campus life is a whirlwind of morning lectures, weird club posters, surprise geese, and figuring out what a “WatCard” is. It’s a lot. But that’s why WUSA is here—to help you navigate (and maybe even enjoy) the chaos.

WUSA is your student association. They do the important behind-the-scenes stuff to keep you supported, heard, entertained, and occasionally bribed with FREE snacks.

Whether you’re joining a club, navigating co-op, finding community, or hunting for nap spots (third floor of Dana Porter, duh), WUSA’s got you. Services, events, advocacy—they’ve got it all (plus acronyms).

Me? I’ll be honking at strangers, interrupting your walk to class, and popping up on @yourWUSA to remind you who runs this place. (It’s me. It’s always been me.)

Honk,
Your friend Zeus



ON STUDENT LEADERSHIP

You are the compass guiding our initiatives and priorities; your leadership ensures that our actions align with the **real needs and aspirations of the student body.**

Board of Directors

➤ wusa.ca/board

The Board leads Waterloo undergrads in governing WUSA on their behalf, establishing policies, advocacy priorities and plans for the future. Monthly meetings are livestreamed on YouTube. Directors are always happy to hear from you.

Officers

➤ wusa.ca/nominations

The President and Vice President are full-time paid positions and lead the Board while acting as spokespeople for WUSA.

Elections

➤ vote.wusa.ca

All Board members are voted in by Waterloo undergraduate students. Nominations open every November. Follow us on socials to be notified and submit your nomination at vote.wusa.ca.

Student Leader Email

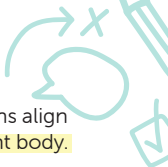
➤ wusa.ca/leadership-email

Join this mailing list to gain insights on becoming a decision-maker at WUSA, including details on officer roles and invitations to networking opportunities.

Connect with our Board: LinkedIn Spotlight

 [WUSA Governance](#)

This page showcases the ins and outs of WUSA Governance- you can ask questions and see updates specifically on how WUSA is run.



Committees

 wusa.ca/committees

Committees are vital to WUSA as they enable focused, specialized efforts in key areas, ensuring that diverse student needs and interests are effectively addressed and represented within the governance structure.

Societies

 wusa.ca/student-societies

Need faculty-specific community and support? Our WUSA student societies are here to help.

Association of Health
Students Undergraduate
Members (AHSUM)

Mathematics Society of
UWaterloo (MathSoc)

Arts Student Union (ASU)

Science Society (SciSoc)

Accounting and Finance
Student Association (AFSA)

Society of Pharmacy
Students (SOPhs)

Waterloo Engineering
Society (EngSoc)

Waterloo Optometry
Student Society
(UWOSS)

Environment Students
Society (ESS)

Waterloo Architecture
Students Association
(WASA)

Global Business and
Digital Arts (GBDA)
Society



ON AFFORDABILITY

Understanding the financial challenges you face, WUSA **enhances affordability on campus**. From providing cost-effective transportation options, like the GRT U-Pass, to offering discounted services and financial aid, we strive to ensure that every student can enjoy a fulfilling university experience without financial strain. Our initiatives are designed to reduce costs and increase access, proving that student welfare is at the heart of everything we do.

*Map of the Student Life Centre (SLC)
located in centerfold of this book.*

Businesses

 wusa.ca/services

Chaska - Indian street food

 SLC, Food Court

FedBus - Affordable way to get you home

 Turnkey Desk

Flock Stop - 24hr convenience store

 SLC

Smarty Pants Ice Cream - Frozen treats

 SLC, Food Court

The Bomber - Food, drinks & good times

 SLC, Great Hall

WUSA Thrift - Secondhand clothing

 Campus Pop-Ups

Deals

 wusa.ca/deals

Movie Tickets - Princess Cinema

 Turnkey Desk

Hot Beverage - Bring your own cup

 Flock Stop

SPC - Retail discounts

Check out wusa.ca/deals throughout the year for exclusive deals!

Funding

➤ wusa.ca/funding

💡 Ongoing Funding Opportunities

WUSA offers funding for student-led initiatives, including support for events, equity-based projects, and improvements to student spaces.

⚙️ Change Engine

A student advocacy competition where you can pitch your idea to improve campus life for a chance to win up to \$5,000 to make it happen.

WUSA negotiates with our service partners to provide you with the best services at the best prices. Here's what that means for you:

U-Pass - Grand River Transit ➤ wusa.ca/upass

Unlimited access to public transportation with GRT across the Waterloo Region. Just tap your WatCard!

Health & Dental ➤ wusa.ca/health-and-dental-plan

📍 Health Services, Rm 1006

Partnered with Alumo*, students are provided with extended Health & Dental coverage as well as vision, travel, and gender affirming care coverage.

