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University of Toronto Mississauga  
Students' Union

LOCAL 109 OF THE CANADIAN FEDERATION OF STUDENTS

fall  
2025

# UTMSU ANNUAL REPORT



UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO MISSISSAUGA STUDENTS' UNION  
LOCAL 109 OF THE CANADIAN FEDERATION OF STUDENTS

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fall  
2025



University of Toronto Mississauga  
Students' Union

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    @MYUTMSU

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# LETTER TO MEMBERS

**Dear Members,**

Welcome to the 2025 Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the University of Toronto Mississauga Students' Union (UTMSU). Over the past year, your UTMSU has been hard at work to meet and support students' demands, whether that be providing cost-saving services, organizing collective power to advocate for students' rights, or building our community through events and initiatives. We are excited to meet again for this AGM to reflect on and share some of the work we've done together, and to collectively consider the direction of our union moving forward.

Since our last AGM, the UTMSU has continued to work on the campaigns that matter most to students: Education for All, which was revamped as Hands Off Our Education! in light of Bill 33, Students Against War, Divest Now, Transit Advocacy, Fairness for International Students, My Mental Health Matters, Academic Advocacy, Food (in)Security, and Access to Student Housing. We believe that education is a fundamental right, and should be made free and accessible for all, but our work goes beyond that. We must ensure that our post-secondary institutions are not only places of quality learning, but also inclusive and safe spaces where every student can thrive.

Additionally, the UTMSU has expanded on the services that help make university life more accessible and affordable. This year, that included installing bidets to improve campus facilities, expanding the Academic Mentorship Program with student societies, opening the Destressor Room, increasing coverage for the Health & Dental Plan, bringing back DisOrientation, revamping the Food Centre to implement the client-choice method, and more. We also continue to run long-standing supports like the Tax Clinic, Graduation Photography Sessions, Academic Advocacy, LinkedIn headshots, and the Laptop Rental Program.

Building community is at the heart of what we do. Through events such as Orientation, Hallo-Week, Academic Advocacy Week, Free Breakfast Wednesdays, Frost Week, Multicultural Week, programming for Pride Month and Black History Month, and more – every event aims to bring students together, celebrate diversity, and strengthen our campus community.

Together, over the semester, we have made a significant and positive impact on the UTM community, but the work doesn't end there. From advocating for free and accessible education for all to creating safer spaces on campus that are reflective of our diverse identities, there is still so much to achieve. As we've seen over the term, when students organize, unite, and raise their voices, we can create real change.

Always remember, the students united will never be defeated.

*On behalf of the **UTMSU**,*

**Andrew Park**, President

**Miatah McCallum**, VP Equity

**Manaal Fatima**, VP University Affairs

**Rajas Dhamija**, VP External

**Rui (Owen) Zhang**, VP Internal

**Lois Ogunnubi-Oriade**, VP Campus Life



## MEET THE EXECS

From left to right:

**Manaal Fatima** (VP University Affairs), **Miatah McCallum** (VP Equity),  
**Owen Zhang** (VP Internal), **Andrew Park** (President), **Rajas Dhamija** (VP  
External), **Lois Ogunnubi-Oriade** (VP Campus Life)

## ABOUT THE UTMSU

The **University of Toronto Mississauga Students' Union** (UTMSU), formerly known as the Erindale College Students' Union, is your local students' union which represents over 16,000 full-time and part-time undergraduate students at the University of Toronto Mississauga.

The UTMSU is a **non-profit organization** that abides by the Ontario Not-For-Profit Corporations Act (ONCA) and the UTMSU's Constitution and Bylaws, which is set by and for members. The day-to-day operations of the organization are managed by the Executive Committee, Full-Time and Part-Time Staff, and a Board of Directors. The UTMSU Board of Directors is comprised of the Executive Committee, two (2) First-Year Directors, eleven (11) Directors At-Large, two (2) Part-Time Directors, and one (1) Professional Faculties Director for the Medical Academy of Mississauga (MAM).



## BOARD MEMBERS

### FIRST YEAR DIRECTORS

#### Division I

Maryam Zeeshan  
Mekayel Omier

### PART-TIME DIRECTOR

#### Division III

Vacant

### DIRECTORS AT-LARGE

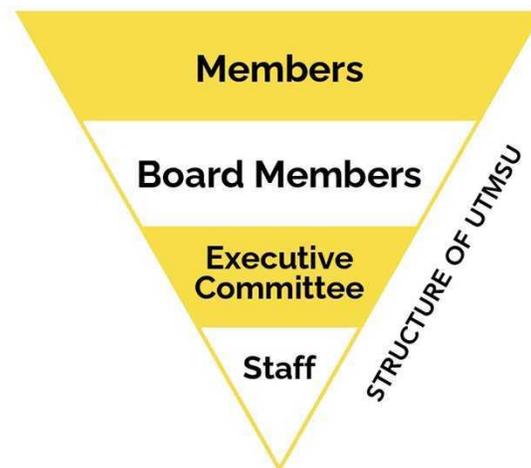
#### Division II

Abeeha Imitaz  
Adam El-Falou  
Aishat Abdulrazaq  
David Han  
Enran Zu  
Farzana Ishmael  
Jordan MacLean  
Summer Qiu  
Saad Hussain  
Sarah Gamal El-Dean  
Suleyman Yusuf

### MAM DIRECTOR

#### Division IV

Samantha Bestavros



## VOLUNTEAM

Volunteering is a cornerstone of campus life at UTM and plays an essential role in making our events and initiatives possible. It's also one of the best ways for students to get involved with the UTMSU, build friendships, and develop valuable skills outside the classroom.

Our dedicated team of volunteers, the VolunTEAM, has supported a wide range of events and campaigns throughout the year, including Orientation, Hallo-Week, Free Breakfast Wednesdays, and many more initiatives that bring our campus community together.

During Orientation, we had over 40 active volunteers, and our VolunTEAM has since grown to more than 100 members who continue to contribute to UTMSU programming year-round.

To recognize and appreciate their commitment, we offer Co-Curricular Record (CCR) recognition, monthly social events, awards, and other volunteer appreciation initiatives. These opportunities not only celebrate their contributions but also help volunteers strengthen leadership, communication, and event management skills that will benefit them beyond their time at UTM.



# STRATEGIC VISION

The UTMSU plays a key role on campus by supporting members and advocating for their rights.

The UTMSU believes in a free, accessible, and high-quality post-secondary education system for all. To accomplish this goal, the UTMSU provides cost-saving services, implements campaigns and mobilizes members, provides alternative policies and proposals, and influences key decision-makers to improve student life. The UTMSU also hosts events throughout the year to promote healthy living, community, and engagement amongst members.

# CAMPAIGNS & ADVOCACY

## TRANSIT ADVOCACY

### METROLINX

Students commuting from Milton experience some of the longest travel times to UTM, often exceeding 90 minutes and requiring multiple transfers. In response, the UTMSU conducted a detailed route analysis and developed a proposal to modify GO Bus Route 21 Milton Line to include a direct stop at UTM. This proposed change would significantly reduce travel times and create a seamless connection between Milton GO Station, UTM, and Union Station, improving accessibility and efficiency for hundreds of daily commuters.

Securing a meeting with Metrolinx was a major challenge. For weeks, multiple attempts to obtain direct engagement went unanswered. Despite this, the UTMSU remained persistent, reaching out to contacts across various Metrolinx departments.

Eventually, a meeting was secured, and the proposal was formally presented, supported by commuter mapping, transit data, and student usage findings. This meeting represented a meaningful step forward by bringing student concerns directly to regional decision-makers.

### MIWAY ROUTE 110 & 126

After consistent meetings with MiWay representatives and Mississauga City Councillors, the UTMSU is proud to celebrate a major victory in our ongoing transit advocacy: the introduction of weekend service to MiWay Route 110 University Express.

This achievement stems from persistent engagement and direct feedback gathered through the UTMSU Transit Survey, where students identified the lack of reliable weekend transportation as a barrier to attending classes, work, athletics, and campus events. By bringing these concerns forward through sustained discussions and data-driven advocacy, the UTMSU successfully demonstrated the need for the expansion. With the introduction of weekend operations on Route 110, students gain consistent and equitable access to UTM throughout the week.

Building on this success, the UTMSU has also advocated for the extension of MiWay Route 126 to include midday and late night service. This extension would better support students staying on campus for evening classes, labs, or extracurricular activities, ensuring that transportation remains reliable and accessible beyond standard hours. The UTMSU will continue to work closely with MiWay and City officials to advance this request and strengthen transit options for all students.



## BUS SHELTERS

The UTMSU has also been advocating for improvements to the bus shelters on campus, on which thousands of students rely. Students have raised concerns about inadequate heating and space, poor cleanliness, and the buildup of unregulated posters around the shelters.

