



Executive Council Candidate Information Sessions

Thursday Jan 13 @ 3:00 pm
Wednesday Jan 19 @ 8:00 am
Thursday Jan 27 @ 3:00 pm
Tuesday Feb 1 @ 2:00 pm

All-candidates Meeting Feb 1st @ 4:45 pm



Executive Council Positions Available in 2022/2023

President - Official spokesperson for the student body

Contact: Jerilyn Kotelniski - sapresident@nait.ca

Vice President Academic - Advocates for & assists students with academic questions and issues

Contact: Renata Medeiros - savpacademic@nait.ca

Vice President External - Represents students' interests to external policymakers and officials

Contact: Natalie Sarzynski - savpexternal@nait.ca

Vice President Internal - Leads and promotes healthy student engagement in campus life at NAIT

Contact: Jorgia Moore - savpinternal@nait.ca

Welcome

Presented by:

Chris Chelmick

Executive Director

chrisc@nait.ca

This session covers...

- ❖ Information about the executive positions
- ❖ How NAITSA works (different roles and the reporting structure)
- ❖ How to be successful as an Executive
- ❖ Your fiduciary duty
- ❖ Nomination and campaign tips
- ❖ What to expect if you are elected

We will not cover...

- ❖ **Why** you want to serve on Executive Council
- ❖ What **position** you will run for
- ❖ Material you should **read** carefully on your own:
 - ❖ NAITSA Bylaws & everything in the Nomination Package
- ❖ **Before you run, do as much as you can to fully understand the commitment, the perks / sacrifices to being an Executive Council member through April 2023.**

President

Official spokesperson for the student body

The President acts as the primary spokesperson for NAITSA, chairs executive council meetings, supervises the Executive Director on behalf of Executive Council, and acts as liaison to NAIT administration, NAIT alumni, student members of the NAIT Board of Governors and various campus student groups. The President must show strong leadership skills as they support the other members of Executive Council and the Executive Director.

Vice President Academic

Helps with any questions and issues regarding studies at NAIT

The Vice President Academic represents students with academic-related grievances. They act as an advocate in situations of conflict, directing students to resources in the NAIT community, assisting them in understanding their student rights and responsibilities and how NAIT's policies and procedures apply to them. They offer advice, guidance, and advocate for policy changes. This role acts as a liaison to NAIT Academic council, NAIT's Academic Staff Association and the office of the Ombudsperson. They are also responsible for appointing students-at-large to NAIT's Academic Council.

Vice President External

Represents student interests throughout campus, city, and province

The Vice President External focuses primarily on external relations and advocacy. They advocate on students' behalf to various external bodies such as NAIT administration, local municipalities and the Federal and Provincial governments. The Vice President External meets with administrators, MLAs and MPs on issues such as tuition and fees, financial aid, transit service and many others. They sit on various committees and travel to attend conferences within the province and across the country.

