



## NBCGSS By-Election

### Candidates' Biographies – November 2021

#### Director of Community Development

Sorour Nasimi

To whom it may concern,

Hello,

My name is Sorour Nasimi. I am 28, and I am a first-year PhD student in NRES at UNBC. I am writing this brief letter to explain myself and my intention to run for "Director of Community Development" in NBCGSS Bye-Election 2021.

I studied Civil engineering in BSc and Environmental engineering in MSc. Currently, I work on water crises in Canadian rural and remote communities under the supervision of professor Jianbing Li. I really enjoy my field of research because there is no life without water.

Personally, I see myself as a Self-confident, hard-worker, determined, well-organized, and responsible person. In addition to my academic work, I am a great baker, cooker, and foosball player! I watch tons of movies, listen to rock and alternative rock music, and walk through nature every week. I am a pretty big fan of any kind of game too. Just give me a ball or a card, and I will play for hours!

I came to Canada 3 months ago with my lovely husband, who also studies PhD at UNBC. Despite the size of the city and the university, I see many potentials here, especially now that the Covid-19 situation is getting better.

I would like to run for this election because I think I can make the UNBC graduate society happier and more active by coordinating cheerful and educational events to help graduate students achieve a balance between their academic life and extra-curricular activities. With the help of other board members, we can hold various exciting events. I also love to welcome students' suggestions regarding these events and ask their opinion on what they really expect from NBCGSS so we can make that happen. In the list below, I mentioned some of the events we can hold for students:

- Short sport competitions on campus such as ping pong, snooker, and foosball.
- Movie nights and movie criticizing sessions.
- Software workshops.

- Conferences and meetings with respect to topics of students' interest.
- Off-campus walks (with Dr Roger Wheate) in trails near UNBC.
- Short visits of exciting places in town (Domestic beer manufacturing warehouse, for example)

I appreciate NBCGSS office if they give me the opportunity to join this society as the Director of Community Development. So I can improve the level of students' engagement and assist them to go through hard moments of being a graduate student by having a little bit of fun.

All the Best,  
Sorour Nasimi

### **Director of External Relations**

Saad Ahmed

I am Saad Ahmed, currently enrolled in the MSc. in Business Administration program with the concentration in marketing research at UNBC. I completed my undergrad program in marketing from NSU in 2019. After my undergrad, I worked in Asiatic JWT, one of the leading marketing agencies in the world. While working there, I had the opportunity to handle different clients like Google, Microsoft, Samsang and so on. Although the professional experience gave me the exposure of the real world, I wanted to dive deep in my marketing field. From this thirst of knowledge, I admitted at UNBC in 2020 and I came to Prince George in September 2021. Currently, I am also working in the Northern Sports Centre, where I am helping to organize different sports events.

Best Regards,

Saad Ahmed

Mostafa Dorosti

### **To Whom It May Concern**

My name is Mostafa Dorosti, a PhD student in Natural Resources and Environmental Studies at the University of Northern British Columbia (UNBC). I started my study at the UNBC in September 2021, and my research has been focusing on water treatment methods. I've always been motivated to work on this topic, since providing safe drinking water, particularly in rural communities, is challenging even in developed countries. As a Phd Student, I have figured out that my responsibility is not only to do research in my field of study but also to be representative for the UNBC and students and be the voice of international students at many layers of society. By maintaining continuous

communication between the graduate society, I will help raise awareness of students' rights and tackle possible barriers by cooperating with other directors of the society as well as the various levels of government authorities. One key issue that should be addressed is the scarcity of scholarship possibilities, which necessitates both university and state-level concerns.

Based on the aforementioned statements, I found myself most interested and suitable for the director of external relations position. Hopefully, I would have a valuable contribution in order to better represent the society and the UNBC at a larger scale among other universities in Canada.

### **Director of Internal Relations**

Mehdi Aghajohnpour pasha

I studied accounting and I got bachelor and master in accounting in one of the best university in Iran and I worked for organization 7 years. Also now I am studying Finance in UNBC.

Sohail Akram

I am Sohail Akram, a Ph.D. student of Natural Resources and Environmental Sciences. I want to join the NBCGSS as Director of Internal Relations. Prior to starting my study at UNBC, I have completed Erasmus Mundus Master Degree from Europe. In my life, I have always aspired to be a leader. Integrity, cultural integration, vision, creativity, and time management are some of the qualities of leadership that inspire and encourage me. As a Class Representative (CR) during my bachelor's and master's degrees, I was responsible for gathering my classmates' opinions, concerns, and ideas about their academic and non-academic experience and presented them in our monthly faculty and department meetings. I started initiatives to bring my classmates together, such as organizing biweekly cricket matches, monthly field excursions, and get-together.

I worked as Student Senator at the UNBC Senate and raised the graduate student's concerns and questions in the Senate Committee of Scholarships and Bruises. Since September 2018, I have been a member of the International Forestry and Student Association (IFSA). I have attended numerous events and conferences as an IFSA Youth Delegate that helped me strengthen my critical thinking skills and community outreach capabilities. These volunteer experiences provided me with several opportunities to know the students' problems and issues and their potential solutions.

My first goal to join NBCGSS as Director of Internal Relations is to forward and discuss the student concerns and suggestions about the scholarships opportunities and policies of UNBC with the faculties Deans and the UNBC Senate and try to find the solution by increasing the financial supports for the student. The second goal is to create awareness among the UNBC admiration about the Graduate student's problems, especially International Graduate and Ph.D. students' financial and logistics issues related to their arrival in Prince George. The third and final goal is to arrange a get to gather between the diverse groups of students such as domestic and international, master and Ph.D., and senior and junior students to communicate with each other and increase the cultural diversity.