We brought these concerns forward to UTM administration, stressing the need for shelters that reflect the scale and needs of the campus commuter population. We also highlighted that MiWay is upgrading shelters across Mississauga, including fully enclosed heated spaces and digital information boards, and emphasized the importance of UTM matching this standard of accessibility and comfort. In response, UTM administration acknowledged these issues and communicated that they are aware and currently exploring opportunities to improve shelter infrastructure. The UTMSU will continue to follow up, centre students in planning discussions, and advocate for upgrades that prioritise safety, comfort, sustainability, and commuter well-being.

For questions related to transit advocacy or to get involved in this campaign, please contact our VP External, Rajas Dhamija, at [vpexternal@utmsu.ca](mailto:vpexternal@utmsu.ca).

## FOOD SERVICES

Meal Exchange's Hungry for Knowledge report shows that nearly 40% of post-secondary students face food insecurity, a reality that should never be normalized. At the UTMSU, we believe accessing food on campus should be simple and affordable. No student should have to choose between paying for their education and being able to eat.

We're also thrilled to share that the UTMSU is developing a new Food Centre Sponsorship Package. This project will help us secure new partners and additional funding for the Food Centre. With stronger sponsorship support, we'll be able to increase the number of free food giveaways, offer a wider selection of items, and provide more consistent support for students throughout the year.

For questions related to food services, please reach out to the Vice-President Equity, Miatah McCallum, at [vpequity@utmsu.ca](mailto:vpequity@utmsu.ca).

# ACCESS TO STUDENT HOUSING

Access to affordable and secure housing continues to be one of the most pressing challenges faced by students at UTM. Rising rents, limited residence capacity, and a lack of purpose-built student housing have made it increasingly difficult for students to find stable accommodations near campus.

To address these growing concerns, the UTMSU advanced its housing advocacy through the Housing Policy Research Project, which examines student living conditions, affordability, and rental trends across Mississauga. Using these findings, we developed a comprehensive set of housing recommendations and presented them during Lobby Week 2025 to both the UofT administration and the City of Mississauga.

Our recommendations focused on improving Mississauga's multi-tenant housing policies, informed by successful approaches implemented in Toronto and Hamilton. We proposed expanding safe, regulated, and affordable shared housing options for students, while also enhancing tenant protections and enforcement standards. A balanced policy framework would support both student renters and local communities by addressing overcrowding, affordability, and safety concerns in a sustainable way. Through these efforts, the UTMSU reaffirmed its commitment to addressing the student housing crisis and ensuring that every student has access to safe, affordable, and equitable living spaces.

In addition, the UTMSU continues to create pathways for students to actively participate in shaping housing reform on campus and in the wider Mississauga community. Students who are passionate about housing advocacy are encouraged to join the Housing Committee which provides opportunities to engage in research and develop housing initiatives. By bringing students into the decision making and research process, the UTMSU ensures that our housing work is informed by lived experience and driven by a collective commitment to student centred change.

For questions related to transit advocacy or to get involved in this campaign, please contact our VP External, Rajas Dhamija, at [vpexternal@utmsu.ca](mailto:vpexternal@utmsu.ca).



## COMMITTEE TO INDIGENOUS JUSTICE AND COLLABORATION

As a result of your voices from last year's Annual General Meeting, we established the Committee to Indigenous Justice and Collaboration (CIJC). Open to all students, faculty, and community members—both Indigenous and non-Indigenous—the committee creates a space for shared experiences, solidarity, and initiatives that uplift Indigenous voices on our campus.

This year, the CIJC released a statement addressing the hate crime and murder of Indigenous and queer actor Jonathan Joss and held a flag drop ceremony for the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation flag. The flag is now displayed in the Student Centre all year round, as Indigenous voices deserve to be heard and respected not just in June, but throughout the entire year. This symbolizes our commitment to ongoing decolonization, recognizing that it is a continuous effort and not one limited to specific times of the year.

During Orientation, we collaborated with the Canadian Federation of Students Circle of First Nations, Métis and Inuit Students to incorporate Anishinaabemowin terms into our Orientation House names. This initiative aimed to introduce the Indigenous language and acknowledge the Indigenous-rooted land in which we operate on to incoming students.

On September 30, the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation, the committee hosted "Indigenous Futures: Decolonizing Pedagogy," a community gathering that brought together students, faculty, and community members to discuss topics related to Indigenous culture. The event featured Indigenous cuisine, Spirit Wind, an Indigenous band for our opening and closing ceremony, and the distribution of orange shirts from Nish Tees, with proceeds supporting efforts to address missing and murdered Indigenous women.

The committee is currently focused on two key initiatives: advocating for a university-led review and revision of the existing land acknowledgement to better centre Indigenous voices, and seeking formal recognition of September 30 as a day eligible for special consideration requests.

With over 30 active members, the CIJC will soon be formally established as a standing committee in our by-laws, ensuring continued work towards addressing the lasting impacts of settler colonialism and amplifying Indigenous voices.

If you would like to join the committee, please connect with our President, Andrew Park at [president@utmsu.ca](mailto:president@utmsu.ca).



Win back student power.  
**DEMAND OUR FUTURE.**

# STOP BILL 33: JOIN THE FIGHT



**CAMPAIGNS  
COMMISSION**

## HANDS OFF OUR EDUCATION!

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During May of this year, the Ford government announced a new bill, the “Supporting Children and Students Act”. While the name sounds harmless, Bill 33 poses a serious threat to student autonomy and academic freedom.

The bill’s language on “merit-based admissions,” the reintroduction of police in K-12 education, and government oversight of ancillary fees grants the provincial government excessive control over not only post-secondary institutions but also primary and secondary education.

In solidarity with student unions across Ontario, the UTMSU launched the Hands Off Our Education! campaign to mobilize opposition to Bill 33. Through campus organizing and coalition efforts, we received endorsements from student clubs and campus organizations, building widespread solidarity. Collectively, student unions across the province gathered over 11,000 petition signatures rejecting Bill 33, which were presented in the Ontario Legislature on October 20th. As of this report, the bill remains in its second reading and continues to be debated in Parliament.

On our campus, we held the following actions against Bill 33:

### COMMISSION MEETINGS:

Two sessions were held — the first to educate members on the content and implications of Bill 33 and to develop campaign strategies; the second was a poster-making session in preparation for the provincial rally.

### CLUBS TRAINING:

During two clubs training sessions, we informed clubs about the potential impacts of Bill 33 on student funding and access to bookable spaces. We also gathered endorsements from clubs to strengthen the campaign’s collective voice.

### MPP OUTREACH:

The UTMSU contacted 11 local MPPs, requesting their commitment to oppose Bill 33 and seeking meetings with two representatives. One agreed to meet but later cancelled, while others have yet to respond. We also launched an emailer tool that allowed students to directly message their MPPs to voice opposition to the bill.

## COALITION BUILDING:

We collaborated with the UTGSU, SCSU, UTSU, and CUPE 3902 to coordinate province-wide campaign strategies and share resources.

## POST-IT WALL:

Students were asked, "What UTMSU service do you rely on most?" and wrote their responses on post-it notes displayed on the Student Centre mirror. This visual installation raised awareness about how Bill 33 could impact the services students depend on most.

## WEEK OF ACTION

A week-long series of creative activism events included:

### RALLY AT QUEEN'S PARK:

In partnership with the No Policing in Schools coalition, other student unions, and CFS-Ontario.

### THE FALLEN CAMPUS:

In partnership with the No Policing in Schools coalition, other student unions, and CFS-Ontario.

### MPP EMAIL ZAP:

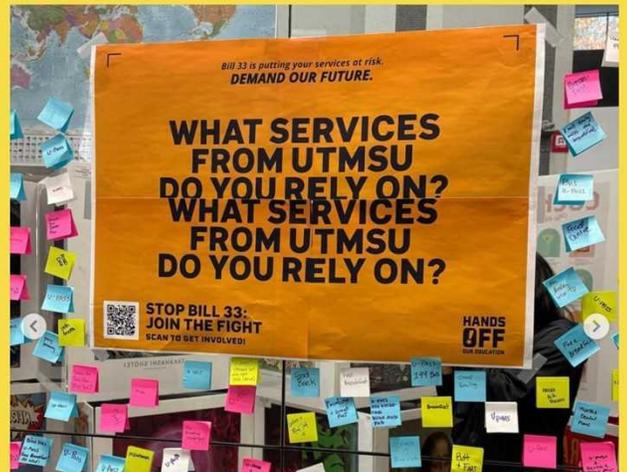
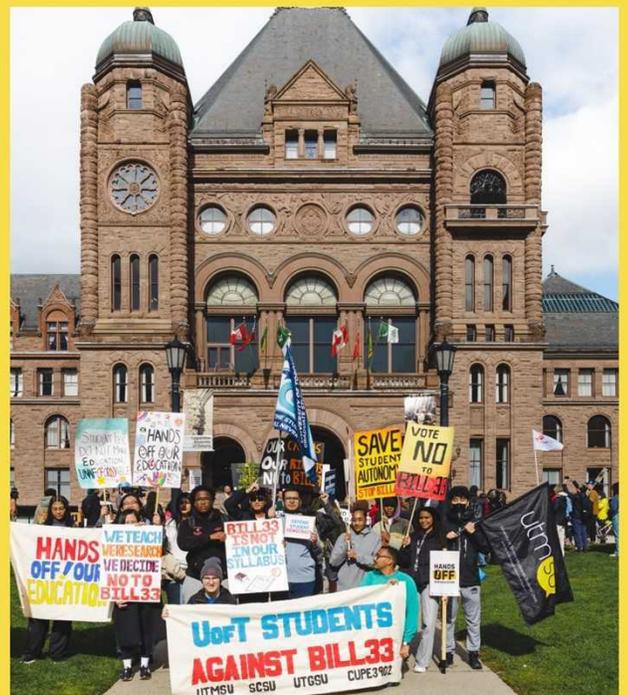
A coordinated action to flood MPP inboxes with student opposition.

