

The



Bulletin

April–June 2026

Recap



Hey Centennial!

We're excited to share this **CCSAI Board Bulletin**, highlighting what your student leaders have been up to from April through June 2026. From welcoming our new board at the First-Class Conference to honouring our Indigenous graduates to setting the board's direction for the year and advocating for students on the national stage, **here's a look at what's been keeping us busy** this spring/summer



Your incoming Board of Directors got the year started in style!

A First-Class Start

From **April 27th to 30th**, new board members, executives, and committee members gathered at Progress Campus for the First-Class Conference 2026, CCSAI's four-day onboarding experience for new student leaders.

The week opened with Media Day, featuring media training plus headshots and group photos, before moving into a series of governance sessions led by Ajané Adams, our Chief Governance Relations Officer, covering CCSAI's history and structure, board roles and responsibilities, governance policies and bylaws, and Robert's Rules of Order.

Other highlights included a session on CCSAI's commitment to Truth, Reconciliation, and Indigenous Relations led by Nadjiwon Keesis and a public speaking workshop with John Doucette of Commanding Presence. The conference wrapped up with a working lunch on CCSAI's partnership with Centennial College, a transition meeting between the incoming and outgoing boards, and the final full board meeting of the year.

With that foundation in place, your new board hit the ground running, as you'll see below.



Celebrating Our Indigenous Graduates

On **June 3rd**, The Eighth Fire hosted its second annual Indigenous Student Graduation Gathering at Progress Campus, celebrating the achievements of Centennial's graduating Indigenous students.

CCSAI was proudly represented by



Vice-President of Indigenous Affairs
Mukwa Ladouceur



Director-at-Large
Crystal Shaw

Moments like these remind us why representation and community matter, and CCSAI will continue supporting Indigenous student initiatives and celebrations across campus.