Legal Services ➤ wusa.ca/student-legal-protection-program

Partnered with Alumo*, students are provided with free legal advice & representation on issues relating to academic rights, co-op and employment, or housing & tenancy.

*As of Fall 2025, our partner Studentcare has rebranded to Alumo as part of a broader evolution to offer modern, student-focused health and ancillary services without any disruption to your current plan.

ON SOCIAL GROUPS

Clubs ➤ clubs.wusa.ca @wusaclubs

We support you with event paperwork, insurance coverage, space booking, contracts and so much more. With 200+ active clubs hosting 4000+ events a year, we definitely have something for you!

Clubs & Societies Fair - Meet the clubs

📍 SLC

Clubs Listing - All active clubs

➤ joinaclub.wusa.ca

Start a New Club

➤ startaclub.wusa.ca

Clubs Community Centre

📍 SLC 2139

Cultural Caravan Event

➤ wusa.ca/events

Clubs I'm joining:

ON ENTERTAINMENT

We host a wide variety of on- and off-campus events. Take a break from your studies and make some memories!

Welcome Week

➤ wusa.ca/welcomeweek

A week of fun events held during the second week of each term to welcome new and returning students .

- Fall Carnival
- Sex Toy Bingo
- Trivia Night
- Free BBQ
- Esports Gaming Lounge

Orientation Week

➤ uwaterloo.ca/welcome-warriors

Meet your new faculty mates & Waterloo students! Gain the opportunity to explore campus and the city as a whole.

What's Coming Up?

Bookmark the events calendar to see the line up!

➤ wusa.ca/events

Work with Events

Part-time and volunteer staff help run these amazing events.

➤ wusa.ca/jobs



ON SOCIAL SUPPORT

Within the vibrant community of Waterloo, WUSA helps every student find their place and receive the support they need. Our social supports foster connections, provide comfort and enhance well-being, building a supportive network that accompanies you throughout your university journey.

Mates

 wusa.ca/mates

One-on-one confidential peer support and space for wellness activities.

EmpowerMe

 wusa.ca/empower-me

24/7/365 multilingual support by professionals. Provides immediate access for crisis situations.

ON EQUITY

In a world rich with diversity, WUSA stands as a beacon of equity, driving change that uplifts and supports all members of our student body. We believe in the power of a university experience shaped by fairness and inclusivity, where every student can achieve their full potential, free from bias and barriers.

Glow Centre

 wusa.ca/glow

The first university-based 2SLGBTQIA+ group in Canada. Supports all sexual orientations and gender identities.

RAISE

*Racial Advocacy for Inclusion,
Solidarity, and Equity*

 wusa.ca/raise

Addresses racism & xenophobia through education, peer support and community building.

Women's Centre

 wusa.ca/womens-centre

Provides a female and trans positive environment on campus.

ON COMMUNITY RESOURCES

Community resources at WUSA are designed **not just to support but to sustain**. From environmental initiatives to our efforts to combat food insecurity, we foster a supportive and sustainable campus environment. These services reflect our dedication to the well-being and long-term success of every student at Waterloo.

Bike Centre

 wusa.ca/bike-centre


Rentals, free tools and guidance available for DIY bike repairs.

WUSA Thrift

 wusa.ca/wusa-thrift


An affordable and sustainable way to shop.

ICSN *International & Canadian Student Network*

 wusa.ca/icsn

Helps Canada feel like home for local, international and exchange students.

Food Support Service

 wusa.ca/food-support-service

Combats food insecurity by providing food hampers catered to different dietary needs.

Off Campus Community

wusa.ca/off-campus-community

Connects off-campus students through social & educational programming.

CAPS *Centre for Academic Policy Support*

 wusa.ca/caps

Helps navigate academic policy, petitions, grievances and appeals.

Ombudsperson

 wusa.ca/ombuds-office

Provides confidential, fair, and independent help navigating University policies, understanding student rights, and finding the right support options.

ON ADVOCACY wusa.ca/advocacy

Driven by our commitment to amplify student voices, we push for systemic improvements at all levels.

Empowering Your Voice

We're dedicated to championing a university experience that goes beyond meeting your needs—we transform them. We work hand-in-hand with you, ensuring our advocacy reflects real student concerns and aspirations, from the classroom to campus life.

Collaborative Efforts

Your voice is crucial. Through surveys, focus groups and direct consultations, we capture your insights to guide our advocacy. Driven by our Long Range Plan and annual priorities, our efforts focus on the priority areas outlined on the next page. These are just a few of the improvements we'll be working on this year.