### DOUG FORD COSTUME CONTEST:

A creative outlet for student engagement.

### BLACKOUT DAY:

A symbolic action to highlight how Bill 33 could silence student voices and restrict union autonomy.



# WUSC

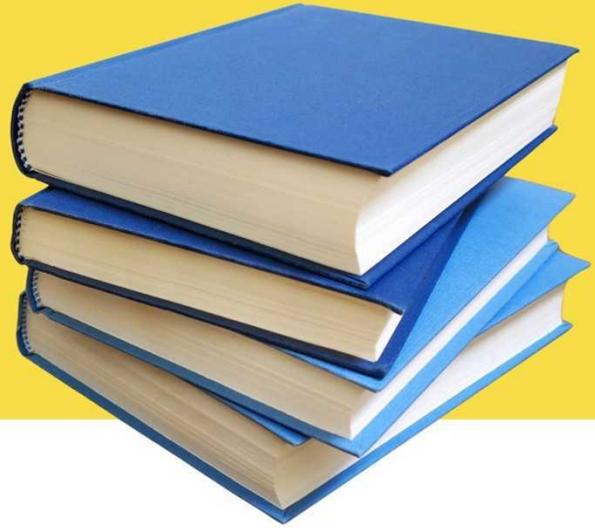
The World University Services of Canada (WUSC) is a non-profit global development organization that aims to create positive educational and economic change amongst young people. The Student Refugee Program (SRP), a program under WUSC, combines the resettlement of young refugees with higher education. Through the WUSC levy, UTM Students give \$2.20 each semester to support the SRP at UTM. Since 2008, this refugee program resettles one student through a partnership between WUSC and the UTMSU.

The UTMSU WUSC committee is an open committee supported by directors and volunteers to help with the development of WUSC, the execution of events, the promotion of SRP, and raising awareness of various issues surrounding refugees. The UTMSU WUSC Coordinator went through a hiring process for our WUSC volunteers and completed the hiring at the end of September. The International Education Center coordinates with the WUSC student to ease their transition to university, relating to, but not limited to, residence, academic support, and bookings with advisors.

Over the past year, the UTMSU has held events for WUSC in collaboration with Here2Help, some of which included destressor socials such as tote bag painting, pumpkin carving, and game nights. The WUSC team has several events planned for the rest of the year, so please keep updated with us on our @wuscutm Instagram!

For questions relating to the WUSC Program or Committee, please contact the UTMSU WUSC Coordinator, Ashimwe Yamu, at [ashimwe@utmsu.ca](mailto:ashimwe@utmsu.ca) or the VP University Affairs, Manaal Fatima at [vpua@utmsu.ca](mailto:vpua@utmsu.ca).





## ACADEMIC ADVOCACY

Academic Advocacy encompasses the UTMSU's work to support students on academic matters. This includes, but is not limited to, working to improve the University's academic policies, supporting students with academic offense allegations, and hosting workshops on topics like academic integrity and citations. We also have an Academic Bursary that runs throughout the year to support students with expenses relating to essential academic supplies such as textbooks and lab equipment, extracurriculars and academic events like conferences and competitions, and accessibility accommodations.

Students have the right to make an informed decision, and our CR/NCR campaign has made it a priority to ensure that students have a strong understanding of their academic standing prior to making significant decisions, such as designating a course CR or NCR. The campaign, which has run for many years, is the result of hard work from a coalition of student unions including the University of Toronto Students' Union (UTSU), the Scarborough Campus Students Union (SCSU), and the Arts and Science Students Union (ASSU), and the Association of Part-time Students (with the latter only joining in the 2024-2025 academic year). The campaign was relaunched this year with the aim of creating new goals, following extensive conversations with Administration regarding the feasibility of the campaign's goals, launching a new survey, and releasing a new lobby document. The results of the survey and research will be presented to Academic Deans and Registrars from all three campuses during Lobby Week in 2026.

Members of the Academic Advocacy team have also been trained extensively by the Academic Integrity Union (AIU) and Downtown Legal Services (DLS) to offer support to students who have been accused of committing academic offences, as well as students who are dealing with petitions and appeals. We inform students of the academic misconduct process, including, but not limited to, the levels of meetings/hearings, sanctions, structure of the meetings, and steps of the process; advise students on the available resources and how to present a defence based on our experience in supporting students with academic offence cases; and, when needed, attend Dean's designate meeting as support for the student.

For questions relating to Academic Advocacy, please contact our Vice President University Affairs, Manaal Fatima, [vpua@utmsu.ca](mailto:vpua@utmsu.ca), and our Programs and Research Coordinator, Kiara Senanayake, [programs@utmsu.ca](mailto:programs@utmsu.ca).

# EVENTS

Over the past year, the UTMSU has worked tirelessly to create engaging, inclusive, and memorable experiences for students across campus. From academic support initiatives to community-building events, our programs are designed to enrich student life, foster connections, and celebrate the diversity of our UTM community.

The following section highlights the wide range of events and activities we've hosted, showcasing the creativity, collaboration, and impact that define a year in the life of the UTMSU.

## SKI TRIP

The UTMSU partnered with the Erindale Biology Society to take over 100 students to Mt. St. Louis for a peaceful day on the slopes. This trip provided first-time skiers and snowboarders the chance to learn new skills and enjoy a winter adventure off-campus with peers.

## MONTREAL TRIP

This Montreal Trip was one of the most affordable trips yet, making it accessible for more students. Students experienced the beauty of Montreal, walked through the history of the city and engaged in new educational and memorable activities off-campus.

Highlights included visiting Old Montreal, riding the La Grande Roue ferris wheel, and experiencing art through dance performances and a violin orchestra.





## BLACK HISTORY MONTH

Black History Month 2025 was a success! With the support of the Black History Month (BHM) Committee, volunteers and Black student groups, students planned, facilitated and participated in a month of meaningful programming. This year's theme, Circle of Life—in reference to *The Lion King*—highlighted heritage, pride, resilience and shared identities.

We opened with an Opening Ceremony, featuring student speeches, a spoken word performance, a fashion show with over 50 models, as well as great food and games. Throughout February, we hosted our annual Buy Black, a Paint and Sip at Riverwood Conservatory led by a local artist, and Open Mic Night: Voices of the Diaspora - in partnership with Black Literature Club. A fan favourite, black students were able to perform, whether it be spoken word, poetry, singing, dancing or playing an instrument.

For Valentine's Day, the BHM Committee held Love, Sex, and Relationships, in which students had conversations surrounding love, sex, consent, and relationship dynamics in the Black community.

BHM is a chance to remember the histories, but to also celebrate black excellence, liberate and motivate students for what is yet to come. Together, these events embodied the "Circle of Life" by celebrating community, honouring history, and nurturing the strength and brilliance of Black students at UTM.

As of now, the Black History Committee has reconvened for the planning and development of the next BHM events happening in February 2025. For questions on how to get involved in BHM, please contact our VP Equity, Miatah McCallum, at [vpequity@utmsu.ca](mailto:vpequity@utmsu.ca).

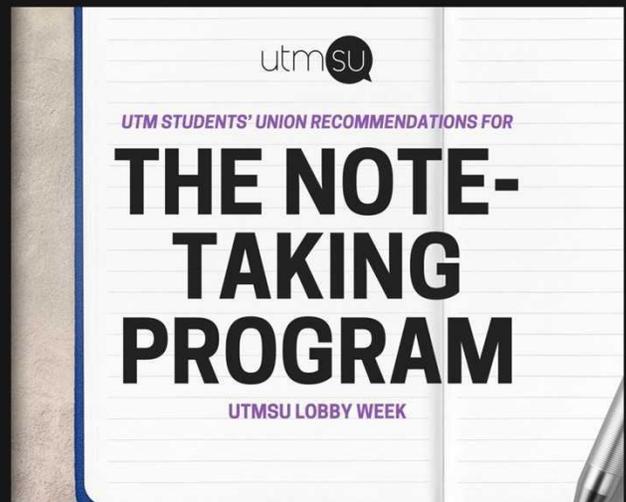
## LOBBY WEEK

Lobby Week was a year-long initiative to conduct research and publish lobby documents on several different campaigns, including the Extend CR/NCR Deadline campaign, Paid Note-taking and Recorded Lectures, and Housing and Transit advocacy. This included several conversations with relevant members of the UTM administration, Mississauga City Councillors and the Mayor, as well as transit agencies like MiWay and Metrolinx.

