



**Winter 2021-Student Council Election Report**  
**CEO-Kessy Simbi**

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## **Forms**

In order to keep the elections running smoothly, two different forms were used for the Candidates to sign up and one for them to send their nominations. The Candidate form was a google form; it can be found below. The nomination form was a downloadable Word file that they could fill and email to the CEO. They both can be found below.

## **Nomination process**

We engaged a lot of attention with our social media and mass emails. We had a lot of people sign up as candidates, but far fewer people actually submit a complete nomination form. The CEO did reach out to them, and their reason varied, but a common theme was that "because we were online, they felt disconnected from classmates and did not know anyone well enough to ask for signatures." One candidate, in particular, had a problem with the number of signatures required and asked if it could be lowered. At that point, a good number of people were able to submit a form, so at the discretion of the CEO and to ensure equity among all nominees, the number of nominations was kept at 15. This, however, meant that the outreach in the department of Continuing Education was unsuccessful, and no nominations were received by the commission.

## **Candidates engagement**

After the all-Candidate meeting, five candidates recused themselves from the election. The reasons were once again varied, but they centred around the common theme of having misunderstood the role of the student council and their tasks. In this situation, it caused the departments of Social Science, Technical and Arts to be acclaimed because the number of the candidates dropped down to the required number. The science department was the only one that

had to be elected. In terms of following the rules of conduct and the procedure codes, the candidates were very flexible and made sure their campaigns were respectful and diplomatic.

### **Social Media and outreach**

The social media were efficient in our outreach as we have our Facebook and Instagram linked together. We ran over some issues with boosting our post as Facebook would not approve the boost because the post would be deemed "related to an election." We also posted a few ads on Omnivox, which helped us reach students with announcements and reminders. In retrospect, the best form of outreach we had was the mass emails to the entire members of the Union. It was after those emails that we saw our engagements go up. The emails are by far the best way for students to stay up to date with the elections commission.

### **Election Software**

Overall, the election software was easy to navigate, but we did encounter a few issues. Certain features that were key to the election were not activated, such as the segmentation feature, which is the way we could ensure that each student votes for someone in their respective program. This was fixed and activated with a simple email to the management team over at Simply Voting. We also encountered a couple of issues with the CSV files, and they did not transfer over to the software smoothly. We had to get new files from the school to try to input them into the software and eventually had to fix the kinks manually. The main concern with the software is their "help" manual; while it's very comprehensive, certain specific things were not explained fully in their guide, so we often had to email their team for minor details. However, their reply time was fast and efficient. A point that I found quite problematic to the software is that we can't run a simulation of the elections. We can preview the question/ballot, but the actual voting process could only happen when the election went live. Since it was our first time using it, it did put a certain level of stress on our shoulders.

## **Polling**

The election's software allowed us to follow the election closely when it was live. Since we had the student's emails, we sent email reminders to the students who didn't vote three times during the polling hours. After each email, we saw an increase in the voting numbers. We had a voter turnout of 389 (32.8%) out of 1186 electors on this election, with 34 (8.7%) of them choosing to abstain.

## **Aftermath**

No complaints or recounts requests were raised.

## **Budget**

The total expenditure for this election was: 4304.14\$. The detailed report can be found below.

## **Comments and recommendations**

Our biggest concern with the election was ensuring that all the students had access to the voting ballot. While the school's CSV file contained emails, we were uncertain of the validity and accessibility of those emails. For Future elections, we recommend using something more universal such as the students Dawson's email, to hopefully ensure a bigger voter turnout.

## Documents

### Expenditure

**Initial amount: 5000\$**

**\*LIST OF PRELIMINARY EXPENSES :**

Date	What	Price	Frequency of charge	Payment Status	Total \$ (CAD)
02/03/21	Elections software	3,888.17\$	1	Paid	3,888.17
01/28/21	First Half of the DEO's Honorarium	375\$	1	Paid	375
02/15/21-03/15/21	Canva Pro	16.99\$	2 (Once a month)	**Paid	33.98
03/18/21	Candidate expense-Editing software	6.99	1	Paid	6.99
TOTAL \$ (CAD)	-	-	-		4304.14

**Amount Left: 695.86\$**

\* This is not the final budget report. That will be converted into an excel spreadsheet at the end of both elections.

\*\* This is currently being paid out of pocket and will be claimed on the final budget.

## Candidate Application form

# Candidate Application Form

\*NOT TO BE CONFUSED WITH NOMINATIONS FORM\*

This google form is solely dedicated to the collection of information regarding the possible candidate for the different councillor position.

Along with answering the following questions, you will have to submit to the [ceo@dawsonstudentunion.com](mailto:ceo@dawsonstudentunion.com) email your nomination form that can be found on both the Facebook and Instagram of the Dawson Election commission, or you can also find it on the DSU Website.

