



Northern British Columbia Student's Society

First report:

Goal set report

International office goal for this board UNBC events
student body board members lab events needs of the students
grad student
Student Guide **International Student Indigenous**
preparation for certificates NBCGSS graduate students important career workshops
available for students Facilitate students
collaboration of all/or majority

International office goal for this board UNBC events
student body board members lab events needs of the students

April-May 2024



Introduction

The Northern British Columbia Student's Society (NBCGSS) is a dynamic organization comprised of elected directors who represent the diverse student body at the University of Northern British Columbia (UNBC). As directors, our primary responsibility is to advocate for the needs and aspirations of our fellow students, ensuring that their university experience is enriched and fulfilling.

In our pursuit of this mission, we understand the significance of setting goals and our mission, before any activity. In order to make the goals more clear, an internal survey between board of directory members has been conducted and main goals of NBCGSS in period of 2024-2025 has been set. In order to make the goals more clear for all society members, this report has been prepared and published.

Based on the responses received from members of the directory board on importance and possibility of reaching each goal, we have identified key topics that emerged as the highest priorities for the NBCGSS board of directory.

The purpose of this report is to present these findings and outline our strategic goals as NBCGSS directors in the current period. We aim to actively address these priorities and work towards implementing initiatives to enhance the student experience at UNBC. By focusing on these key areas, we strive to create a vibrant and supportive university community that fosters success, personal growth, and overall well-being for all students.



Method and questions

The main questions of survey has been set after two meetings of NBCGSS board of directors based on integrated ideas of directors. These questions were:

1. In your point of view, how important and possible is provision of cheaper housing for students by NBCGSS?
2. In your point of view, how important and possible is provision of more reliable transportation for students by NBCGSS?
3. "In your point of view, how important and possible is change in some by-laws of UNBC by NBCGSS?"
4. In your point of view, how important and possible is the provision of more career opportunities for the students by NBCGSS?
5. In your point of view, how important and possible is provision of more reliable CO-Ops and internships for students by NBCGSS?
6. In your point of view, how important and possible is provision of more grants for the students by NBCGSS?
7. From your point of view, how important and possible is the decrease in tuition fees of students?
8. In your point of view, how important and possible is strengthening the food bank by NBCGSS?"
9. In your point of view, how important and possible is the provision of adding more fun to students' lives (Movie nights, having theaters, ...) by NBCGSS?
10. In your point of view, how important and possible is provision of cultural markets (Different nationalities food market, ...) by NBCGSS?
11. From your point of view, how important and possible is the provision of student discount services by NBCGSS?
12. From your point of view, how important and possible is the provision of Insurance for students by NBCGSS?
13. In your point of view, how important and possible is the provision of more education opportunities for students (Online classes and ...) by NBCGSS?
14. From your point of view, how important and possible is the provision of more writing and research tools for students (Grammarly, Turnitin, ...) by NBCGSS?
15. In your point of view, how important and possible is the provision of Psychological protection of students by NBCGSS?
16. From your point of view, how important and possible is the provision of cultural activities (Some multicultural seminars about traditions in different countries...) by NBCGSS?
17. "What goal else is important and possible for NBCGSS?"

Each question had five possible answers which evaluated both importance and possibility of each questioned goal includes in:

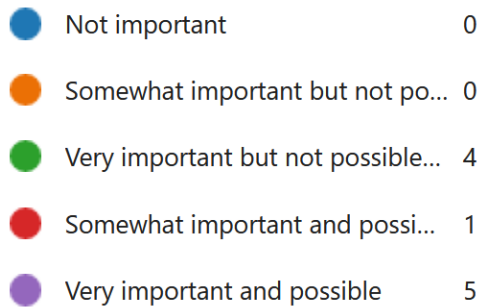
- Not important
- Somewhat important but not possible/ Not relevant to NBCGSS tasks
- Very important but not possible / Not relevant to NBCGSS tasks
- Somewhat important and possible
- Very important and possible

Also each form had a box that each director could add more goals in it (open text box).