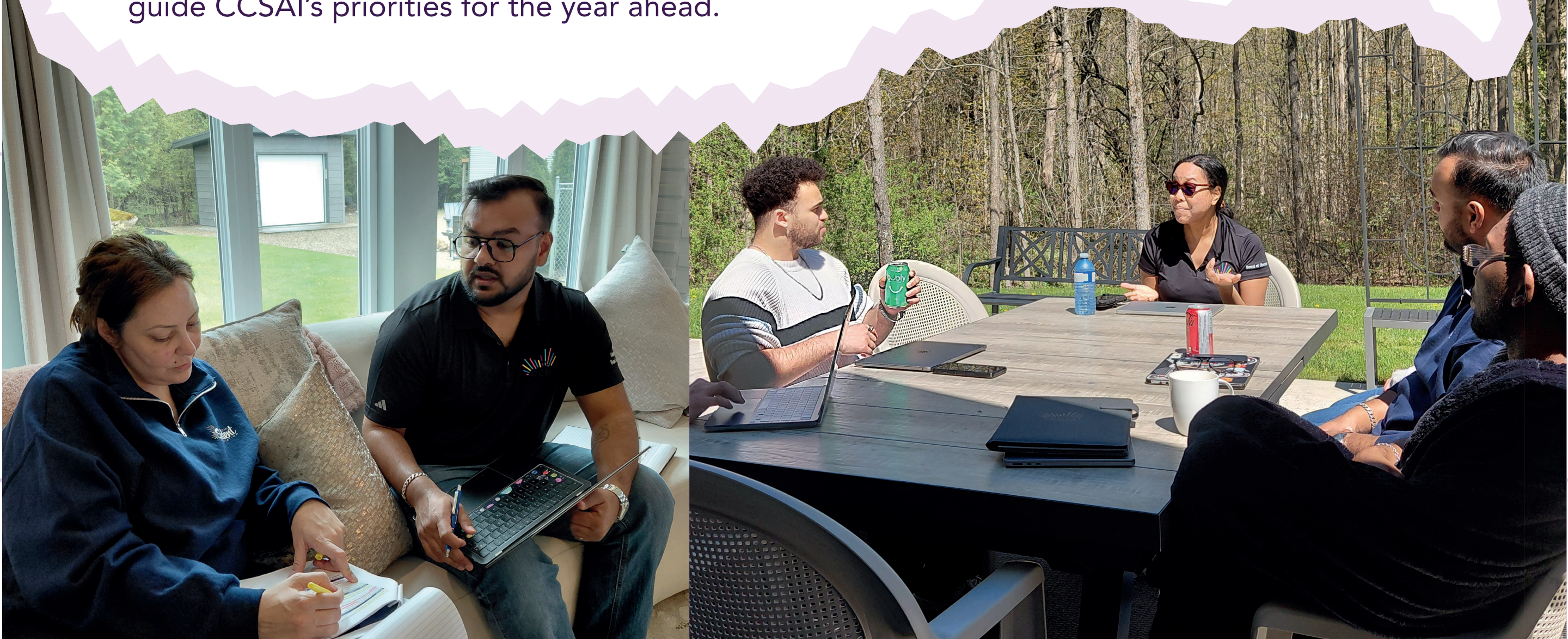
Setting the Tone: 2026 Board Retreat

Each spring, your Board of Directors heads off-site for our annual Board Retreat. This year marked a special milestone: CCSAI's newly created President's Executive Team joined for the very first time, making it their first Board Retreat too. From **May 12th to 18th**, the group gathered at a cottage near Owen Sound for a week of training, strategic planning, and team building.

Over the course of the retreat, the board worked through sessions on the Strategic Plan, communications, finance, and Indigenization, culminating in a draft Action Plan that will guide CCSAI's priorities for the year ahead.

The President's Executive Team then joined for a changeover, using their time to build individual work plans that support the board's broader goals. Beyond the work, the week also included plenty of team bonding: a video karaoke night, a "Hot Takes" activity where board members pitched and defended their hottest takes, and an evening spent around an outdoor campfire, because even board retreats need a little fun.

This time together helps set a strong foundation for how your student leaders will collaborate, communicate, and advocate on your behalf throughout the year.



Advocating Nationally: CASA Conference

Also **in May**, CCSAI's Vice-President of External Affairs Anjali Bhopal and President Logan Routhier travelled to the Canadian Alliance of Student Associations (CASA) conference, connecting with student delegates from across the country and diving into CASA's national advocacy priorities

One statistic that stood out: student unemployment currently sits at 20.1%, one of the highest rates Canada has seen. Beyond limiting students' ability to cover living expenses, this also cuts off access to the skills and work experience needed for long-term career success. Anjali noted that CASA is pushing the federal government for increased support for student employment, including the Canada Summer Jobs program, the Student Work Placement Program, and other work-integrated learning opportunities.

These conversations directly shape the advocacy priorities CCSAI brings back to Centennial, ensuring your concerns are represented not just on campus, but at the national level too.



What We Brought Back

"My experience"

at CASA was very rewarding. I had the opportunity to connect with student delegates from associations across Canada and learn about CASA's advocacy work. I attended sessions on policy development, including the PCR model (Principles, Concerns, and Recommendations), which guides policy positions and advocacy efforts. I also learned about CASA's priority themes, including the Canada Student Financial Assistance Program, the Post-Secondary Support Program, the Student Work Placement Program, indexed tri-council graduate awards, and Bill C-227, as well as CASA's various committees."

— *Anjali Bhopal*
(Vice President of External Affairs)



Introducing: Save Our Future

This summer, CCSAI also launched Save Our Future, a new student-led advocacy campaign raising awareness about the impact of recent OSAP changes and pushing for accessible, affordable post-secondary education across Ontario. Through its Instagram account, students can expect educational content breaking down the changes, campaign updates, student stories and interviews, and concrete ways to take action, including signing the petition and sharing their own experiences.

The goal is to empower students with accurate information, foster conversations about the future of post-secondary education, and build collective support for protecting accessible education for current and future students



Follow **@saveourfuture** on Instagram to stay informed and get involved.

Stay Tuned!

*Your CCSAI Board is here to represent **your voice** and advocate for what matters most.*

As we move into the summer months, we'll continue turning the ideas from our retreat into action, carrying what we learned at CASA into our advocacy work here at home, and growing campaigns like Save Our Future.



Stay tuned as we turn our plans into action and share more ways to get involved throughout the year.