Extending Our Reach wusa.ca/self-advocacy-resource

By bringing student-driven recommendations to the University and various levels of government, we add your voice to decision-making processes. While our main role is broad, collective advocacy, we recognize the importance of individual empowerment and are developing resources to support your personal advocacy skills.

Active Participation

We strive to create a university experience where every member has the opportunity to thrive. We invite you to engage with us continuously through our events, programming and resources. Your active participation is crucial in creating a vibrant, supportive and responsive campus environment.

ON OUR PRIORITIES

 wusa.ca/plans







Our 2025-30 Long Range Plan is the culmination of extensive student consultation and highlights the main areas where we plan to direct our resources.

Plan Vision





Turning Capacity into Impact:

Powering student voice, building community, and leading change.

Our Objectives

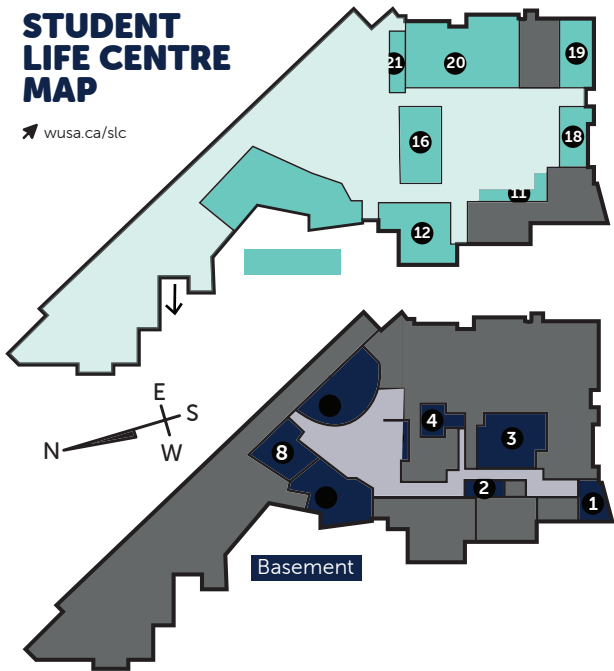
- | | |
|---|---|
|  Better understand what students need—and be known for it |  Deliver real value to students through operational services |
|  Strengthen student trust, voice, and impact |  Be a place people are proud to work |
|  Revitalize social life and belonging at Waterloo |  Advocate for the collective interests of students |

Our Advocacy Priorities

-  Quality of Education & Academic Fairness
-  Mental Health & Wellness
-  Co-op & Employment
-  Affordability & Cost of Living
 - Housing
 - Food insecurity

STUDENT LIFE CENTRE MAP

➤ wusa.ca/slc



Basement

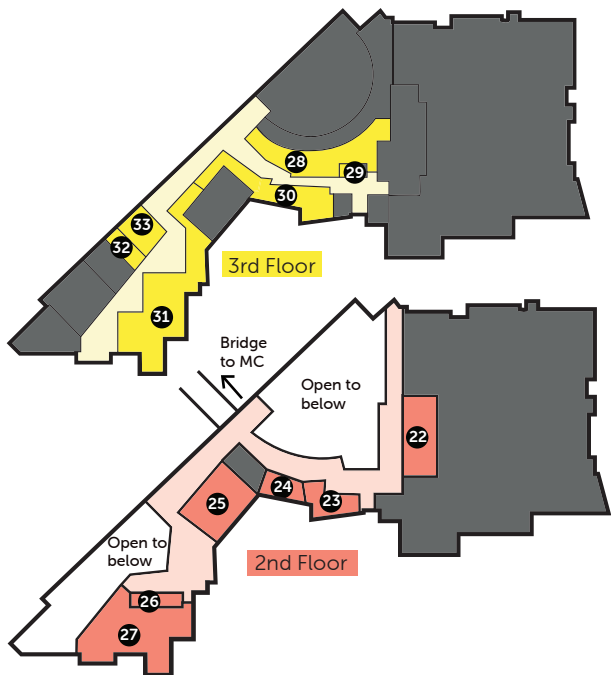
1. Bike Centre
2. Thrift Store
3. Bank
4. Physiotherapy
5. Student Publication
6. Study Space
7. Dentist
8. Pharmacy

9. Lower Flex Space
10. Lower Atrium

1st Floor

11. Turnkey Desk
12. WUSA Office
13. Food Outlets
14. Food Court Seating
15. Marketplace
16. Multi-Purpose Room

17. Great Hall
18. 24hr Convenience Store
19. Food Outlet
20. The Bomber
21. Chaska & Smarty Pants Ice Cream

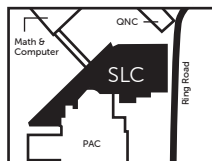


2nd Floor

- 22. Study Rooms
- 23. Clubs Community Centre
- 24. Study Rooms
- 25. Black & Gold Room
- 26. Offices & Meeting Rooms
- 27. Athletics Office

3rd Floor

- 28. Lounge on 3
- 29. Omsbudsperson
- 30. Student Service Offices
- 31. Study Rooms
- 32. Graduate Student Office
- 33. Multi-Faith Room



STUDENT LIFE CENTRE

Open 24/7/365!