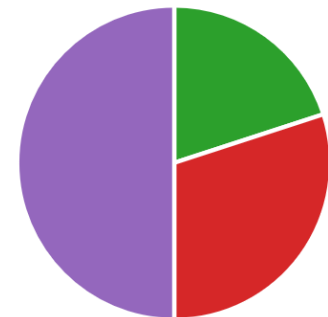
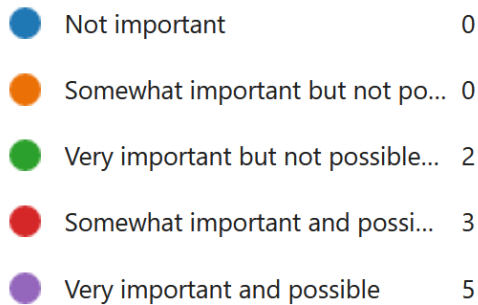
Answers and analysis

This chapter presents the findings and results of the survey conducted by the Northern British Columbia Student's Society (NBCGSS) to gauge the priorities and aspirations of the student community at the University of Northern British Columbia (UNBC):

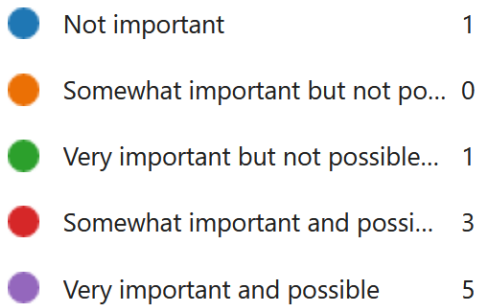
1. In your point of view, how important and possible is provision of cheaper housing for students by NBCGSS?



2. In your point of view, how important and possible is provision of more reliable transportation for students by NBCGSS?



3. "In your point of view, how important and possible is change in some by-laws of UNBC by NBCGSS?"



4. In your point of view, how important and possible is the provision of more career opportunities for the students by NBCGSS?

- Not important 0
- Somewhat important but not po... 0
- Very important but not possible... 0
- Somewhat important and possi... 1
- Very important and possible 9



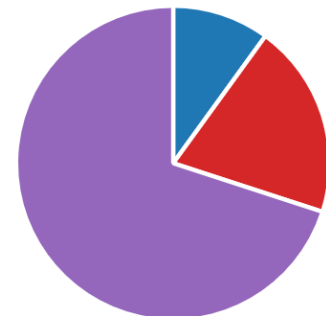
5. In your point of view, how important and possible is provision of more reliable CO-Ops and internships for students by NBCGSS?

- Not important 0
- Somewhat important but not po... 0
- Very important but not possible... 0
- Somewhat important and possi... 2
- Very important and possible 8



6. In your point of view, how important and possible is provision of more grants for the students by NBCGSS?

- Not important 1
- Somewhat important but not po... 0
- Very important but not possible... 0
- Somewhat important and possi... 2
- Very important and possible 7

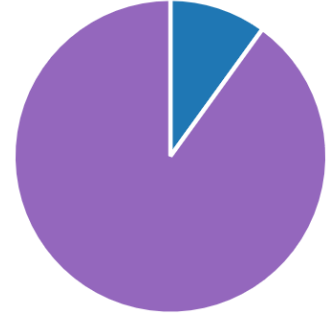




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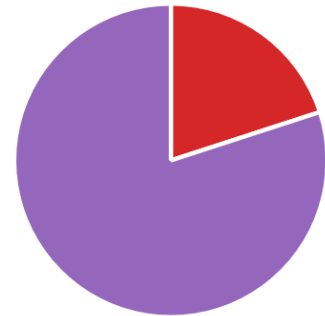
7. From your point of view, how important and possible is the decrease in tuition fees of students?

● Not important	1
● Somewhat important but not po...	0
● Very important but not possible...	0
● Somewhat important and possi...	0
● Very important and possible	9



8. In your point of view, how important and possible is strengthening the food bank by NBCGSS?"

● Not important	0
● Somewhat important but not po...	0
● Very important but not possible...	0
● Somewhat important and possi...	2
● Very important and possible	8



9. In your point of view, how important and possible is the provision of adding more fun to students' lives (Movie nights, having theaters, ...) by NBCGSS?"

● Not important	0
● Somewhat important but not po...	0
● Very important but not possible...	0
● Somewhat important and possi...	1
● Very important and possible	9





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10. In your point of view, how important and possible is provision of cultural markets (Different nationalities food market, ...) by NBCGSS?

- Not important 1
- Somewhat important but not po... 0
- Very important but not possible... 0
- Somewhat important and possi... 3
- Very important and possible 6



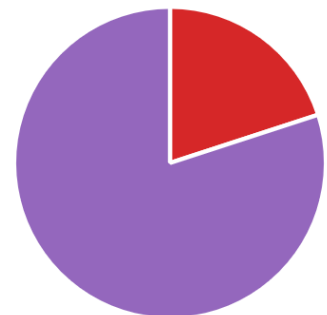
11. From your point of view, how important and possible is the provision of student discount services by NBCGSS?

