



## **CCSAI 2023/2024 Annual Report**

As we reflect on our operations at the Centennial College Student Association (CCSAI) this past year, we're proud to have made significant strides in fulfilling our mission of supporting students & enhancing their learning experience. Guided by our strategic priorities, we have prioritized equitable access to education, skill development, and holistic student wellness, ensuring that our services, programs, and activities serve the needs and desires of our diverse student body.

This year, we rolled out new branding and reintroduced ourselves to students as Your Student Association. Our goal of this rebranding was to refine our voice as the Centennial Student Association and improve our communication strategy to ensure students understand who we are, and what we do to support and empower students on their academic journey.

### **Prioritizing Equitable Access to Education for Students**

In line with our goal to make access to education more equitable, we have expanded our services to address the diverse needs of our student community. Our food security and cost saving programs help to address some of the larger barriers that students face in pursuit of higher education.

The CCSAI has increased accessibility to our Food Bank by offering pick-up options at all five campuses & learning sites, serving over 10,983 students with food hampers this year. Additionally, we provide weekly grab and go breakfasts and monthly specialty breakfasts, ensuring that students have access to food to start their day.

Through our Learning Cost Essentials Reimbursement Program, we have supported over 500 students by reimbursing them up to \$100 for required program materials beyond tuition and textbooks, totaling over \$36,800 in reimbursements. Through our Legal Aid clinic, over 380 students received free legal advice and notary services. We've also supported students through other services such as the Free Tax Clinic, staffed by student volunteers from The Business School, First Impressions Clothing & Coat Drive, Go Transit Student Discounts, and more.

### **Student Lead Advocacy & Skill Development**

Through our multi-level student advocacy, we seek to provide opportunities to empower students as leaders and industry professionals through various initiatives. On the Governance level, our student board plays a pivotal role in advocating for student interests and ensuring effective representation of students at various levels of government.



We are excited to start off the 2024/2025 academic year with a full board of student leaders representing all campuses and learning sites. This year we ramped up our communication to students by providing monthly board updates and seeking student feedback in decision-making processes.

Beyond our board of directors, students are empowered by the CCSAI through work integrated learning opportunities provided through our on-campus employment. This year CCSAI employed over 140 students and recent graduates in a variety of roles where they get to practice and refine skills they carry with them into the workforce.

We've also empowered students in their academic development by awarding over \$425,000 in scholarships & bursaries to both international and domestic students.

### **Contributions to Holistic Wellness & Student Life**

Recognizing the importance of holistic wellness, we have implemented initiatives to support the physical, mental, and social well-being of our students. Our Athletic and Wellness Centre (AWC) has been instrumental in promoting physical activity, with an average of 36,400 visits to our fitness centre semesterly. Additionally, we provided 800+ personal training sessions and over 2000 free fitness consultations.

Through wellness programming, including over 20 wellness pop-ups at all Centennial campuses and learning sites, we prioritized mental well-being, offering massages, therapy dogs, and other resources to students during exam seasons.

Our vibrant club community and event programming fostered social connections and engagement among students, with 40 active clubs hosting their own regular events and meetings. Our CCSAI Events team hosted 47 events this year with over 4,300 students attending our events.

As an association, we are proud of the impact and strides in fulfilling our mission and strategic priorities during this academic year. Through our commitment to equitable education, skill development, and holistic wellness, we have continued our support of the student community.

We will continue to innovate and adapt to meet the evolving needs of our students, ensuring that every student can succeed and thrive at Centennial College.

*Penny Kirlik, Executive Director on behalf of the  
Centennial College Student Association Inc.*