Managed by WUSA, the Student Life Centre (SLC) is the central hub on campus where you can relax between classes, find a study spot, grab a bite to eat and enjoy great events.

Waterloo students have frequently expressed the need for more **social, study, dining and recreation space**. We listened.

Turnkey Desk

📍 SLC Great Hall ➔ wusa.ca/turnkey

A Turnkey is someone who has all the keys! Our knowledgeable staff are here to help you navigate questions you have about WUSA, campus and the community. If you have a **question, need directions or want to book a study room**, Turnkey Desk is your first stop.

Second location available at Davis Centre 1401.



ON EMPLOYMENT

➤ wusa.ca/jobs

Empower your career and contribute to our campus community by working with WUSA! Whether it's engaging in governance, supporting events, working or enhancing our retail and service sectors, **your participation is vital.**

Dive into a range of roles that complement your studies and prepare you for future success. We aim to make WUSA a place you are proud to work at!



Calendar

Be an active member of WUSA by looking ahead to what's coming up each month.

For all the info on events our Clubs, Services and Special Events teams are up to, check wusa.ca/events & download future events to your calendar.

@yourwusa for major updates!



SEPTEMBER

Look out for:

- Orientation
- WUSA First-Year Fair
- Welcome Week
- Campus Life Fair
- Clubs & Societies Fair
- WUSA Ultimate Prize Pack Contest
- Change Engine - Call for Ideas
- Red Zone - Sexual Violence Awareness & Take Back the Night

Notes:

OCTOBER

Look out for:

- FedBus to Ottawa (during Reading Week)
- XChanges Conference
- Change Engine - Live Competition Night
- Halloween Haunt
- Volunteer Award Nominations

Notes:

NOVEMBER

Look out for:

- Choose your student leaders: Election nomination opens
- Work with WUSA: Hiring period
- Run Orientation: O-Team applications open
- Wellness Week
- ICSN: Niagara Falls Trip
- Women's Centre: Love your Body Week
- Women's Centre: Voices Call for Submissions
- Food Support Service: Stock the Bank

Notes:

DECEMBER

Look out for:

- Choose your student leaders:
Election nomination
- Work with WUSA – hiring period
- Holiday Dinner

Notes:

JANUARY

Look out for:

- Learn about your student leaders: Campaign period
- Welcome Week
- Campus Life Fair
- Clubs & Societies Fair
- WUSA Ultimate Prize Pack Contest
- Red Zone - Sexual Violence Awareness

Notes:

FEBRUARY

Look out for:

- Meet your student leaders: Voting opens & election results announced
- Teaching Awards nominations due
- Help new students: Sign-up to be an Orientation volunteer!
- FedBus Ottawa Route during Reading Week
- Chicopee Tubing

Notes:

MARCH

Look out for:

- Cultural Caravan
- Women's Centre: Voices Anthology published
- Glow Centre: Lavender Ball
- Annual Member's Meeting
- Work with WUSA: Hiring period
- Leadership Awards & Volunteer Appreciation nominations
- ICSN: Niagara Falls Trip

Notes:

APRIL

Look out for:

- Work with WUSA: hiring period
- ICSN: Elmira Maple Syrup Festival

Notes:

SPRING TERM

Look out for:

- New Board of Directors
- Orientation volunteering hiring continues
- Welcome Week
- Campus Life Fair
- Clubs & Societies Fair
- Glow Centre - Toronto Pride Parade
- Midterm Meltdown
- ICSN - Niagara Falls Trip
- Off-Campus Community - Don Applications

Notes:

NOTES

To ensure this pocketbook remains useful throughout your university journey, we've kept it timeless by excluding specific dates and details. This way, it remains relevant year after year. When you're done, please recycle responsibly!

We value your input! If you have feedback, spot an error, or have ideas for improvement, please drop us a line at a2kelley@wusa.ca.

WATERLOO UNDERGRADUATE
WUSA
STUDENT ASSOCIATION

EXCLUSIVE DEALS *for you*



and more

Unlock savings at

member.wusa.ca



Check regularly for new deals!

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**SERVE
EMPOWER
REPRESENT**