

## Nicolai MacKenzie's Platform for VP Services



### **Who am I?**

Hi, my name is Nicolai MacKenzie and I am running for VP Services in the upcoming election. I am from the city of Belleville Ontario and I am currently in my third year of Environmental Science and Physical Geography minoring in Chemistry here at Nipissing University.

### **What is a VP Services?**

The Vice-President Services (VP Services) is the head of the Services department in Nipissing's student union, NUSU. The major duties are: organizing frosh week, managing the food bank, planning events for students, and managing the clubs on campus. The VP Services works with the board of directors as a member of the executive committee to provide the best possible services to students.

### **Why should I be your VP Services?**

I have lots of experience on campus that is valuable to this position. The 3 most valuable experiences I have had that have prepared me to be VP Services are:

1. Volunteering as the VP Athletics & Wellness as an Executive member of the Residents' Council for the Townhouse Residence Complex (2016-17).
2. Volunteering as President, 1<sup>st</sup> Year Rep., and 2<sup>nd</sup> Year Rep. of the Nipissing University Geography Club (2015-2018).
3. Working as a Residence Don as a member of the Residence Life Team in the Townhouse Residence Complex (2017-18).

Those 3 positions have each prepared me for work as VP Services in different ways. As VP Athletics & Wellness my main focus was to plan events for students living in residence themed towards well-being. That experience translates to what I believe to be the most exciting part of the VP Services position, which is planning amazing events for students to attend throughout the academic year.

Volunteering with the Geography Club since my 1<sup>st</sup> year has been an incredible experience. It is what introduced me to being involved outside of academics at Nipissing. This year, as president, I have had the pleasure of working with NUSU's executive team and geography students to plan some events such as trivia nights, a students vs. professors volleyball game, and provide some services for students such as clothing orders and textbook rentals. This knowledge of how NUSU's Clubs program works will assist me in managing the program next year as one of the primary duties of the VP Services.

I'm sure that most of you had a don at some point but for those who haven't lived in residence, a Residence Don is responsible for managing a community of students. Working closely with the students to help make residence their new(NU) home! Working as a Residence Don has taught me a lot about the students I have been lucky enough to work with, exposed me to many of the resources, activities, and services on campus, as well as giving me even more experience running events.

### **What are my plans if you elect me?**

If you elect me to be your VP Services for the 2018-19 academic school year, I will be in office from May 1<sup>st</sup> 2018 to April 30<sup>th</sup> 2019. During this time I plan to use your feedback to strive for excellence in the position. It is my goal to work closely with you, the students, to provide the best possible services and events throughout the entire year.

Frosh week is a big event each year and I will use my knowledge of event planning and frosh from my time at Nipissing to make frosh 2018 an incredible experience.

Services such as the food bank are important to many students and I plan to use my knowledge of the services on campus and experience working with students to promote the services provided to students because I believe that there are many students who are unaware of everything that is available to them.

There are many clubs on campus that do amazing things for students which is why I would be excited to have the opportunity to work with them and help promote their events and activities. As the current president of a club I have a great understanding of club's needs and what it is like being on the other side of club management.

Planning and running events is something that I have been lucky enough to be able to do already through multiple positions at the university and am looking forward to doing at an even larger scale, planning campus wide events for you next year. My experience of planning and running these events for multiple years has taught me about what it is that students want to see in the events provided for them.

I would work with the Residence Life Team to help integrate their core values with the values of the Services department and spread awareness throughout the entire student population. Incorporating their feedback with the feedback I receive from students will help to align my work with what you, the students, want. Planning events for students living in residence and students living off campus to attend together would help to make these more engaging and interactive while producing larger scale events with higher attendance!

Remember that I would appreciate your vote in the election!

-Nicolai MacKenzie