

March 7, 2025

REPORT TO THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Fellow Trustees,

Happy new year! Campus has been cold and grey, but still bustling with students at work and play. Many graduating students are starting to feel the emotions of a looming end to their time at Queen's, while first years are excited about having a year of university studies under their belt.

Campus life | I have added this new section of my report to share some bits and pieces of what's happening on the grounds at Queen's.

- Student government elections have come and gone—with many contested positions at the [AMS](#), [SGPS](#), and Faculty Societies. I'll be working with a new group this spring, including incoming student Trustees, EJ Kelvin and Emils Matiss.
- As always, there are loads of great student initiatives, most recently I was impressed to learn about a group of Engineering students who are the only Canadian university team selected for the NASA Human Exploration Rover Challenge this spring. They are documenting their journey on Instagram over at [@queens_herc](#).
- The AMS Assembly voted in favour of endorsing a [petition](#) created by a club called Queen's Backing Action on Climate Crisis (QBACC) asking the investment committee to divest from fossil fuels.

Office Team | My wonderful team has been advancing key projects, like implementing a much-needed process for Rector's Bursary fund requests, hosting a give-a-way week to treat students and increase our followers, and creating videos to support [voter turnout](#) in student government and provincial elections. We are not-so-patiently awaiting the move into the JDUC—with our office being packed away in boxes since January, I hope my next report details a successful transition back home along with the AMS, SGPS, Student Experience Office, and hundreds of clubs. It is important to note that while the news of gaining occupancy in the "old" building during our last open session was a step in the right direction, it did not translate to any tangible change for students since the readiness criteria was not met and there continues to be significant delays in the "new" building.

Tricolour Award | The Agnes Benidickson Tricolour Award Selection Committee is thrilled to induct Hannah Burrows, Zaid Kasim, and Ore Maxwell into the [Society](#) as the 2025 recipients. We look forward to celebrating their contributions at a reception in April. I would like to thank the committee for their efforts in reviewing packages from a record-number of nominees and volunteering their time over several days to interview candidates. It is evident that there are students in every corner of campus upholding the tenants of the Tricolour Award.

Community Engagement | There is always an event to attend at Queen's. Some highlights that we have attended since my last report include [Culture Day](#) by Athletics & Recreation, the Nigerian language film screening of *Kaka* with the Faculty of Education, TEDxQueensU conference weekend, and a memorial organized by the Iranian Association of Queen's University for the victims of Flight PS752, including [student Amir Moradi](#). I'd also like to highlight the AMS Social Issues Commission for the fall Equity Town Hall. Commissioner Jana Amer redesigned the event to facilitate better conversations. As a long-time student, I've been to many iterations of the Equity Town Hall, and this was the first time I felt it maximized productivity for both students and administrators who attended.

Committee work | While some committees have dissolved, new ones have popped up—much like a familiar arcade game.

- The [Dean of Education search](#) has concluded—which was an extra special committee to serve on as this has been my Faculty for six years and counting.
- The Academic Accommodations Interim Working Group is making good progress in addressing some of the issues identified in the [external review](#) of Queen's academic accommodations and procedures. We are on track to finish developing meaningful recommendations that can improve the academic accommodation processes for both faculty and students by the end of this academic year.
- I've joined the Ban Righ 100th anniversary working group to help plan two celebrations this year. The first on March 5th is bringing alumni and students together for a tea party!
- And finally, Hollywood isn't the only one in award season. My office is serving on several award committees pertaining to staff and student service. Look out for these good news stories later this semester.

Rector's Digest | My column in The Queen's Journal has been a tool for reflection and education. Here are my latest pieces:

- [My first six months](#)
- [New year, new leaders](#)
- [The Scarborough Charter is for all of us](#)

At your service,



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