



WUSA
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.



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 2024. 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, there's 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 First, 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 Second, 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 Third, we provide services in three cases: when students demonstrate 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 our 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 Fourth, we provide students with experiences by hosting events (Welcome Week and Wellness Days are two popular ones) and managing our club system. We help over 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 by students, for students.

MESSAGE FROM THE WUSA PRESIDENT

Welcome to the flock.

It's me, Nicholas Pfeifle, kicking off the academic year with a paragraph almost none of you plan on reading. That's fine. What matters more is on later pages, feel free to skip ahead.

You can find plenty of things that WUSA is planning for the coming eight months and how you can get involved. Don't miss out on your Faculty Societies, which run activities catering to you.

Personally, I just completed my BAsC in Nano, and am excited to return for the victory-lap that is refusing to find a job off campus. In my years here I've done a lot, but my priority is protecting the environment. If getting hit by a car twice hasn't stopped me from biking daily, I don't know what will.

September brings back many a melancholic memory, a lettuce club record of 2.81 g/s comes to mind, but none is more pertinent than the wise words of our beloved former Dean of Engineering, Pearl Sullivan – paraphrasing:

You worked hard to get into this school, but you'll have to work even harder to get out.

Best of luck with your next year, and I'll see you around campus!

Nick Pfeifle 
WUSA President 2024-25



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 & plans for the future.

Officers

The President & 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:

 [WUSA Governance](#)

LinkedIn Spotlight

Focused on showcasing the ins and outs of WUSA Governance- ask questions & 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 & 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)

➤ uwaterloo.ca/ahsum

Arts Student Union (ASU)

➤ uwaterloo.ca/arts-student-union

Accounting and Finance Student Association (AFSA)

➤ uwaterloo.ca/arts-student-union

Waterloo Engineering Society (EngSoc)

➤ uwafsa.ca

Environment Students' Society (ESS)

➤ uwaterloo.ca/ess

GBDA Society

➤ uwaterloo.ca/stratford-school-of-interaction-design-and-business

Mathematics Society of UWaterloo (MathSoc)

➤ mathsoc.uwaterloo.ca

Science Society (SciSoc)

➤ uwaterloo.ca/science-society

Society of Pharmacy Students (SOPhs)

➤ uwaterloo.ca/pharmacy

University of Waterloo Optometry Student Society (UWOSS)

➤ uwaterloo.ca/optometry-student-society

Waterloo School of Architecture Student Association (WASA)

➤ uwaterloo.ca/architecture

ON AFFORDABILITY



Understanding the financial challenges you face, WUSA **enhances affordability on campus**. From providing cost-effective transportation options, like the U-Pass, to offering discounted services and essential 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 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

 SLC, Food Court

SmashBites - Smash burgers, fries & pop

 SLC, Student Lounge

WUSA Thrift - Secondhand clothing

 SLC, Basement

Deals

 wusa.ca/deals

Movie Tickets - Princess Cinema

 Turnkey Desk

Hot Beverage - Bring your own cup

 Flock Stop

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

Funding

 wusa.ca/funding

Student Life Endowment Fund (SLEF)

Want to improve student spaces or run an awesome event, but need some help with funding? SLEF helps promote campus life by supporting student-led projects with funding grants throughout the year.

Equity, Opportunity, and Innovation Fund

This fund exists to assist with projects that support marginalized groups on campus.

WUSA negotiates with service partners to provide our student body 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 Studentcare, students are provided with extended Health & Dental coverage.

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

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

ON SOCIAL GROUPS

Clubs ➤ clubs.wusa.ca @wusaclubs

Our Student Life department supports with event paperwork, insurance coverage, space booking, contracts and so much more. With 200+ active clubs hosting 4000+ events a year, we definitely have a lot going on!

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 to the Waterloo campus. Past events include:

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

Orientation

➤ uwaterloo.ca/welcome-warriors

Connect with your classmates & Waterloo students! Gain the opportunity to explore campus and the city as a whole.

What's Coming Up?

Check out the events calendar to see the events line up!

➤ wusa.ca/events

Work with Events

Part-time and volunteer staff help run the 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 support initiatives 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 & 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 inclusiveness, where every student can achieve their full potential, free from bias and barriers.

Glow Centre

 wusa.ca/glow

The first continually running university-based 2SLGBTQIA+ group in Canada. Supports all sexual orientation & gender identities.

RAISE *Racial Advocacy for Inclusion, Solidarity, and Equity*

 wusa.ca/raise

Addresses racism & xenophobia based in education, peer support & community building on Waterloo campuses.

Women's Centre

 wusa.ca/womens-centre

Provides a female & 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 resources reflect our dedication to the well-being and long-term success of every student at Waterloo.

Bike Centre

 wusa.ca/bike-centre

Free tools, fluids & guidance available for DIY bike repairs.