- Not important 1
- Somewhat important but not po... 0
- Very important but not possible... 0
- Somewhat important and possi... 1
- Very important and possible 8



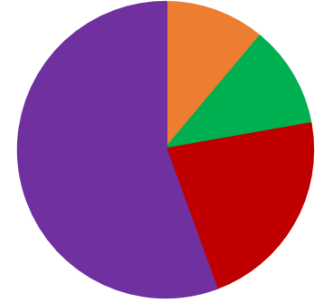
12. From your point of view, how important and possible is the provision of Insurance for students by NBCGSS?

- Not important 0
- Somewhat important but not po... 0
- Very important but not possible... 0
- Somewhat important and possi... 2
- Very important and possible 8



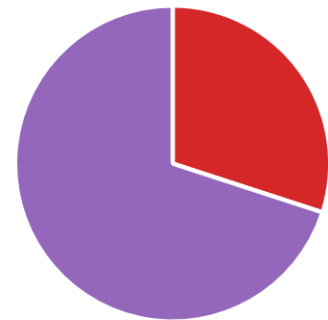
13. In your point of view, how important and possible is the provision of more education opportunities for students (Online classes and ...) by NBCGSS?

● Not important	0
● Somewhat important but not po...	1
● Very important but not possible...	1
● Somewhat important and possi...	2
● Very important and possible	5



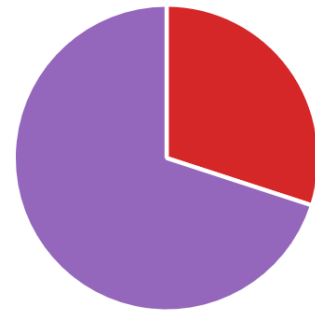
14. From your point of view, how important and possible is the provision of more writing and research tools for students (Grammarly, Turnitin, ...) by NBCGSS?

● Not important	0
● Somewhat important but not po...	0
● Very important but not possible...	0
● Somewhat important and possi...	3
● Very important and possible	7



15. In your point of view, how important and possible is the provision of Psychological protection of students by NBCGSS?

● Not important	0
● Somewhat important but not po...	0
● Very important but not possible...	0
● Somewhat important and possi...	3
● Very important and possible	7





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16. From your point of view, how important and possible is the provision of cultural activities (Some multicultural seminars about traditions in different countries...) by NBCGSS?

● Not important	0
● Somewhat important but not po...	1
● Very important but not possible...	0
● Somewhat important and possi...	2
● Very important and possible	7



In answer to the question "What goal else is important and possible for NBCGSS?", following points are received (some are edited to be delivered in unified format):

- 1- Having an International Student Guide for our International student body (collaboration with international office)
- 2- Being present in as many as UNBC events and gathering perspective
- 3- Collaboration with different UNBC entities (International office, NUGSS, PG PIRG, Over the Edge Newspaper, CFUR Radio, First nation office, UNBC student life, etc)
- 4- Having at least one major Indigenous initiative with collaboration of all/or majority of board members.
- 5- Connecting NBCGSS to the city and the resources out there so we can connect the students to potential career opportunities.
- 6- Our first and only designated NBCGSS meeting room in the lab space.
- 7- Refining the NBCGSS Staff Contract..
- 8- Setting important workshops that are helpful for the needs of the students such as tax workshops, career workshops, networking events.
- 9-Mentorship programs for students to enhance their capacity for growth.
- 10-Enhancing event effectiveness and attendance tracking
- 11-Optimization of resources use by evaluating past expenditures and events, tracking attendance rates and gathering feedback.
- 12- The creation of a welcome package from each director for the next board members to guide them during the first steps of the transition.
- 13-Accessing more funding/ grants/ sponsorships from external sources to run the society.
- 14-All in all, financial, health and welfare aspects of a grad student are all vital and need to be addressed and tried to be maintained.
- 15-Protection of students' rights against unfair and hypocritical behaviors.



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16-Prevention of discriminatory practice, double standards, and hostile attitudes toward graduate students.

17- Increasing the wage for some part-time jobs available for students (like teaching, research, lab assistantships, etc.) at the university.

18- Facilitate students' preparation for certificates demanded in the job market (like CFA, CPA, etc.) by covering the cost of exam preparation books and partially the exams themselves. This could be done in cooperation with other departments of the university.

19- Educate graduate students about Indigenous cultural activities.

In order to analyze the answers, the following score table is used. Highest score is for the goals which were very important and possible and then the goals which are very important but not possible received 5 score as shown in table 1.

