VICE-PRESIDENT OF FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION PLATFORM

Hello fellow Nipissing University students, thank you for taking the time to read my platform on how I, Ward Loveday aspire to promote change that best represents the interests of our student body. I believe I am the best candidate to provide students with the insight they deserve in regards to the operations of NUSU and how the Union addresses various issues that students face. My goals as VP are simple but crucial to understand how the annual NUSU budget is used to address the various issues of the student body. My aim is to provide students a greater understanding of how their voice can be heard to illicit actual change in our community, as well as provide a better understanding of how their student fees are used to benefit the student body. As a student-athlete and active participant in the institution, I have a high degree of understanding for the student body and the issues that affect us that I believe makes me the best candidate for VP.

My participation in the Nipissing community has been extensive, I have been a member of the Nipissing Field Lacrosse team for the past three years. This experience has allowed me to develop my leadership abilities, time management skills and communication abilities rooted in a high level of teamwork. I have held an employment position at the Nipissing Athletics Department for the past two years, allowing me to build crucial relationships with the members of the athletic community, as well as various groups who use the facilities. This past year I was approached by the Student Recruitment Department to become a volunteer ambassador of Nipissing and present the great qualities our small community has to offer to potential students. I am an active participant of the Nipissing University Student Alumni Association, a volunteer based group in the North Bay, and Nipissing community, various activities and benefits to our students and the surrounding community. Further, I am a mentor in the criminology department where we provide insight to the various streams of the criminology program to aid lower years with the tools they need to be the most effective student they can, as well as enjoy their undergrad program.

I believe these employment and volunteer experiences have allowed me to gain a comprehensive understanding and build quality connections to our student body in both academics and athletics. This is why I believe I am the best candidate for the position of Vice-President.

When I am elected, I aim to build on the exceptional foundation that the NUSU finance office has created. While I do believe that they are currently providing quality and effective programs that better the university experience for students, there is always room to improve and provide a more inclusive experience for students. Below I will outline how I propose to do this, as well as my focus points as VP of Finance and Administration.

I believe transparency is crucial to building a representative platform that aims to address the various issues students face. Furthermore, I believe that transparency entails more than simply providing information on the issues NUSU currently addresses. To me and within my term as VP, I will aim to provide students with a transparency that creates easier access to relevant information in regards to finances, as well as ensuring students are able to present issues they may face in a manner that creates change for the betterment of the student body. I believe that in an academic institution such as this, it is essential that we know where and how our fees are being used to provide us with the best possible student services in a manner that considers the voice of the students themselves. See below, my extensive (but not exhaustive) list of how I aim to implement such transparency as I discussed previously.

* Student Health Plan: As all students should be aware, Nipissing University provides us with extensive options regarding medical issues. However, there are many students who are unaware that you may opt out of this program if it is unneeded and save yourself some fees. This is one example that I believe students need to be better informed, as well as have the ability to provide input on the lack, or unused services the health care may provide.
* The New Student Centre: As everyone has seen, the student centre is excitingly nearing its completion. With this, comes a variety of activities and options for students to take advantage of the new space. However, these activities and spaces are all privy to the annual budget, which I will ensure provides the most effective use of the space in an inclusive manner that will not cost the student body an increase in tuition fees.
* The Annual Budget: I will reassess the effectiveness and efficiency of the annual budget and ensure it is being spent in a manner that benefits the most students possible. Furthermore, I will allow students to give insight on issues they believe need to see an increase/decrease in funding. This will allow us to make changes to the 2020/2021 budget while considering the implications it has on students.

Thank you very much for taking the time to read my platform and considering me for VP of Finance and Administration. When I am elected I will implement the proposed changes in a timely manner to better cater to the needs of our student body. If you have any further questions please do not hesitate to reach out and ask me. I can be contacted via email at Waloveday822@community.nipissingu.ca as well as instagram @wardloveday19, where I will be featuring the various aspects of my campaign!