

# SFU PROGRESSIVES

**Purpose:** We support building and training community activists and progressive student organizers to create, raise, and maintain political presence on campus to fight for perpetual progressive changes across all governing bodies at SFU.

## CHARTER OF BELIEFS

### Advocacy

- We support fighting for lower tuition and fully publicly-funded post-secondary education including subsidized education for International Students (Free Tuition for All - public education)
- We support up front needs-based grants to post secondary education
- We support affordable campus housing that is 50% the rate of current market rates and, strong renter's rights for students
- We support a pro-choice stance and stop funding clubs who try to suppress women's rights to govern their own bodies
- We affirm anti-racism and anti-oppression efforts to protect the lives of Black, Indigenous, and People of Colour on campus (BIPOC), LGBTQ2+ students, International students, Refugee students, Women, Disabled Students and by affirming these values with issues-based/justice-based policies
- We continue to support sustainable long term resources such as autonomous governance, staff support, permanent space in the SUB and funding for Marginalized Communities and Constituency Groups which include the Simon Fraser Public Interest Group (SFPIRG), CJSF, Students of Caribbean and African Ancestry (SOCA), First Nations, Metis, and Inuit Students Association (FNMISA), Women's Center, Embark and Out On Campus (previously collectively known as the Rotunda Community)
- We support a community-based approach to safety, including limiting police presence on campus, and that any safety presence has equity and de-escalation training, and training in interacting with students who have varying psychological and mental health needs
- We support a safe and accessible online and in-person learning environment for all students, and appropriate responses to any weather or public-health related events that may occur and ensuring that the response centers student safety
- We support self-governance and self-determination for Indigenous communities including having the First Nations, Metis, and Inuit Students Association be directed by a Council of Indigenous Students on campus
- We stand in solidarity with all Indigenous peoples and their right to sovereignty, recognizing that we are on unceded Coast Salish territories & centering our work in recognition of this fact
- We support Academic Advocacy through a pro-student and partial Academic Advocate, and otherwise.
- We support free and open textbooks and other open educational resources to all students
- We support no fossil fuel pipelines in the Burnaby Area and oppose the current Trans Mountain Expansion Pipeline
- We support a free and open media free from legal threats and political intimidation
- We support strong efforts to tackle climate change including calls for public institutions to divest from fossil fuels
- We support climate justice and a Green New Deal, including a ban on all single use plastics while centering disabled students with varying accessibility needs
- We support advocacy for students with all types of disabilities including visible and invisible disabilities and implementing systems that support, acknowledge and address individual barriers that students might face (including but not limited to mental illness, chronic pain, menstrual pain)
- We encourage and support student's right to protest and express themselves without fear of intimidation and weaponization from any University, government or institution
- We oppose western imperialism and stand against all settler colonialism (including for Palestinian liberation), colonization, as well as human rights violation against ethnic minorities and oppressed peoples locally and abroad

### Events and Social Community

- We support a Fall Kickoff concert being planned by a designated committee, with early and thorough planning with consultation
- We support profit generating concerts and parties being hosted by Student Groups that are jointly funded and sponsored as well as bringing in revenue from ticket sales for students and student services
- We support independent student societies on campus and the SFSS creating partnerships with them, and also partnerships with SFU to serve the Student community
- We support collaboration for events and activities with clubs, groups and Student Unions (SUs) to maximize student involvement
- We support collaborating and building alliances with student workers and labour unions on campus
- We support recognizing and compensating marginalized students for their labour including consultations by SFU and others
- We support working with Indigenous nations and groups in the wider community for events and community building

### Services

- We support delivering Services for Marginalized Groups on campus for example Free Menstrual Products
- We support reliable and affordable transit options and negotiating agreements such as the Translink Upass for students, including students at Fraser International College (FIC)
- We support affordable Extended Health and Dental Coverage
- We support scholarships, bursaries, workshop opportunities, and other forms of relief being given back to low income and disproportionately impacted students and including also Black, Indigenous and racialized specific students
- We support the development of free student workshops for skill building, open to all students
- We support advocating for students through their experiences with health and counseling, and accessible student services for proper care and support, especially when that care is not sufficiently delivered

- We support student's right to accessible, affordable and nutritional food as well as providing free or affordable food access physically and otherwise

**Representation / Accountability, Communication, Transparency (A.C.T.)**

- We support a consultative budgeting process for all students and financial transparency in all representative bodies
- We support open and accessible governance of all student bodies for all students
- We support Live-streaming & captioning of all Board Meetings
- We support governing student bodies (eg: SFSS, GSS) being represented in all levels of student participation on SFU bodies
- We support strong general student representation and mobilization on all university and student decision-making bodies (Senate, SFU Board of Governors, SFU Committees, SFSS, etc.)
- We support the implementation of town halls and other student-facing outreach being conducted by all governing bodies
- We support the creation of Equity-based and campus-based positions in all Student Representative bodies
- We support public voting records of all elected officials and proper tracking through minutes and means such as e-voting
- We support more thorough minutes and summaries of board meetings of all governing bodies on campus