Table 1) Scores of each answer

Answer	Weight
-Very important and possible	10
-Somewhat important and possible	8
-Very important but not possible / Not relevant to NBCGSS tasks	5
-Somewhat important but not possible/ Not relevant to NBCGSS tasks	3
-Not important	1



Results

This chapter has outlined the strategic goals by the NBCGSS to enhance the student experience at UNBC.

Based on survey results, the goals that achieved scores of 90 to 100 are classified as first-rank goals as they have more importance and possibility at the same time (Table 2). Adding more fun to students' lives and providing more career opportunities for the students had the highest priority among them. These other categories are second-rank goals (80-90) and third-rank goals (70-80).

The examples of activities to reach each of the goals and the departments in charge are shown in table 3, 4 and 5.

Table 2) Sum of each goal's score and priority

Ranking	Goals	Score
First rank goals	Provision of more career opportunities for the students	98
	Adding more fun to students' lives	98
	Provide more reliable CO-Ops and internships	96
	Strengthening the food bank	96
	Provision of Insurance for students	96
	More writing and research tools for students (Grammarly, Turnitin, ...)	94
	Psychological protection of students	94
	Decrease in tuition fees of students	91
Second rank goals	Student discount services	89
	Provision of cultural activities (Some multicultural seminars about traditions in different countries...)	89
	Provide more grants for the students	87
	Cultural markets (Different nationalities food market, ...)	85
	More reliable transportation	84
	By-laws of UNBC	80
Third rank goals	Provide cheaper housing	78
	More education opportunities for students	75



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Table 3) First rank goals activities and responsibility

Goals	Examples of activities	First department in charge	Second department in charge	The third department in charge
Provision of more career opportunities for the students	Cooperation with career center Cooperation with alumni Cooperation with companies in PG	Director of Welfare	Director of External Relations	Director of Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion
Adding more fun to students' lives	Movie nights in Grad Lounge Renovation of graduate lounge Renovation of NBCGSS computer lab Adding a projector and a play station set for the student lounge	Director of Welfare And Director of Community Development	Director At Large	All the other directors
More reliable Co-Ops and internships	Cooperation with career center Cooperation with alumnies Cooperation with companies in PG	Director of Welfare	Director of External Relations	
Strengthening the food bank	Cooperation with local foodbanks in the city Cooperation with UNBC officials Provision of space/storage facilities and transportation facilities for food bank Collection of interior/exterior sources of donation	Chairperson	Director of Student Welfare	Director of Communications & Student Engagement
Provision of Insurance for students	Continuation of cooperation with current insurance services Cooperation with local insurance offices	Director of Internal Relations	Director of Student Welfare	
Provision of more writing and research tools for students (Grammarly, Turnitin, ...)	Buying more accounts/replanning account holding strategies Getting help from research and innovation officials of UNBC	Directors-at-Large	Director of Student Welfare	
Psychological protection of students	Cooperation with UNBC Health Center Short-time contract with a local psychologist	Director of Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion	Director of Student Welfare	
Decrease in tuition fees of students	Cooperation with UNBC officials Student local/provincial campaigns	Chairperson	Director of Communications & Student Engagement	



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Table 4) Second rank goals, activities, and responsibility

Title	Examples of activities	First department in charge	Second department in charge	The third department in charge
Student discount services	Cooperation with local shops	Director of External Relations	Regional Student Representative	Director of Communications & Student Engagement
Provision of cultural activities	multicultural seminars about traditions in different countries	Director of Community Development	Director of Indigenous Students' Affairs	Regional Students' Representative
More grants for the students	Cooperation with UNBC Cooperation with local companies / professional societies	Director of External Relations	Director of Internal Relations	Director of External Relations
Cultural markets	Different nationality's food market	Director of Community Development	Director of Indigenous Students' Affairs	Regional Students' Representative
More reliable transportation	Cooperation with PG municipality Cooperation with local transportation companies	Chairperson	Director of Student Welfare	Director of External Relations
By-laws of UNBC	Having a member in different committees of UNBC	Chairperson	Director of External Relations	Directors-at-Large

Table 5) Third rank goals, activities, and responsibility

Title	Examples of activities	First department in charge	Second department in charge	The third department in charge
Cheaper housing	Cooperation with UNBC to decrease housing costs in residence Cooperation with local landlords for provision of cheaper housing for students (List of landlords which offer discount for students can be prepared and shared with students)	Chairperson	Director of Student Welfare	Director of External Relations
More education opportunities for students	Cooperation with the student success center Cooperation with online educational platforms	Director of Student Welfare	Chairperson	Director of External Relations