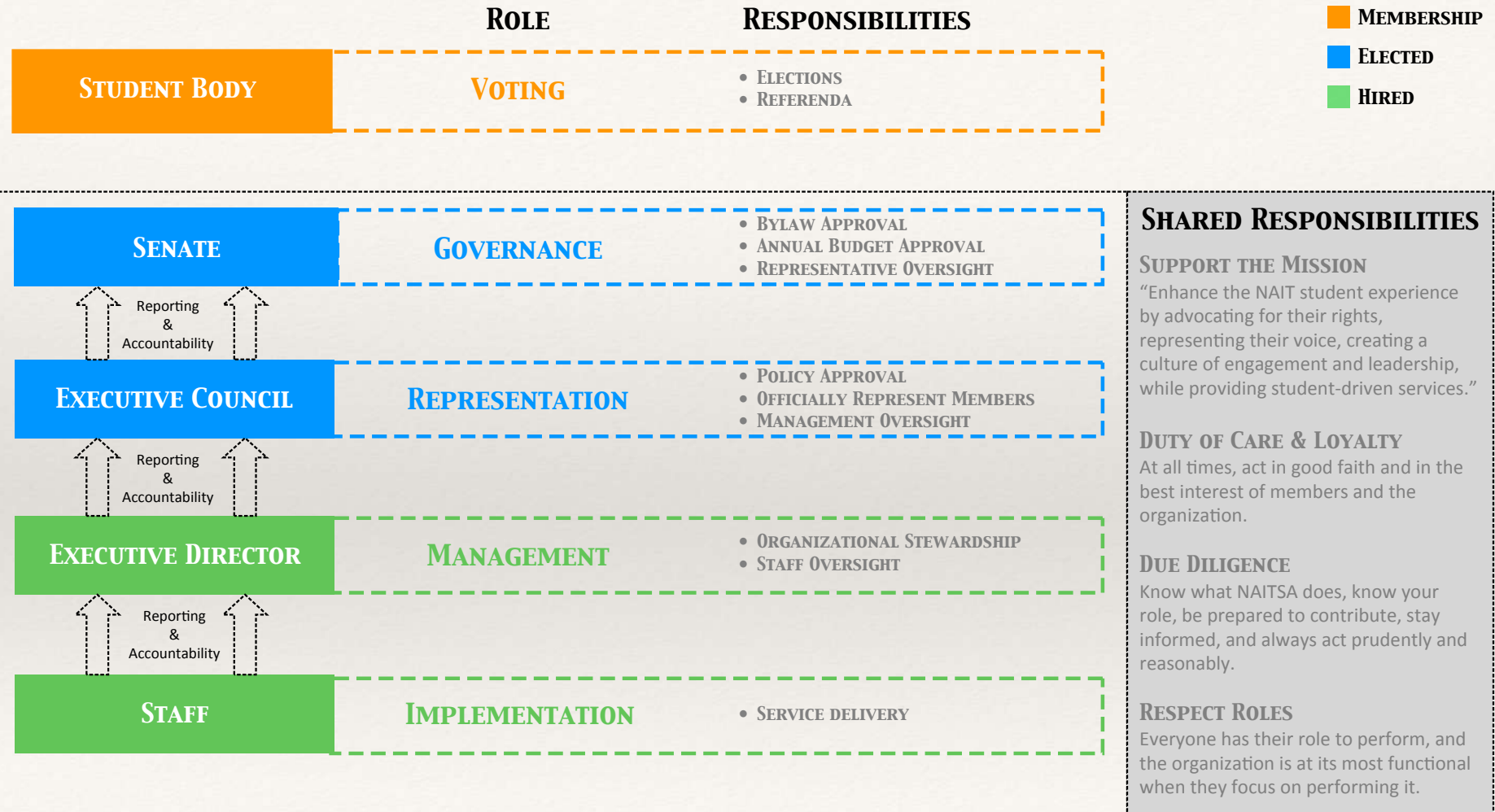
Vice President Internal

Fosters Campus Life at NAIT

The Vice President Internal works to provide essential services to students and enhance the student experience at NAIT. This position works in collaboration with the NAITSA Campus Life department. They work with the Campus Activities Board (CAB) and the events team to develop the NAITSA events calendar for the year. This position also acts as liaison to NAIT's Student Life department. It is the responsibility of the Vice President Student Services to chair CAB meetings, and to collaborate with department leaders, attend events, and participate in Clubs retreat.

How does NAITSA work?

NAITSA - Roles & Accountability Structure



Key Traits for Success on Executive Council

- ❖ Eagerness to learn and grow
- ❖ Desire to develop your executive presence
- ❖ Passion for helping all students
- ❖ Ability to remain non-partisan
- ❖ Contributing team member
- ❖ Emotional balance (thinking/feeling brain)
- ❖ Skilled communicator
- ❖ Integrity and accountability
- ❖ Empathy and perspective
- ❖ Humility and self-awareness
- ❖ Inspirational positivity and confidence



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EXECUTIVE COUNCIL TESTIMONIALS

Get the inside scoop from former Executive Council members.

