

BETHUNE COLLEGE FALL 2021 ELECTION CANDIDATES

First-Year Representatives

Sakshi Talwar

Being in the student council for 4 consecutive years in my high school provided me with the skills necessary to make the transition from high school to university a smooth one. I learned about responsibility and confidentiality when dealing with serious matters. I became more confident speaking in meetings, proposing original ideas, and working collaboratively with other executives and the student body. Student council is a great learning experience and provides transferable skills that are sure to help in my post-secondary endeavors.

Running for this position as an international student is important to me because I am an outgoing person and I wish to make networks, friends, understand the culture and the values here.

This position would give me the exposure that I need in my first year at York University and help me grow personally.

Brook Hann

I want to be on council because I really enjoyed my frosh it was amazing and the people running with were amazing. So now I want to contribute and be apart of Bethune council to work with those people to continue make this year great.

Sandra Raof

As a first year student at York, Bethune College has already played an important part of my transition into University. Through Frosh events and so many readily available student resources, my experience with Bethune has been amazing. I would love the opportunity to be a first year representative in Bethune College Council. I love to interact with others and meet new people. With that, I would want to encourage fellow first year students to join fun events and look out for important dates. I am always willing to lend a helping hand to others and I know that with a positive attitude, I can represent the spirit of Bethune College. I can bring creative ideas to the table and can work with others to execute their ideas and visions. I know I can be a great first year representative and I have what it takes to handle this position. So Bethune, vote for me!

Shon Lazarev

Taking what I have learned from grade 12, and heading into University, I feel that the lack of in-person and on-campus activities have decreased the opportunities for students to speak out and have their voices amplified. During online learning, I have felt disconnected from my school and my peers. I bet that others continue to feel the same way. I intend to take on the opportunity to make sure that my fellow first year students will look back forward to new experiences at York University, and have their voices acknowledged and empowered as we begin a new and important chapter in our lives.

Kenechukwu Oraka

I am running for this position because it will make me more exposed to my peers, several opportunities and upper year students who have been in my shoes in previous times. I want to make a wide range of connections and team up with other brilliant people who have the same drive to make a positive impact and gain more knowledge & experience about teamwork. I also want to make beneficial and long lasting friendships and to be a voice for other first year students in Bethune college, thereby ensuring all their needs are fully met in the best possible way as I can!

Kosy Oraka

Hi! I'm Kosy, and I'm a first year Engineering student. I'm interested in the first year representative position at YorkU's Bethune College Council. I would love to become one of the first year reps majorly because it will give me the opportunity to connect with so many other first years at York. Secondly, I want to use the opportunity to gain useful skills and relevant experience. I believe this will also help me show myself more to the YorkU community and develop myself personally most especially my already existing skills and those I am still yet to explore. I have useful leadership experience in the past, hence, I believe I have what it takes to hold this position. Thank you in advance.

Diyaa Ramchandani

First and foremost, I would like to run for this position to get to know my colleagues and establish a characteristic foundation of understanding between them and me, foster deep connections, and grow with them to make Bethune more than just a closely-knit community. This role requires multitasking and organization alongside, it emphasizes teamwork, leadership, and communication which are skills I would devote my energy to refine and channel into the Bethune community. At the end of the day, we are all one and our journey as first-years should begin with a bang! #BethuneandI

Faryal Shahzad

I am a first year Student, pursuing Actuarial Science. I am extremely passionate about joining bethune's student council and for this reason I would like to run for the post of first year representative. I firmly believe that I that I have an understanding of the issues being faced by fellow students while adjusting here at the new environment of yorku. I am extremely compassionate towards the needs of the students and possess the leadership qualities to ensure that all the freshers at yorku are able to sail through the initial hiccups and becomes comfortable with the new university atmosphere and. My aim would be to make sure that all students feel accepted and homely at Yorku. I attended frosh online and had a great experience which was as good as it being conducted in person. If elected, it would be my endeavour that all students get the best experience of Yorku.

zeba shaikh

I want to run this position to learn salutary, valuable, and good socializing behavior In fellowship and to become more capable of setting the equivalence between different levels of university and a 1st year entering student. And definitely to have a good and valuable experience as a representative. A new stage of life, new opportunities, and new steps for something new for a new founding just to make whole first year to leave a good impression behind.

General Members

Lara Leonida

In my 10 years in York University I have not had much participation in student activities. Thus, I would like to take this opportunity to experience Bethune college activities if I am chosen.

Mustafa Abdulkadhim

I am a second-year Biomedical student that would love to contribute more to York University Bethune College by helping other students especially those in the science department. Also, I have gained and learned many useful skills from high school and university as a student leader/helper and with those skills, I qualify to be a general member at Bethune College.