Thrift Store

 wusa.ca/wusa-thrift


Affordable & sustainable way to shop.

ICSN *International & Canadian Student Network*

 wusa.ca/icsn

Helps make Canada feel like home for local, international & 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 students living off-campus through various social & educational programming.

CAPS *Centre for Academic Policy Support*

 wusa.ca/caps

Helps students navigate academic policy, petitions, grievances & appeals.

Room bookings

 wusa.ca/turnkey

From study rooms to piano rooms, spaces can be booked through Turnkey Desk.

ON ADVOCACY wusa.ca/advocacy

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

Empowering Your Voice

At WUSA, 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 that our advocacy reflects real student concerns and aspirations, from 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 our 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

By bringing student-driven recommendations to the University and government levels, we prioritize your voice in 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 operate under the mantra, "Nothing for us, without us." 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.

Our Priorities

 wusa.ca/plans

Outlined in the 2024-25 Annual Plan, which is a culmination of your voices highlighting the main areas where we plan to direct our energy and resources.

Student Safety & Community

- Physical & emotional safety
- Building connections
- Equity & inclusion

Self-Advocacy

- Pitch competitions
- Develop resources

Co-op

- Collect student feedback
- Propose changes to co-op timelines

Sustainability

- WUSA Environmental Sustainability Research Project
- Continue sustainable menstruation product collab
- Support OUSA policy paper on environmental sustainability

Learn about OUSA at ousa.ca.

Higher Education

- Educational quality
- Affordability
- International Students

Housing

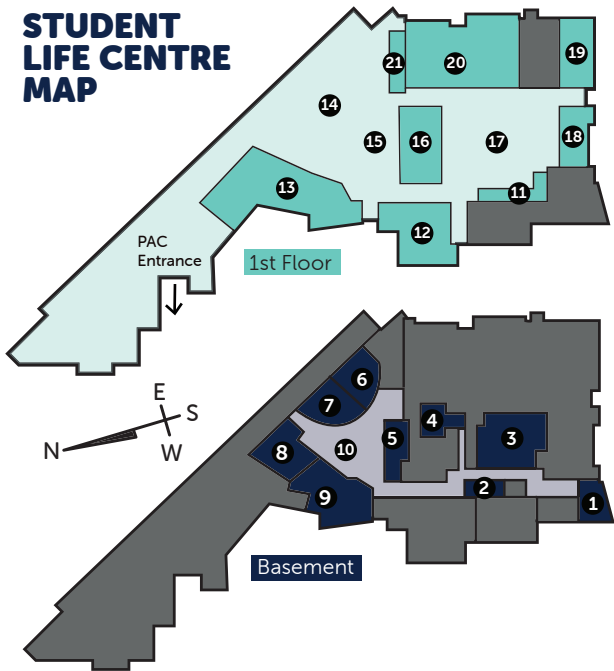
- Continue legal support & Housing Playbook
- Research gaps
- Advocate on a local, provincial & federal level

Wellness

- Support mental & physical health
- Continue research on food insecurity

Read the full plan on wusa.ca/plans.

STUDENT LIFE CENTRE MAP



Basement

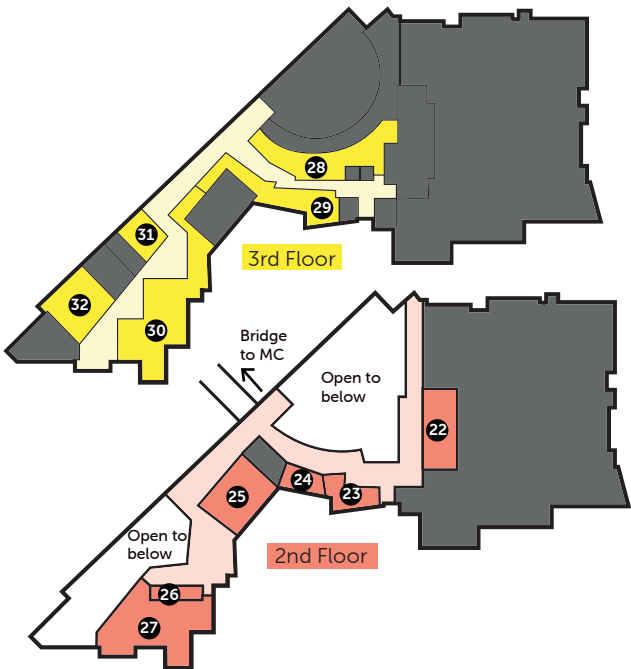
1. Bike Centre
2. Thrift Store
3. Bank
4. Physiotherapy
5. Student Publication
6. Study Space
7. Dentist
8. Pharmacy
9. Lower Flex Space
10. Lower Atrium

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. Student Lounge & SmashBites
21. Chaska & Ice Cream

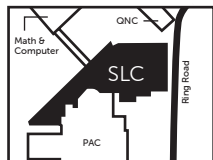


2nd Floor

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

3rd Floor

- 28. Lounge on 3
- 29. Student Service Offices
- 30. Study Rooms
- 31. Graduate Student Office
- 32. 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 catch some great events.

