



Office of the **VICE PRESIDENT EXTERNAL**

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Report: The Students' Union
Development Summit
(SUDS)

From August 18th to August 21st, myself and the rest of the ULSU executive team attended the Students Union Development Summit at the University of British Columbia, in Vancouver, BC. This conference gave us the opportunity to attend various sessions on a wide range of subjects, from transitioning executives, to open educational resources. This conference also gave us the opportunity to network with other student leaders from across the country.

Day 1 (August 18th)

Upon arriving in Vancouver, we attended the SUDS opening ceremony, which gave us an opportunity to network with various student leaders from across the country.

Day 2 (August 19th)

On the first official day of the conference, I attended the opening keynote address by Lev Bukhman. Immediately after this, me and our VP Academic, Sandeep, attended a session on “Creating Accessible Education: Open Educational Resources”, presented by Dr. Rajiv Jhangiani, who is a prominent advocate and researcher for open educational resources. It was an awesome opportunity to learn about OERs from an expert on the subject. I also attended two other sessions that day, one on successful transitioning, and another on Campus Sustainability and the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (UNSDGs). Although they were not as impressive as the OER session, the session on the UNSDGs allowed me to have the opportunity to educate some of my national counterparts on what successful advocacy looks like.

Day 3 (August 20th)

The next day, I attended three sessions. The first session was on Governance, and how Dollars lead to successful student leadership. This session was hosted by MNP, and I would be lying if I did not state that I was very disappointed in this session. Although there was some valuable discussion, the absence of the primary speaker being there in person, coupled with technical



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difficulties, was very disappointing to say the least. Next, I attended a session on Strategic Planning, which was very useful due to the fact that our 5 year strategic plan is up for renewal this year. Lastly, I attended a session on “Inclusive Leadership and an Intercultural Campus”, presented by Gelsey Guo and Alden E. Habacon. This was an very informative session; however, the one hour time limit was very constraining for such an important subject.

Day 4 (August 21st)

August 21st was a travel day back to Lethbridge.

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