The Extend CR/NCR campaign was organised through a coalition of several tri-campus student unions, including the Scarborough Campus Students' Union (SCSU), University of Toronto Students' Union (UTSU), Art & Science Student Union (ASSU), and the Association of Part-time Students (APUS), which has been continued for the 2025-2026 academic year. We also released a tri-campus survey that received over 1300 responses and published a lobby document with our findings in March.

The Recorded Lectures and Paid Note-taking advocacy included research on universities across Canada and abroad that have paid positions for note-takers, as well as lecture rooms with infrastructure to record lectures for accessibility purposes. We also met with several representatives from the Accessibility departments of universities, and presented our recommendations to UTM Administration.

The majority of the lobbying we conducted was to the elected members of the City of Mississauga. We released a survey to get more student output and used data from the University to create maps that demonstrated a strong need to address the long commutes of students from the GTA. We presented this information to the City's Transit Advisory Committee and to MiWay. We also presented research on Rooming house policies in Ontario, and Mississauga in particular, to advocate for safer housing for students, which we will be continuing this year as well.







## SUSTAINABILITY WEEK

Sustainability Week 2025 featured a series of hands-on events for students to explore sustainable living. The week began with Root and Renew at Hart House Farm, where students took part in a nature walk, embroidered fabric patches, and learned to build water filters. Additionally, we collaborated with UTM Sustainability Club for Mapping Sustainability at UTM: Scavenger Hunt, where we established key sustainability points on campus such as bike racks, used battery drop off locations, and EV charging stations. Lastly, our No Fashion on a Dead Planet hands-on workshop taught students about sustainable fashion, while offering free hand-blocked tote bags to design and take home.

For questions on how to get involved in sustainability efforts at UTM, please contact our VP Equity, Miatah McCallum, at [vpequity@utmsu.ca](mailto:vpequity@utmsu.ca).

## PRIDE MONTH

Pride Month began with an intersectional statement honouring Johnathon Joss, a queer Indigenous person, as a reminder that Pride is not only a celebration but also a time to reflect on the lives lost to violence and hate crimes against 2SLGBTQ+ communities. Throughout June, our activities aimed to reduce the sense of isolation many queer students experience on campus. We held a Pride Flag and Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation Flag raising, both of which continue to hang in the Student Centre Grand Hall as a year-round commitment to queer and Indigenous communities. Events included a free Pride Iced Coffee Giveaway, a Pride Pop-Up Market featuring queer and Indigenous student vendors, and a Pride Planting Event where students decorated pots and planted seeds to take home. We closed the month with a Pride Picnic, giving students space to meet, share food, and build community.

While these events took place in June, our commitment to supporting queer students continues throughout the entire year.





## BEACH DAY

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We brought back our annual Beach Day with a trip to Bay Beach in Niagara, complete with a road trip feel, a group pizza lunch, and lots of fun in the sun. Students spent the day swimming, building sandcastles, and playing beach games with our UTM community.

## PLANT WALL

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The Plant Wall is an interactive sustainability initiative where students add plants throughout the year while engaging in conversations about environmental action on campus. The wall improves air quality, enhances the Student Centre's atmosphere, and offers a visual, community-built representation of sustainability at UTM.

## BBQ

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The UTMSU organized exam de-stressor events during the Fall, Winter, and Summer exam periods to help students unwind and manage stress.

In Fall 2025, de-stressor activities were part of Winter Fest, which ran from December 4 to December 12. Events included ceramic painting, puppy yoga, gingerbread house making, and a holiday dinner.

## LEGACY 25, ORIENTATION WEEK

Legacy 25 was one for the books: 8 days of community building, energy, and school spirit for our incoming students.

We kicked things off with our UTM Scavenger Hunt, where students raced through campus challenges to earn points for their houses while getting familiar with their new campus.

Our Student Centre Takeover followed, featuring painting, karaoke, jeopardy, and a private concert with local artists, consisting of a day full of bonding and creative fun.

Sound & Sizzle brought all that excitement back with live performances and a free BBQ lunch, giving students another chance to explore the Student Centre and connect with friends.

Our Downtown Scavenger Hunt guided students through the heart of Toronto, helping commuters and downtown-class attendees build confidence navigating the city.

Movie Night brought everyone together for snacks, relaxation, and prizes, before we amped things up again with Sports Day, where houses battled it out in Human Foosball, an Inflatable Obstacle Course, sack races, and more.

Casino Night transformed our Student Centre into an elegant evening of games, music, and a live auction where students bid on everything from gift cards to projectors.

And finally, our Paint & Glow Party lit up the Davis Building front yard with a live DJ, neon accessories, and glow-in-the-dark paint flying under the stars. An unforgettable finale to an unforgettable week.

For questions to learn more on events and how to get involved, please contact our VP Campus Life, Lois Ogunnubi-Oriade, at [vpcampuslife@utmsu.ca](mailto:vpcampuslife@utmsu.ca).





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## CHINESE STUDENT FROSH ORIENTATION

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This year, the UTMSU WeChat Team successfully delivered a dedicated Chinese Students Frosh Orientation designed to support incoming Chinese-speaking students as they transitioned into UTM.

Organized in collaboration with CUA and CSSA, the event combined resources and student leadership from multiple communities. The orientation received special attention, with representatives from the Chinese Consulate attending and engaging directly with first-year students.

The orientation introduced students to UTMSU services, academic resources, and campus life, with multilingual support that ensured accessibility for participants. The event significantly strengthened UTMSU's connection to the Chinese student community and set a strong foundation for continued engagement throughout the year.

## WECHAT N MEET N EAT

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To help incoming mainland Chinese students connect with support networks at UTM, the UTMSU WeChat Team hosted WeChat n Meet n Eat, a community-building event.

UTMSU invited UTMCAPS panelists to provide professional guidance on mental health, academic adjustment, and student well-being, creating a combination of open dialogue and informal interactions. The event successfully reached 300+ new students, fostering a supportive environment as they navigate cultural and academic transitions, while strengthening their sense of belonging on campus from day one.

## WELCOME BACK WEEK

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Welcome Back Week gave student clubs the chance to table and recruit new members, while Orientation Sponsors promoted their services and student deals. Our Welcome Back Carnival included activities like rock climbing, Whack-a-Mole, and a trip to a Blue Jays University Night, where students cheered on the Jays in style with customized UTMSU hats.

We closed the week with a highly successful Welcome Back Pub Night, our first sold-out pub in six years, featuring performances by Young M.A. and Killy. Students had an incredible time and set an energetic tone for the year ahead.



## QUEER STARGAYZING EVENT

Picnic n Play: A Night of Stargayzing was a UTMSU-led queer orientation event where students gathered for games, refreshments, and community building.

The goal was to create more regular spaces for queer students to connect, share experiences, and feel supported on campus.

## STUDENT GROUPS HIRING FAIR

For the first time, we hosted a Student Groups Hiring Fair in the Student Centre, with more than 20 student clubs and levy groups the opportunity to recruit students for various positions, including vacant executive, associate, and volunteer roles.

We understand that job searches can often feel overwhelming for students, and that involvement in clubs and campus organizations offers valuable hands-on experience, skill development, and networking opportunities for future employment. This event served as a meaningful stepping stone for students looking to build transferable skills and gain real-world experience through campus involvement.

Given the strong interest and positive feedback, we look forward to continuing this initiative in the future!

## FREE DINNER FRIDAY

In response to rising food insecurity on campus, we are proud to launch Free Dinner Friday on November 28, a key commitment from the InnovateUTM campaign. With many students balancing tuition, rent, and growing grocery costs, no one should have to choose between a proper meal and their academic success. Free Dinner Friday will provide students with a warm, end-of-week meal on a monthly basis and a supportive space to gather as a community.

## SISTERS IN LAW

Sisters in Law was hosted in collaboration with Black Future Lawyers and sponsored through the Pillar Sponsorship Program with Manulife and TD Insurance, alongside support from the Career Centre. The event featured a Q&A panel highlighting the strength, resilience, and leadership of women in law, particularly from the BFL community. Designed for BIPOC high school and university students, the event fostered mentorship, dialogue, and hands-on learning, while connecting future leaders with the professionals who inspire them.

