

Report to SGPS Council

Hello Presidents,

Welcome to a brand-new school year! I trust that it has been off to a busy start, and hope you are all taking care of yourselves amongst events, meetings, and classes.

Office | The Student Leader Development Conference (SLDC) has come and gone. There was a great turnout of graduate and professional students from SGPS and various department societies. Sessions focused on building trust in an untrusting world through communications, lessons on leading with moral courage in governance, and insight into Queen's campus planning. We also raised \$419 for the United Way KFLA. Beyond the conference preparations, we've collected information about Kingston's mayoral and district councillor candidates and compiled their [answers on our website](#) and have two more videos planned to come out on social media for the municipal election. Before I proceed any further, when I say "we" please know I am referring to the small and mighty team of students who make up my office: Arabella Mew (Student Support Project Coordinator), Nathan Zhe (Multimedia Producer), and Sawera Malik (Communications & Engagement Officer). We'll also be hiring a first-year intern soon.

Community Engagement | It should be no surprise that my last few weeks have been focused on orientation. [ORT leader training](#), varsity women's soccer, and many [faculty-run events](#) brought our campus to life after a quiet summer. We also pushed out an [awareness video for the August/September UDSI](#), featuring student leaders across campus, which garnered over 21 thousand views and over 100 shares online.

Board of Trustees | The next regular meeting of the Board is in October, and I look forward to providing an update after our session.

The Board has regular Open Session meetings four times per year, and community members can request to join in-person or online by sending an email to trustees@queensu.ca. Anyone can also access the [Governance Portal](#) to view the agenda by clicking on the calendar date of the meeting. You can learn about the basics of the Queen's Board by [watching this playlist](#).

Committees | Here are all my available committee updates:

- **National Day for Truth and Reconciliation Working Group:** NDTR is coming up soon on Sept. 30th. As classes are cancelled this day to acknowledge the impact of residential schools and honour victims and families, I hope to see you all at the Sacred Fire and other programming. Please check out the [OII website](#) for more information.
- **Accessibility, Community, and Equity (ACE) Committee:** The ACE Committee is a new senior-level committee at Queen's dedicated to advancing accessibility, fostering community engagement, and promoting equity across campus. ACE has replaced the Senior Accessibility Advisory Committee (SAAG) and its purpose is to shape accessibility and ensure that the perspectives of people with disabilities are centered in institutional decision-making. My membership on SAAG is transferring to ACE, and the committee is also [recruiting four more students to join](#).

Rector's Digest | My [August column in The Journal](#) speaks to the voting power of Queen's students in the October Kingston election.

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. If you'd like to book a meeting or send an event invitation, please contact rector.assist@queensu.ca

At your service,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Niki BH' with a horizontal line underneath.

Niki Boytchuk-Hale (she/her)

University Rector

Office of the Rector

Princeps Servusque Es (Be a Leader and a Servant)

T 613-533-2733

rector@queensu.ca | queensu.ca/rector