GILLIAN BILODEAU

VP Student Services 2014-15

"[Being a NAITSA Executive Council member] It's like having an entire student population being your boss. There's a lot of responsibility to make sure you're fulfilling your promises but also help bring things to the table that maybe they didn't even know they wanted at the end of the day. It's an experience that will benefit you throughout your entire career, you'll take pieces of what you've learned and



JOHN PEROZOK

President 2016-17

"I learned how to network, how to work with the government, how to deal with high stress. (...) It was awesome because it wasn't easy, it was uncomfortable for me. I learned so much about myself. My strengths, my weaknesses, and what I need to work on to be successful in the workplace going forward. It's something that change my life

JUSTIN NAND

President 2015-16 | VP External 2014-15

"If you want to help students, run for NAITSA Executive Council. They'll train you, and they'll make sure that you do the best job you can do for the students. All we need is students that want to help people, and the rest will be taken care of."



JONATHAN BILODEAU

President 2013-14 | VP Student Services 2012-13

"For whoever take those roles, it'll completely redefine their lives. It'll force them to search inside themselves, dig as deep as they can, and really expose their character for who they are, because that's what the job is. The job is defining yourself, and defining yourself in service to others."

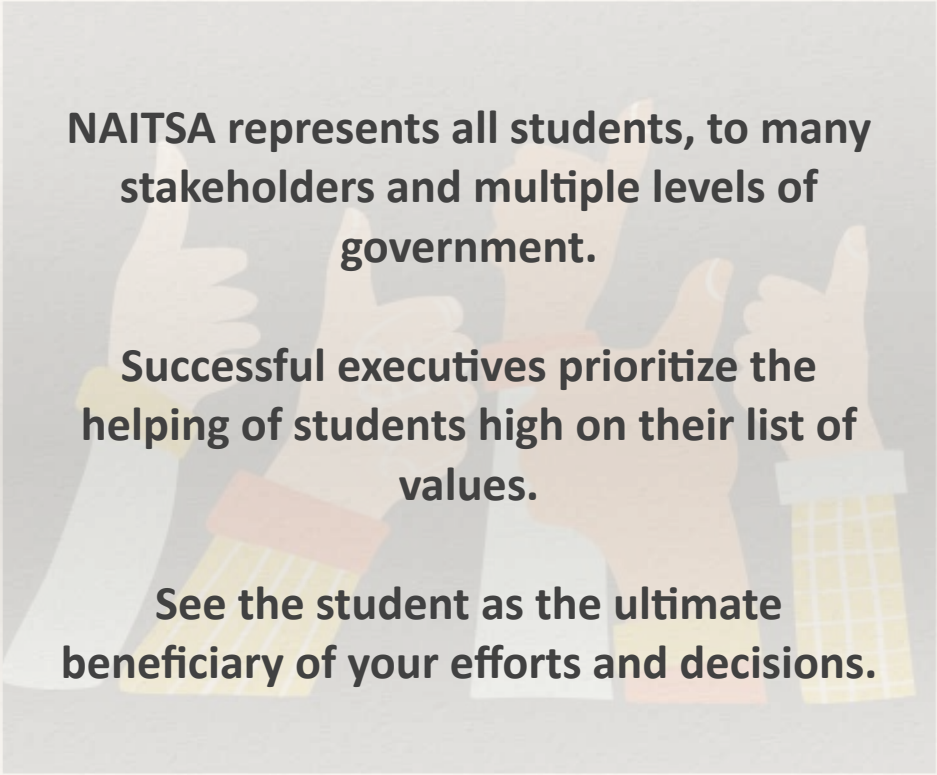
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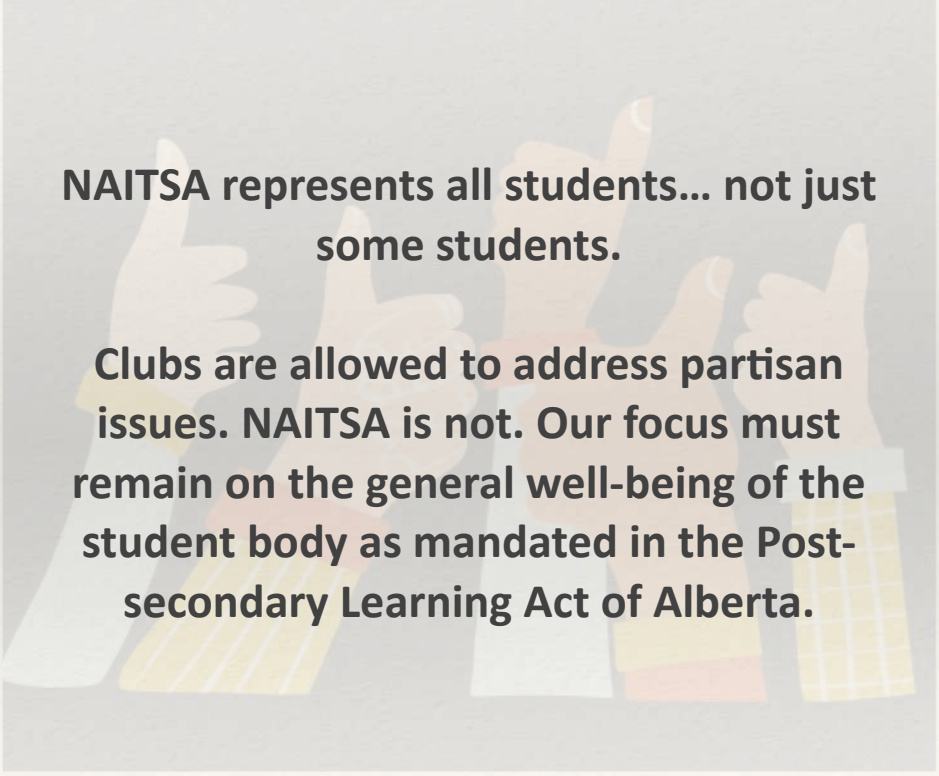
NAITSA represents all students, to many stakeholders and multiple levels of government.