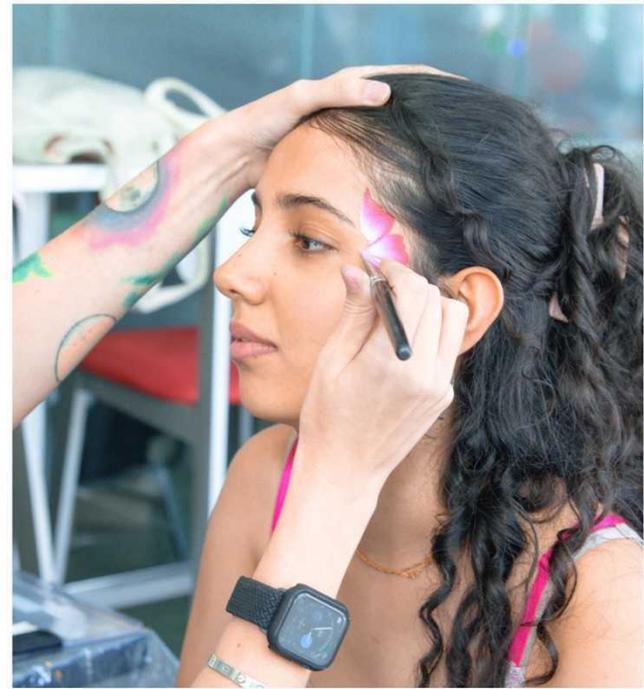
## A DIFFERENT WORLD

Hosted in collaboration with Caribbean Connections, the Black Students Association, the African Students Association, the Career Centre, Centre for Student Engagement, and Alumni Relations, and sponsored through the Pillar Sponsorship Program (Manulife & TD Insurance), this event connected Black first-year students with alumni who shared similar experiences in the university environment.

Students participated in a panel discussion, asked questions, and networked with peers and professionals. A Caribbean-inspired menu was served, and Black student groups encouraged new members to get involved on campus.

## DISORIENTATION

DisOrientation Week promotes student activism, decolonization, and education on issues affecting student life. All events are free and designed to empower students as drivers of change. This year's program features three events centered on engaging and empowering student voices: Indigenous Futures: Decolonizing Pedagogy, Unlearning 101, and Hot Takes & Cold Treats.



# HALLO-WEEK

This Hallo-Week was equal parts spooky and advocacy. Our escape room, The Fallen Campus, imagined a horror version of student life if Bill 33 were to pass. While designed as a fun experience, the event also highlighted the importance of student autonomy and its impact on campus services. Students navigated the Student Centre, learned about UTMSU services, and raced to crack the final code. Judging by the screams, they loved it.

The week also included pumpkin carving paired with a ghost story contest, a student-voted movie night, and our Halloween Pub Night featuring DJs Murda Beatz and Smiley, complete with a costume contest and prizes. We ended Hallo-Week with our annual trip to Wonderland's Halloween Haunt, with three full buses this year—an increase driven by overwhelming student interest.



# MURAL PAINTING

Over Fall Reading Week, the UTMSU partnered with The Mural Dream, a newly founded student club dedicated to promoting creativity and community, to design a new mural for the Student Centre. The mural, titled "For the Students, By the Students," reflects not only the collective spirit, diversity, and resilience of our campus community, but also the three core pillars of the UTMSU: Events, Campaigns, and Services. Created entirely by UTM students, the mural visually represents the impact of student-driven initiatives—from building community through events, to leading meaningful campaigns, to offering essential student services. Beyond its artistic value, the mural stands as a lasting symbol of student collaboration, creativity, and empowerment, a reminder that the UTMSU is, truly, for the students, by the students.



UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO  
1815  
STUDENT CENTRE



# SERVICES

## THE BLIND DUCK

The Blind Duck is the most cost effective food provider on campus with an extensive menu. Catering to students' many dietary needs, the Blind Duck offers a variety of options for students to choose from, ranging from breakfast items to snacks and dinner items.

It is also the only place on campus that serves alcohol. As part of our continued effort for affordable prices, The Blind Duck has unique daily specials for just under \$10!

For questions or suggestions regarding the Blind Duck, please email our Vice President Internal, Rui (Owen) Zhang at [vpinternal@utmsu.ca](mailto:vpinternal@utmsu.ca), or our General Manager, Retail Operations at [shane@utmsu.ca](mailto:shane@utmsu.ca).

## THE DUCK STOP

The Duck Stop Convenience Store has been a staple for students since 2015. We ensure that The Duck Stop is stocked with reasonably priced items for our students, from snacks to locally harvested honey, and standard student life items like waterbottles, notebooks, and phone chargers. This past year, we expanded our snack options to include asian snacks and caribbean-inspired flavours.

For questions or suggestions regarding the Duck Stop please email our infoBooth Staff at [shane@utmsu.ca](mailto:shane@utmsu.ca).





## THE DUCK STOP STATISTICS



27,000 CUSTOMERS  
THIS PAST YEAR



6000 CHOCOLATES,  
4600 BOTTLED POP,  
3700 ARIZONAS, &  
4000 BAGS OF CHIPS  
SOLD THIS PAST YEAR

### FUN FACT!

DID YOU KNOW THAT THE  
DUCK STOP OFFERS THE  
MOST AFFORDABLE PRICES  
ON CAMPUS!

## THE BLIND DUCK STATISTICS



55,000 PEOPLE SERVED  
THIS PAST YEAR



### POPULAR ITEMS

- Buffalo Chicken Fries
- Chicken Fingers
- Chicken Shawarma Poutine



**BEST SELLER!**  
OVER 10,000 WINGS  
SOLD PER MONTH!

**We're bringing the tropics to UTM.**

Treat yourself to some island classics!  
Only at The Duck Stop



## GRADUATION PHOTOS

The UTMSU provides all UTM graduates with the opportunity to have their photos professionally taken for their respective Graduating Class Composite. Each photo session booking includes a minimum of nine unique digital online proofs and a copy of the class composite. To ensure accessibility and flexibility, new sessions are added weekly to accommodate the needs of graduating students.

For questions regarding graduate photos please email Lassman Studios at [questions@lassmanstudios.com](mailto:questions@lassmanstudios.com).

## HEADSHOT SERVICE

The UTMSU is proud to continue offering students our Professional Headshot Service, now better than ever. This service supports both professional and artistic development by providing high-quality portraits perfect for LinkedIn, portfolios, creative projects, and any platform where students want to make a strong first impression.

This year, we've upgraded our equipment to deliver even sharper, more polished, and studio-quality photos at no cost to students. With improved lighting, enhanced camera gear, and a refined shooting setup, students can now access premium-level headshots that help them stand out while connecting, networking, and showcasing their work.

This service is brought forward as part of our Job Readiness program, ensuring students put their best foot forward in the workforce and to help elevate their online presence.

For questions to learn more on headshot services and photography, please contact our Graphics and Communications Coordinator, at [graphics@utmsu.ca](mailto:graphics@utmsu.ca).



## HOW MANY U-PASSES (E-TICKETS) WERE DISTRIBUTED FOR F 2024 & W 2025?

Fall = 17,006

Winter = 16,731

**Total = 41,699**

(this number includes re-issues and eVouchers)



## HOW MANY TAXES WERE FILED AT LAST YEAR'S TAX CLINIC 2025?

**Approximately 273 people were assisted in-person.**

We were open Monday - Thursday, 11am-5pm for 4 weeks.



## WHAT ARE THE HIGHEST NUMBERS OF SOLD ITEMS AT THE INFOBOOTH BETWEEN SEPT 2022 - AUG 2025?

Shuttle = 3834

Classic bowl = 267

Cineplex = 375



## HOW MANY LOCKERS RENTED F 2024, W 2025 & S 2025?

724 lockers!



## HEALTH & DENTAL PLAN

The UTMSU provides affordable and comprehensive health and dental coverage to over 16,000 full-time members at UTM.

Based on our 2024-2025 plan usage review, we saw that a large proportion of our members were prescribed antidepressants. The mental health and wellbeing of our students is our top priority, which is why we have expanded the efforts of our My Mental Health Matters campaign through our Peer Support Program. Alongside this program, we have successfully increased the amount of visits to see a mental health professional from 20 to 25 visits during a benefit year.

Additionally, Green Shield Canada (GSC) has provided accessible virtual health support, specifically for mental wellbeing. This can be seen through their online service Inkblot Therapy. Students utilizing Inkblot services receive counselling that is intended, by design, to be long-term in nature and intent. GSC also provides Gender Affirmation care, supporting students on their gender transition journey which includes reimbursement for core surgeries not covered by provincial or territorial coverage and services, as well as reimbursement for surgical enhancement of an individual's features that aligns with their accepted gender ideal.

By being able to administer our own health and dental plan, we are better equipped to serve our members and support them with any questions.

If you have questions regarding the health and dental plans please email the Health and Dental Coordinator at [health@utmsu.ca](mailto:health@utmsu.ca) or visit the infoBooth Desk in the UTM Student Centre building.

## U-PASS PROGRAM

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The Universal Transit Pass (U-Pass) is a program offered through the UTMSU in partnership with the City of Mississauga. It allows undergraduate and graduate students to travel fare-free in Mississauga via MiWay transit authority. Eligibility for this service is determined by the associated U-Pass fee applied to a student's academic invoice during the Fall/Winter terms or the Summer term.

Nearly 16,000 students have been using a digital U-Pass since last year distributed through the PRESTO app. Besides improving access to transit, this program is also a step towards reducing our carbon footprint. The UTMSU and the City of Mississauga decided to shift U-Pass distribution platforms from the PRESTO E-Tickets app to PRESTO vouchers last year.