Last day to complete this form and submit your nomination form is: February 15th 20201

All questions can be referred to [ceo@dawsonstudentunion.com](mailto:ceo@dawsonstudentunion.com)

\* Required

1. What is your full name? \*

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2. What is your Student ID number? \*

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3. What is your personal email adress? \*

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4. What is your phone number? \*

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Candidate Application form(Cont)

5. Please indicate if you have any pronouns you wish to be referred as. \*

\_\_\_\_\_

6. What is your program of study? \*

*Mark only one oval.*

- Social Sciences
- Sciences
- Creative and Applied Arts
- Technical
- Continued ED
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

7. For which councillor position are you running for? (This is In the events of a double DEC, otherwise, pick the same category as your program of study) \*

*Mark only one oval.*

- Social Sciences
- Sciences
- Creative and Applied Arts
- Technical
- Continued ED
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_



## Candidate Application form(Cont)

8. Do you grant permission to the DSU to display your image on our social media and website? \*

*Mark only one oval.*

Yes

No

9. Do you commit to abiding by the rules set out by the Elections Commission and the By-Laws of the Dawson Student Union? \*

*Mark only one oval.*

Yes

No

10. Once we gather all the nominations, you will be invited to an All-Candidate meeting to brush up on the rules and the election campaign procedure. Which of these two dates would be most convenient for you? (If the two dates are convenient, check both) \*The times are subject to change\* \*

*Check all that apply.*

Tuesday, 16th of February 2021 7pm

Wednesday, 17th of February 2021 7pm

Not available

Other:  \_\_\_\_\_

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This content is neither created nor endorsed by Google.

Google Forms

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Elections Results (Cont)



5160 Decarie Boulevard, Suite 502  
Montreal, QC, H3X 2H9 Canada  
1 (800) 585-9694

Apr 6, 2021

Dawson Student Union  
3040 Rue Sherbrooke West  
Office 2F.2  
Westmount, QC  
H3Z 3G4 Canada

To Whom It May Concern:

The following election results are certified by Simply Voting to have been securely processed and accurately tabulated by our independently managed service.

Respectfully yours,



Brian Lack  
President  
Simply Voting Inc.

**Results - Student Council Elections 2021**

**Start:** 2021-03-03 23:59:00 America/Toronto

**End:** 2021-03-05 16:00:00 America/Toronto

**Turnout:** 389 (32.8%) of 1186 electors voted in this ballot.

**Cast your vote for Science Student councillor**

Restricted to **SCIENCE**

Votes required to elect an option: 119



## Elections Results(Cont)

<b>ROUND1</b>		
	Adelka Felcarek-Hope	88 votes
	Inès Lamothe-Katrapani	85 votes
	Farah Mitry	69 votes
	Seyedeh Niosha Mostafavi	51 votes
	Julia Baran-Polansky	41 votes
	Ariana Rabbaninejad	21 votes
	Eliminated Ariana Rabbaninejad due to: lowest 1st preference	
<b>ROUND2</b>		
	Inès Lamothe-Katrapani	93 (+8) votes
	Adelka Felcarek-Hope	91 (+3) votes
	Farah Mitry	75 (+6) votes
	Seyedeh Niosha Mostafavi	53 (+2) votes
	Julia Baran-Polansky	43 (+2) votes
	Exhausted votes	0 votes
	Eliminated Julia Baran-Polansky due to: lowest 1st preference	
<b>ROUND3</b>		
	Inès Lamothe-Katrapani	104 (+11) votes
	Adelka Felcarek-Hope	100 (+9) votes
	Farah Mitry	90 (+15) votes
	Seyedeh Niosha Mostafavi	61 (+8) votes
	Exhausted votes	0 votes
	Eliminated Seyedeh Niosha Mostafavi due to: lowest 1st preference	
<b>ROUND4</b>		
	Inès Lamothe-Katrapani	142 (+38) votes
	Adelka Felcarek-Hope	113 (+13) votes
	Farah Mitry	100 (+10) votes
	Exhausted votes	0 votes
	Elected Inès Lamothe-Katrapani due to: highest 1st preference	
<b>ROUND5</b>		
	Inès Lamothe-Katrapani	Elected 142 votes
	Adelka Felcarek-Hope	113 votes
	Farah Mitry	100 votes
	Exhausted votes	0 votes
	Eliminated Farah Mitry due to: lowest 1st preference	
<b>ROUND6</b>		
	Inès Lamothe-Katrapani	Elected 190 (+48) votes
	Adelka Felcarek-Hope	165 (+52) votes
	Exhausted votes	0 votes
	Elected Adelka Felcarek-Hope due to: highest 1st preference	
<b>ROUND7</b>		
	Inès Lamothe-Katrapani	Elected 190 votes
	Adelka Felcarek-Hope	Elected 165 votes
	Exhausted votes	0 votes

*Certified Results*

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## Elections Results(Cont)

## VOTER SUMMARY

<b>Total</b>	389
<b>Abstain</b>	34 (8.7%)