Maryam Salarian

Hey, y'all! My name is Maryam Salarian, and I am running for the General Member position. As a general member, I will be an active connection bond between you and the Council, ensuring that your voice will be heard. I, too, am a student, I am one of you, I understand you, and I stand

with you. Bethune greeted me with open arms and gave me a new home; I am here to pass this legacy on.

adhithya kurup

I am a third year environmental biology student who is an active Science student ambassador and research practicum student. I want to help incoming international students settle well here and be the voice of those students who do not like to be under the spotlight. I want to bring up equity, diversity and inclusion in our community.

setayesh Kazemi

Since I joined York last year, I haven't gotten the chance to become more involved in activities because of the pandemic situation and lack of familiarity with the state. So this year I'm taking a step towards involvement and participation in activities. Out of discussion I tried to read the rules for candidates but the link was not found.

Abisan Buvanendran

Hi, my name is Abisan. I'm in my second year running for the general member position because why not. Ok, but for real, get ready for this paragraph. Sorry in advance. Being a part of Bethune, I felt really at home since day 1. Everyone is so welcoming and kind, and I want to spread that Bethune love to the best of my ability. Now down to business, during my senior year of high school, I was an executive on my high school athletic council and was a general member for two years before that. On top of being an executive, I was also pretty involved with my school's regular student council, helping out with events and providing any other assistance they needed. So if I'm voted in as a general member, the first thing I'd like to do is get the Pentadragon discord server back up to run different events and competitions throughout the year. Events I would run are weekly or biweekly game nights (Minecraft, Jackbox, Valorant, Code Names, Spyfall, etc.) as well as occasional movie nights. Secondly, I would like to revive the Pentadragon Minecraft server to provide students with a pleasant distraction/break from school. Lastly, I would like to be the voice of the students. So if there's anything you want to see happen, have any suggestions, or have any concerns/questions, feel free to shoot me an email at abisanb@my.yorku.ca.

Usman Ahmed

I am currently in my 3rd year of biochemistry at York and have become very interested in holding a position at the Bethune college council since joining the various events held by the college last year. Through holding positions at different clubs (eg. AMSA york) and volunteering at multiple events, I feel like I've developed the leadership and teamwork skills required to be on

the Bethune College council, I look forward to leading and working alongside fellow Bethune council members to present the best experience possible to Bethune students.

Ariete Achiangia

Hi, I am Ariete (she/her). I am a second-year Biomedical sciences student. I see being part of BCC as a great way to get to know the students and contribute to the faculty. I am excited at the prospect of being part of this organization. I believe my background and experiences make me well-qualified to fill this position. I spent previous time on Student Council at my high school where I was elected as a representative. I believe I can greatly contribute to this community. I am dedicated, I listen well, I am assertive, I am organized, I am creative, I am friendly, accessible, and I would be honored to serve as a general member of this community. I look forward to interacting with the students during all our events and making this year a better one for all of us.

Mehdi Movahed

I am entering my third year and for the past one year and half I couldnt engage with other student. I always wanted to expand my network and meet and corporate with students. I am well aware of the policies at York and Bethune and I think I can preform very well in this position.

Arghavan Sammak Moghaddam (She/her)

Being part of the Bethune college general member gives me an opportunity to be part of my home college more officially and help in organizing different events that support incoming and new Bethune students to involved more during their university life. In addition, this role allows me to be part of the voice of Bethune college in representing students' voices to York University and by collaborating with other colleges, try to provide a better environment for future students.

Hard Parmar

I want to be part of the student council because it is was I like to do the most and I think I have good skills for the position. Being the member I would bring fun loving activities for the students while they cope up with the pandemic and their hectic schedule. Being a member I would be doing good for my school which I would love to do

VP Athletics

Sarah Abubaker and Arman Sadr

We want to be Bethune's VP Athletics because we wish to continue to support our college's involvement in sports here at York. We both have a strong passion for athletics and our college, and want to always be there for anyone's intramurals needs! Working on BAC together over the summer and the first bit of fall has been a great pleasure, and we'd love to continue it. We have an amazing athletic committee, and know that continuing this further into the school year would be an amazing opportunity.

Robin Gammell

As a firm believer that improving yourself physically goes hand-in-hand with mental improvement, I believe my knowledge from previous experiences as a student athlete will serve others well. Knowing what creates a successful student athlete is important for a role like the VP. Drive, determination, discipline... all are important traits that I feel can be properly integrated into the new ideas for the athletics program. I want to help unlock the powerful and successful individual within you; the individual that is capable of succeeding in all fields that they enter. I find satisfaction and happiness when I can make an impact on others lives that goes beyond a spare moment. With a background and accolades in soccer, competitive freestyle skiing, football, first aid, and trying out many other sports competitively and recreationally, I feel like I am equipped to handle the task of serving and representing the athletic community.

Sohaib Qaiser

My love for fitness and sports attracts me to this position. I have always helped my friends stay fit with helpful advice and steps to achieve their goal. I realize how difficult it can be for students to balance their academic and fitness lifestyle, I believe I can do some contributions to help them