This change allowed students to use their U-Pass by tapping on the bus using their PRESTO card on their phone or physical card instead of scanning a QR code, significantly reducing user interface issues, and offers students access to PRESTO's One Fare System which allows students access to a 2-hour transfer.

If you have questions regarding the Digital U-Pass Program, please email our Vice President External Rajas Dhamija at [vpexternal@utmsu.ca](mailto:vpexternal@utmsu.ca) or the U-Pass Program Coordinator at [upass@utmsu.ca](mailto:upass@utmsu.ca).

## DISCOUNTS

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The UTMSU provides a variety of discount codes and coupons so that students can save money. Current discounts include: Discounted Cineplex tickets, Discounted Classic Bowling tickets, Raptors games tickets, Theatre Erindale shows and more. These tickets are available at the infoBooth Desk.

A detailed list of available discounts can be found at: [utmsu.ca/service/discounts](http://utmsu.ca/service/discounts). If you have any questions regarding the discounts, please email our infoBooth Staff at [infobooth@utmsu.ca](mailto:infobooth@utmsu.ca).

## TAX CLINIC

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The UTMSU, in collaboration with the Canadian Revenue Agency (CRA), offers free tax filing services from mid-March until the end of April. The UTMSU selected and trained over 25 volunteers to help administer this service in 2025. This service is available to every student, whether they are domestic or international. A total of 225 returns were filed through our 2025 clinic. Our upcoming tax clinic will run between March-April, 2026.

Students are encouraged to contact [taxclinic@utmsu.ca](mailto:taxclinic@utmsu.ca) with any questions about our upcoming 2026 clinic.

## BURSARIES

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The UTMSU offers bursaries each semester, including needs-based, childcare, and transit support, to reduce inequities for students facing financial barriers. While bursaries don't solve systemic issues, they provide immediate relief, allowing students to focus on studying, participating in clubs, and engaging in campus life.

Not everyone starts from the same place, and bursaries acknowledge that. By supporting students who are historically marginalized, working multiple jobs, or carrying responsibilities outside academics, bursaries foster a more equitable, less stressful, and inclusive campus community. Since our last AGM, we have been able to provide a total of about \$38,689 to students to alleviate the burden of financial instability to over 200 students on our campus.

If you have questions regarding the Bursaries Program please email our Vice President Equity, Miatah McCallum at [vpequity@utmsu.ca](mailto:vpequity@utmsu.ca).



## FOOD CENTRE

The Food Centre provides students with access to healthy food, hygiene products, and essential items, while building a wider community of enthusiastic staff and volunteers to address food insecurity on campus. Affecting roughly 40% of post-secondary students, food insecurity occurs when individuals lack reliable access to sufficient safe and nutritious food for normal growth, development, and often comes with concerns about dignity and equity. To help alleviate this, the Food Centre receives monthly orders from Food Banks Mississauga and offers two service models: scheduled pick-ups and client-choice method.

The centre operates from 11 AM - 4 PM and is staffed by both volunteers and a coordinator who work under the supervision of Vice President Equity. Students can access free groceries by completing the weekly form found on the UTMSU website or our Instagram Linktree. Throughout this past year, the Food Centre also hosted various giveaways, such as a St. Patrick's themed giveaway, Pride Iced Coffee giveaway, Orientation Iced Coffee and Pink Lemonade giveaway with many more to come.

If you have questions regarding the Bursaries Program please email our Vice President Equity, Miatah McCallum at [vpequity@utmsu.ca](mailto:vpequity@utmsu.ca).



## HERE TO HELP WELLNESS PROGRAM

The Here to Help Wellness Program has been established as a mental health promotion and wellness initiative at the UTMSU. The program tasks itself with the responsibility of improving mental health resource literacy on campus by directly assisting students in accessing resources both on and off campus.

This goes in addition to organizing and executing all destressor events that are run on campus, all of which run throughout midterm and exam seasons and are catered to provide students with a brief period of relief while they engage in a low-stress recreational activity with their peers.

The program uses its social media platform to disseminate relevant information regarding mental health. We pride ourselves in doing our part in breaking the stigma surrounding mental health, which is where the Here to Help Program curates informational videos that acknowledge mental health awareness days and bring light to conversations surrounding mental health, care, and wellness.

## DESTRESSOR ROOM

The Destressor Room has officially opened, providing students with a comfortable and relaxing space on campus. For years, students have expressed the need for more spaces to unwind, study, or spend time with friends—and the Destressor Room delivers just that. Since its launch in September, the room has seen a steady flow of visitors, with nearly 200 bookings to date.

The space features a TV, dorm-style décor, arts and crafts supplies, board games, couches, bean bag chairs, and pillows, creating a cozy and welcoming atmosphere for students to relax between classes. We have three separate rooms, with each room being able to accommodate between four to six students. A PlayStation 4 is also being installed, with controllers that will be available for rent to enhance the experience.

The Destressor Room is open 12–6 PM with two-hour booking slots to maximize access. Due to high demand, we're exploring extended hours and longer bookings so even more students can enjoy this relaxing space.



# ACADEMIC SOCIETY MENTORSHIP PROGRAM

In September, we officially relaunched the Academic Mentorship Program (AMP) in collaboration with nine academic societies across campus. The program is designed with the goal of supporting incoming students as they transition into university life by pairing them with upper-year mentors who can provide guidance on academic expectations, resources, and involvement opportunities on campus.

The program was established in partnership with the Political Science Student Association (PSSA), Innovative Business Association (IBA), Mathematical and Computational Sciences Society (MCSS), English and Drama Student Society (EDSS), Undergraduate Economics Council (UEC), Department of Visual Studies Student Society (DVSSS), Erindale Chemical and Physical Sciences (ECPSS), Student Association of Geography and Environment (SAGE), and Historical Studies Society (HSS).

The development of this program initially began with each society selecting their respective mentorship coordinator to act as a liaison between the mentee, the academic society, and the UTMSU. Applications were released for both mentors and mentees, and then the process of pairing them together began and now each mentor has been assigned to one or more mentees. We have 50+ members in the program which includes both mentors and mentees.

Prior to the official launch of the mentorship program, the UTMSU alongside the Academic Integrity Unit held a training session for mentors on generative AI usage, and explained what academic integrity means at UTM which included the referencing of the Code of Behaviour on Academic Matters. Following this training session we held an additional UTMSU training for mentors on anti-oppression. November 14 2025 marked the official launch of the Academic Mentorship Program as we held a meet and greet event introducing the mentors and mentees to one another and providing an opportunity to connect face to face.

For questions relating to the Academic Mentorship Program, please contact the UTMSU Mentorship Coordinator, Mia Coletta, at [miacoletta@utmsu.ca](mailto:miacoletta@utmsu.ca) or the Vice President University Affairs, Manaal Fatima at [vpua@utmsu.ca](mailto:vpua@utmsu.ca).



**BECOME A MENTOR**  
for the  
**BLACK MENTORSHIP PROGRAM**  
Guide incoming students!  
**APPLY BY SEPT 25**

Build Leadership Skills    Help shape the next generation    Empower others

## BLACK MENTORSHIP PROGRAM

The Black Mentorship Program (to be renamed the Ruth E. Black Mentorship Program), serves the purpose of creating a supportive space where Black students can connect with Black upper-year mentors who understand their lived experiences. Created in collaboration with the Black Student Association (BSA), this program is meant to help Black students feel seen, guided, and uplifted throughout their academic and personal journeys.

It focuses on building community, offering genuine support, and helping students navigate university life, career planning, and the challenges that Black students often face in predominantly white institutions. Through mentorship, it fosters confidence, leadership, and long-term success while celebrating Black excellence and strengthening a sense of belonging on campus. Mentors gain valuable skills for their future careers, and mentees acquire knowledge and experience that support their academic, personal, and professional growth.

**BIDETS at UOFT**    utmsu

**This washroom has a BIDET**

- ✓ Enhanced Hygiene & Comfort
- ✓ Accessible & Inclusive
- ✓ Eco-Friendly
- ✓ Improved Well-being

## BIDETS

In collaboration with Bidets@UofT and UTMMSA, we successfully installed bidets in the Student Centre. This marks a major milestone, as the Student Centre is now the first non-residential building on campus to feature bidets. They are available in four washrooms: the men's and women's washrooms on the lower level, the all-gender washroom on the second floor, and the multi-faith prayer room.

Bidets are an inclusive, eco-friendly, and accessible way to promote personal hygiene, and they are widely used across many cultures around the world. As we continue to advocate for a campus that reflects and supports the diverse needs of our community, the UTMSU is proud to set an example of how initiatives like this can enhance accessibility, sustainability, and comfort for students.

## LAPTOP RENTAL PROGRAM

The UTMSU is committed to the needs of students and firmly believes in helping out those who are in need of financial assistance. As part of our ongoing bursary program, the Laptop Rental Program, provides essential laptop access for students to help alleviate the cost of education for students in financial need.

