



Society of Graduate and Professional Students Report of the University Rector November 12, 2024

Hello Councillors,

It's been an exciting month for my Office, with plenty of community events and planning. I connected with <u>University Council</u> on September 17 – 18 at their annual meeting. Along with my peers at the SGPS and Faculty Societies, I shared insights into student experiences and offered some ways they can help support our community. I also celebrated <u>Homecoming</u> – where I enjoyed my first football game and heard great stories from the Tricolour guard. At the end of October, I attended the Queen's Students Indian Association <u>biggest event</u> of the year for Navratri. I've also been continuing my communication efforts and recently presented to the Student Equity, Belonging, and Inclusion team.

Remembrance Day | All members of the community are encouraged to attend and mark Remembrance Day together and acknowledge the sacrifices of many Queen's students, alumni, faculty, and staff in times of war. Classes are cancelled on November 11 between 10:30 am – 11:30 am. New this year, I worked with the University Chaplain and Principal's Office to acknowledge the efforts of Indigenous veterans. Kaiya Mongrain, ConEd'25, Co-President of the Queen's Native Students Association, will be reading two poems from *The Dialogues: the Song of Francis Pegahmagabow*, which tells the story of an Anishinaabe-Ojibwe WWI sharpshooter. More details can be found on the **event page**.

Tricolour Award | The Agnes Benidickson Tricolour Award (ABTA) and induction into the Tricolour Society is the highest tribute that can be paid to a Queen's University student for distinguished service, leadership, character, and community impact during their time at Queen's. Peer nominations are now open, until December 31, 2024. Learn more about the process on my **webpage** and amplify **this post** with your network on Instagram.

Flu vaccine clinic | This month, there is a flu clinic on campus in Mitchel Hall that is serviced by Queen's Nursing students. I don't have time to get sick, so I got my shot (and did it with a camera crew for the FHS!). You can book an appointment now on the **Student Wellness website**.

Committee work | Most of my days continue to be filled with committee meetings for the Board of Trustees, various search advisories, the <u>Provost Academic Accommodations Interim Working Group</u> and the <u>Principal's Review Committee for Responsible Investing.</u>



Rector's Digest | My latest column in the Queen's Journal looks at honorary degrees. Read Queen's **Highest Honour** to learn more about this convocation tradition.

That's all for now! Please reach out to me if you have any questions, need support, or would like to share an experience that can help me convey student voices to the administration.

At your service,

Niki Boytchuk-Hale (she/her), BFAH, OCT, M.Ed. Student

University Rector

Office of the Rector

Princeps Servusque Es (Be a Leader and a Servant)

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Please note that due to a conflict with my studies, I am not able to attend council meetings. While I will be in class on Tuesday evenings, I will continue to submit fulsome reports and welcome you to reach out with questions or to set up a meeting at any point.