Waterloo students have frequently expressed the need for more **social, study, dining and recreation space**. We listened. Learn about the recent expansion at uwaterloo.ca/aps/slcpac.

Turnkey Desk

A Turnkey is someone who has all the keys! The 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 the place.

Second location available at Davis Centre.



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, marketing or enhancing our retail and service sectors, **your participation is vital.**

Dive into a range of roles that not only complement your studies but also prepare you for future success. Check out the many ways you can get involved and make a significant impact by visiting our website.



Calendar

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

For the most up-to-date information on events, check wusa.ca/events & download future events to your calendar.

@yourwusa for updates!



SEPTEMBER

Look out for:

- Orientation
- First Year Fair
- Welcome Week
- Campus Life Fair
- Clubs & Societies Fair
- WUSA Ultimate Prize Pack Contest
- Red Zone & Take Back the Night

Notes:

OCTOBER

Look out for:

- General Meeting: Shape your student experience
- FedBus to Ottawa (during Reading Week)

Notes:

NOVEMBER

Look out for:

- Choose your student leaders: Election nomination opens
- Work with WUSA – hiring period
- Run Orientation: O-Team applications open
- ICSN -Niagara Falls Trip
- Volunteer Appreciation nominations

Notes:

DECEMBER

Look out for:

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

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

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!

Notes:

MARCH

Look out for:

- Cultural Caravan
- Women's Centre Voices Anthology published
- Glow Centre - Lavender Ball
- Annual General Meeting
- Work with WUSA – hiring period
- Leadership Awards & Volunteer Appreciation nominations

Notes:

APRIL

Look out for:

- Work with WUSA – hiring period

Notes:

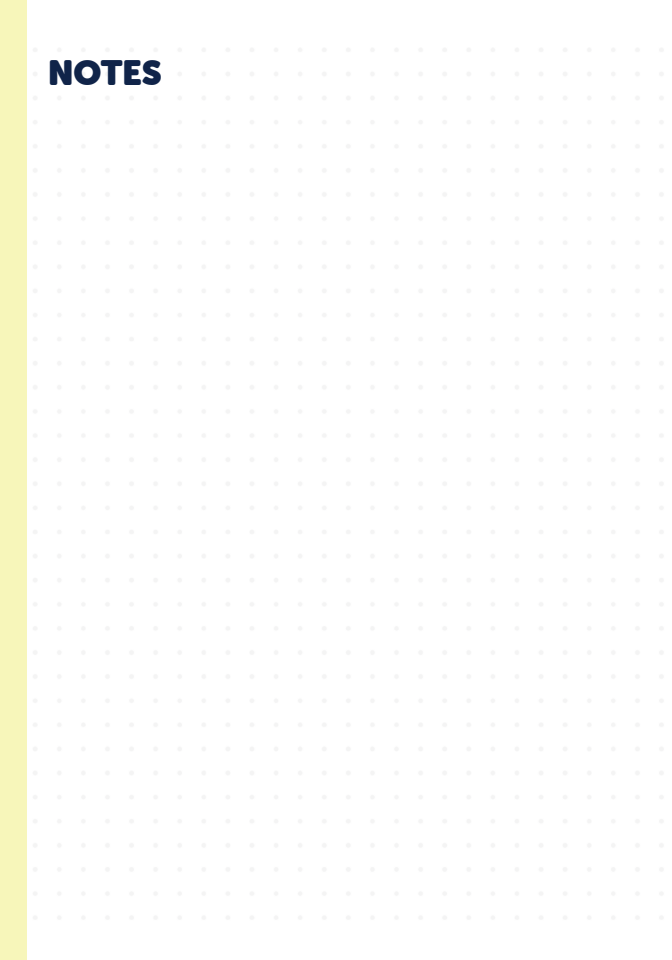
SPRING TERM

Look out for:

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

Notes:

NOTES



Feedback, found an error, have an idea for an improvement? Email a2kelley@wusa.ca.

SMASH BITES

📍 SLC Student Lounge

Smash burgers,
fries, & pop



Flock Stop

📍 SLC by Ring Road Entrance

Open
24/7



CHASKA

INDIAN STREET
FOOD OBSESSION

📍 SLC FOOD COURT

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WUSA Owned and Operated by Students

The image features a dark blue background with large, overlapping, rounded shapes in a teal color. The shapes are abstract and geometric, creating a dynamic, layered effect. The teal shapes vary in size and orientation, some appearing as thick lines or broad strokes, while others form more complex, rounded forms. The overall composition is modern and minimalist.

Keep this in your school bag!