The application process has been simplified, making it easier for students to apply. Additionally, we have expanded the program and added more laptops to our inventory —successfully renting out all our available laptops for this academic year— to better serve our student community.

This service is application based, which takes into consideration students' demonstrated financial need.

The application can be found on our website, and needs to be submitted to [president@utmsu.ca](mailto:president@utmsu.ca), along with the relevant supporting documents. Students can rent a laptop for up to an entire semester, with no charge.

For any questions or inquiries related to the Laptop Rental Program, email our President, Andrew Park at [president@utmsu.ca](mailto:president@utmsu.ca).



# CAMPUS GROUPS

## (RE)RECOGNITION

The Campus Group recognition process is conducted yearly to ensure clubs and societies remain active, update their documents, and create a plan and budget for the year. The recognition period also allowed for members with outstanding and new initiatives to send in proposals for new UTMSU clubs. During the 2024-2025 recognition period, 132 Clubs, 17 Academic Societies, and 11 Levy Groups were recognized.

## AUDITS

The UTMSU conducts biannual audits for campus groups; once at the end of the fall semester and once at the end of the winter semester. Audits ensure that campus groups are using their funds appropriately and that there is no financial mismanagement. The submission and passing of the audit allows for groups to receive future funding.

For the 2025-2026 academic year, campus groups have submitted a Fall Audit (which went over all financial activity from the fall semester) in December. The Winter audit was submitted in the summer months, along with the recognition package.

## FUNDING

Every UTMSU-affiliated campus group receives yearly funding to support member initiatives. Levy Groups are funded through their respective student levies, while Academic Societies receive funding from the Academic Society Advisory Committee based on program enrolment.

Clubs are funded by the Clubs' Committee after completing the recognition process, taking into account factors such as membership size, awards, and years active. This funding helps campus groups cover operational costs, host events, provide prizes, and support other initiatives that benefit their members, ensuring that student organizations have the resources they need to thrive and engage the campus community.





## CAMPUS GROUPS TRAININGS

The UTMSU hosts several trainings and workshops for campus group executives throughout the academic year, including both mandatory and optional training sessions. Mandatory training includes transition, recognition, audit, and election. In these spaces, campus groups are informed on how they can carry out all of their required documents.

Other training topics include UTMSU 101, anti-oppression, equity, good finances, budgeting, professionalism, and sponsorship. As part of supporting learning opportunities to student leaders, the UTMSU also offers training upon request. The UTMSU has hosted multiple training sessions so far to help with recognition packages and to transition incoming executives for this academic year.

## COLLABORATIVE, EMERGENCY AND GREEN GRANTS FUNDING POOLS

There are three additional pools of funds allocated for campus groups, in case they need extra funding for their initiatives.

The Collaborative Fund is to encourage collaboration amongst groups and with the UTMSU.

The Emergency Fund is a pool of funds set aside in case a campus group experiences an unexpected and significant financial loss.

Green Grants are grants given to those who are starting a new sustainable/green initiative and need extra funding and/or resources.

Collectively, there have been 27 applications from various campus groups to access these funds, and 20 have been approved by their respective committees.

## CLUBS COMMITTEE

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The Clubs Committee is a committee responsible for supporting and overseeing UTMSU recognized clubs. It is composed of 3 UTMSU executives, 4 board members and 2 non-voting staff members. The committee's primary responsibilities are to allocate funding, (re)recognize new and

existing clubs, supervise elections, and approve collaborative, emergency funding and green grants requests. The committee has met 18 times in the past year, mainly to recognize clubs and approve collaborative funding requests.

## ACADEMIC SOCIETY ADVISORY COMMITTEE (ASAC)

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ASAC is the committee responsible for supporting and overseeing the 17 existing Academic Societies at UTM. The committee has three UTMSU representatives and three representatives from the Office of the Dean, as both groups co-fund the Academic Societies. The committee's primary responsibilities are to allocate funding,

approve re-recognition, approve audits, and supervise elections. Throughout the last few months the committee has met to review recognition packages and funding. The committee successfully passed our society's recognition packages and allocated funding for each.

## ROOM AND TABLE BOOKINGS, AND OTHER RESOURCES FOR CAMPUS GROUPS

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UTMSU recognized groups are able to book spaces in the Student Centre to host meetings, events, fundraisers, and more. The UTMSU also offers after-hours event timeframes for students who may not be able to book during regular hours. The Student Centre has 4 spaces that can be used for events: The Meeting Room, the Board Room, the Presentation Room, and The Blind Duck. Groups are also encouraged to use the Great Hall in the Student Centre to table (set up a table and promote their group to students). In the case of storing materials, campus groups are also encouraged to apply for office and locker space.

For booking information, please contact Latifah, our Campus Groups Coordinator, at [campus.groups@utmsu.ca](mailto:campus.groups@utmsu.ca). For catering and The Blind Duck bookings please contact [shane@utmsu.ca](mailto:shane@utmsu.ca).

# INTERNAL MEETINGS

## QUALITY SERVICE TO STUDENTS (QSS) COUNCIL MEETINGS

The QSS Council is a forum for students and service administrators to explore and improve the quality of student services. The UTMSU has 6 votes on the council and makes recommendations based on student feedback regarding various student services (e.g. Career Centre, Recreational, Athletics and Wellness Centre, International Education Centre, etc.) and the fees collected for those services.

## FOOD SERVICES ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The UTMSU holds two student seats on the Food Services Advisory Committee Meeting. The committee is responsible for reviewing the hospitality services budget, as well as current and upcoming food services on campus.

It is a space where the UTMSU actively advocates for cheaper and more diverse food options on campus, creating pathways for students to provide feedback about food services, making food quality information readily available to all students and expanding food services opening hours.

## COUNCIL ON STUDENT SERVICES (COSS)

The Council on Student Services serves as a space to discuss how student experiences can be enhanced at all three campuses at the University of Toronto. The Vice President External of the UTMSU serves as the representative from the UTM campus and votes on topics regarding central services at UofT.

## COMMITTEE ON STANDING

The Committee on Standing reviews appeals made to the Office of the Registrar. These appeals usually pertain to late withdrawing from a course, requesting late CR/NCR, deferring a final exam, etc.

It is made up of staff from the Office of the registrar, faculty, and one student representative from the UTMSU. The Vice President University Affairs sits on this committee and assesses supporting documents that come with the appeal and then votes on each student's petition.

## TRANSPORTATION & PARKING ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The UTMSU also holds three student seats on the Transportation & Parking Advisory Committee. The committee is responsible for reviewing the budget, as well as current and future initiatives regarding transportation at UTM.

It is a space where the UTMSU brings up student concerns regarding the high prices of parking passes, and the lack of parking spots available.

## OFFICE OF THE VICE-PROVOST, STUDENTS

The Office of the Vice-Provost, Students (OVPS) oversees a wide range of policies, procedures, and initiatives that impact students and student organizations across all three U of T campuses. Their work covers everything from student support and services, governance, and institutional guidelines that shape the student experience.

Our team meets with the OVPS on a regular basis to discuss our ongoing campaigns and priorities, share updates from the student body, and advocate for improvements that support students' academic and campus life. These meetings also provide us with important information on available student resources, policy changes, organizational requirements, and emerging issues that may affect our members.



## HART HOUSE BOARD OF STEWARDS

Hart House functions as a place where students – as well as faculty, staff, alumni, and members of the broader community find unique ways to connect with each other and the broader world through engagement with the arts, dialogue, and wellness. Operating as a social enterprise, Hart House offers a wide range of services that generate revenue to support student-focused programming across all three University of Toronto campuses.

The Board of Stewards allows for representatives from each campus student unions, but also a member from Governing Council, the Warden of Hart House, three appointees from the President of the University, stewards from Hart House Committees and any additional standing committees that may be constituted by the Board. Those who sit on the Board have voting abilities on policies, plans and projects, monitoring the quality and effectiveness of Hart House's administration and advising on initiatives proposed by the Warden. Every year, a representative from the UTMSU is required to sit on this board, present a presentation on behalf of the union's priorities, initiatives and goals for the year as well as any concerns.

# EXTERNAL MEETINGS

## MEETINGS

- City of Mississauga
  - Alvin Tedjo
  - Dipika Damerla
  - Natalie Hart
  - Joe Horneck
  - John Kovac
  - Stephen Dasko
- Miway
- Metrolinx
- Advocacy Centre for Tenants Ontario - ACTO
- Association of Community Organizations for Reform Now - ACORN
- Housing Our University Students Equitably - HOUSE Canada
- Toronto Youth Cabinet



*Since the summer, the UTMSU has held several communications and branding workshops to ensure staff are equipped to meet our goals for the year: increasing accessibility, strengthening student representation, and creating more relatable and transparent content.*

*The UTMSU regularly releases statements, membership advisories, and media releases, and we occasionally appear on TV, radio, and in news articles. These communications through mainstream media and social media are essential for shifting the discourse on student issues, empowering student autonomy, and amplifying the student voice on campus.*

*This year, we placed a stronger emphasis on recapping events and campaigns so students can see their community reflected and celebrated. We also expanded our use of Instagram Reels and other accessible formats, helping us better showcase student life and highlight the diverse experiences within the UTMSU community.*

## INTERVIEWS

The UTMSU executives have several interviews with campus media (the Varsity and the Medium).

These interviews covered topics including the installation of bidets, the Hands Off Our Education! campaign, the Committee to Indigenous Justice and Collaboration, Halloween Pub Night and the UTMSU's plans for the academic year. The UTMSU President has been interviewed by The Medium regarding the Hands Off Our Education! campaign and the threat Bill 33 poses to student life and services.

## SOCIAL MEDIA

This year, the UTMSU saw a major rise in social media engagement across all social media platforms, reflecting a growing and more connected online community.

Our UTMSU WeChat account experienced the biggest jump with a 56% increase in total followers, reaching 2530 students. Whereas our Instagram community also grew significantly, rising from 11.3k followers to over 12.8k followers, a 12% increase in total followers from last year.

Engagement reached new heights as well, with students contributing to more than 10.2k monthly interactions and our posts reaching up to 1.1 million views each month.

## NEWSLETTERS

The UTMSU releases newsletters to the membership, discussing upcoming events, campaigns, and services for students to access. In addition to the UTMSU newsletter, the WeChat team continues to work on a monthly multilingual tweet-style newsletter for members.

A queer zine, called The Pride, is in the works to connect queer students on campus, allow for student art, poetry, and other submissions as well as providing queer resources and queer events on campus.

# STATEMENTS

Over the past several months, the UTMSU has continued to articulate its values and commitments through public statements addressing key global and campus-related issues. These statements reflect our dedication to solidarity, advocacy, and supporting communities affected by violence, discrimination, and injustice.

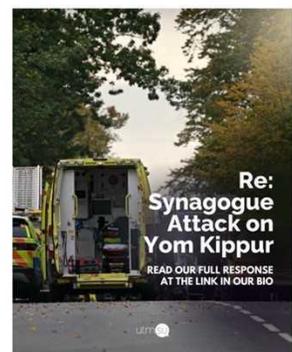
Since our last AGM, we released a statement honouring the victims and families affected by the 2017 Quebec City mosque attack, where six worshippers were tragically killed during prayer. In partnership with the University of Toronto Scarborough Students' Union, we also affirmed our solidarity with the Students' Society of McGill University, supporting their right to protest and uphold student autonomy.

In collaboration with the UTM Filipino Student Association, we extended our sympathy to those impacted by the attack at the Lapu-Lapu Day Festival in Vancouver. Additionally, we worked with the Committee to Indigenous Justice and Collaboration to raise awareness about the hate-crime and murder of Jonathan Joss, a queer and Indigenous actor, and to provide clarity regarding our use of Anishinaabemowin terms for Orientation House names. Through this, we reiterated our intention to honour Indigenous heritage on campus and deepen awareness of the traditional territories on which the UTMSU resides.

We also issued a statement extending condolences to the victims, families, and communities affected by the violent attack at a synagogue in London on Yom Kippur, reaffirming our commitment to condemning violence, hatred, and antisemitism in all its forms. Most recently, we released a statement following our campus

commemoration to honour and stand in solidarity with all lives lost in the ongoing genocide in Gaza, emphasizing the UTMSU's commitment to human rights and principles of anti-war, anti-apartheid, anti-capitalism, anti-imperialism, and anti-racism.

These statements, which showcase UTMSU's commitment to supporting marginalized and impacted communities, can be found at [utmsu.ca/statements](https://utmsu.ca/statements).



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**DISCOUNTED RAPTORS TICKETS** STARTING \$81

SUN. NOV 2ND 6:00 PM

TORONTO RAPTORS VS MEMPHIS GRIZZLIES

GET YOUR TICKETS AT THE STUDENT CENTRE INFOBOOTH

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Students can join too!

deadline?

Nominations

UoFT

**UOFT GOVERNANCE 101 NOMINATIONS**

Governing Council?

watch our full video series to learn more!

Win back student power.  
**DEMAND OUR FUTURE.**

**STOP BILL 33:  
JOIN THE FIGHT**

CAMPAIGNS COMMISSION

TODAY | 4 - 6 PM  
PRESENTATION ROOM

**HANDS OFF**  
OUR EDUCATION

**TRANSIT SURVEY PRIZES**

Feedback fuels advocacy

Participate by filling out our survey to be entered in our giveaway for these amazing prizes!

Marshall

THE JAYS

**WEEK OF ACTION**

OCT 15 - 24 | STUDENT CENTRE

HANDS OFF OUR EDUCATION

STUDENT RIGHTS SERVICES

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AS PART OF DISORIENTATION WEEK

**INDIGENOUS FUTURES:  
DECOLONIZING PEDAGOGY**

SEPT 30  
5 - 8 PM  
STUDENT CENTRE

**OPEN TO ALL UTM STUDENTS**

WELCOME CEREMONY · DISCUSSION · INDIGENOUS CUISINE  
AS PART OF NATIONAL DAY FOR TRUTH AND RECONCILIATION

# FINANCES

## OVERVIEW OF THE UTMSU BUDGET

Budgets are about priorities, and the UTMSU's priority is its members. The UTMSU Budget is prepared and revised in three phases: Preliminary Budget, Operating Budget and Revised Budget.

They all follow the Budget Planning Framework set forth in the Union's Operational Policy Manual. The operational policy outlines an eight-step process that the UTMSU must follow to create its budget each year. All budgets must be approved by the UTMSU Board of Directors.

## WHAT IS AN AUDIT?

A financial audit is an objective examination and evaluation of the financial statements of an organization to make sure that the financial records are a fair and accurate representation of the transactions they claim to represent.

## ABOUT OUR AUDITORS

As ratified at the November 2023 AGM, the UTMSU auditors for the 2023-2024 audit are Yale PGC LLP. The firm has provided a range of services including completion of statutory audits and preparation of review and compilation engagements since 1953. This was the fourth year that Yale PGC LLP audited UTMSU.

## MEMBERSHIP DUES

The UTMSU membership dues were democratically established by referendum so that students could provide services, host events, and advocate for their needs. To this date, membership dues are collected by the UTMSU each semester to finance crucial services, events, and campaigns.

The UTMSU collects \$41.11 per session for full-time and \$1.33 per session for part-time, which is subject to increases with cost-of-living, according to the referendum approved in 2006. Previously a portion of the membership fees was disbursed to the University of Toronto Students Union (UTSU).

Since the UTMSU/UTSU separation was endorsed at the AGM in 2018, the UTMSU now collects the full amount for UTM specific programming.



## **OVER THE PAST YEAR, THE UTMSU WORKED WITH:**

**Arts and Science Students' Union (ASSU)**

**Canadian Union of Public Employees  
(CUPE), Local 3902**

**The University of Toronto Faculty Association (UTFA)**

**The University of Toronto Students' Union (UTSU)**

**The Scarborough Campus Students' Union (SCSU)**

**The Association of Part-time Undergraduate  
Students (APUS)**

**The University of Toronto Graduate Students' Union  
(UTGSU)**

**Canadian Federation of Students National/Ontario**

**Chinese Association of Mississauga**

**Downtown Legal Services (DLS)**

**Food Banks Mississauga**

**Jewish Faculty Network**

**Scholars Strike For Liberation**

**SpiritWind**

The work and victories of the UTMSU are strengthened and made possible by working together with our coalition partners who share similar values like a free, high quality and accessible post-secondary education, safe and affordable housing, and fair working conditions.

## **EQUITY COALITIONS**

The purpose of having coalitions is to bring students together in meaningful ways, build community, and create spaces where people feel heard, supported, and represented. Each coalition focuses on a specific area of equity work, but they all share the same goal: making campus safer, more inclusive, and more empowering for everyone. It is to spark interests between clubs that serve a common purpose and goal, and work together in regards to activism. We had our very first coalition meeting Monday, Nov 10, 2025 - which was the Sustainability Coalition. You can look forward to upcoming coalitions meetings after winter break!

## **QUEER COALITION**

A space for 2SLGBTQIA+ students to connect, support one another, and work on creating more visibility, safety, and joy on campus. There is a clear disconnect for Queer students on campus, and they deserve to feel part of a community, have people to lean on and feel free.

## **WOMEN'S COALITION**

A group focused on uplifting women and gender-diverse students, addressing gender-based issues, and creating opportunities for learning, empowerment, and community care.

## **SUSTAINABILITY COALITION**

A student-led space for anyone passionate about environmental justice, climate action, and building sustainable practices both on campus and in the community.

## **BLACK COALITION**

A space dedicated to uplifting Black student voices, celebrating Black excellence, and addressing the issues that impact Black students on and off campus.

## **FOOD SECURITY COALITION**

A group that focuses on food insecurity at UTM, raising awareness, building support systems, and creating accessible resources so students don't have to choose between their academics and their basic needs.

# ANNUAL REPORT

fall  
2025



UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO MISSISSAUGA  
STUDENTS' UNION  
2025