Successful executives prioritize the helping of students high on their list of values.

See the student as the ultimate beneficiary of your efforts and decisions.

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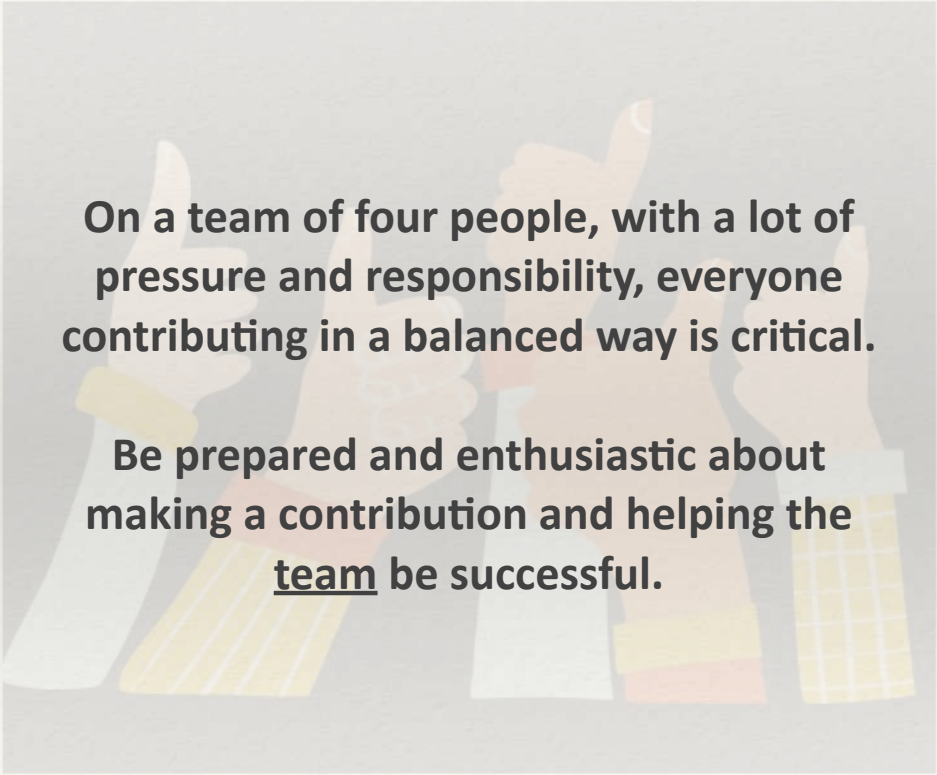


NAITSA represents all students... not just some students.

Clubs are allowed to address partisan issues. NAITSA is not. Our focus must remain on the general well-being of the student body as mandated in the Post-secondary Learning Act of Alberta.

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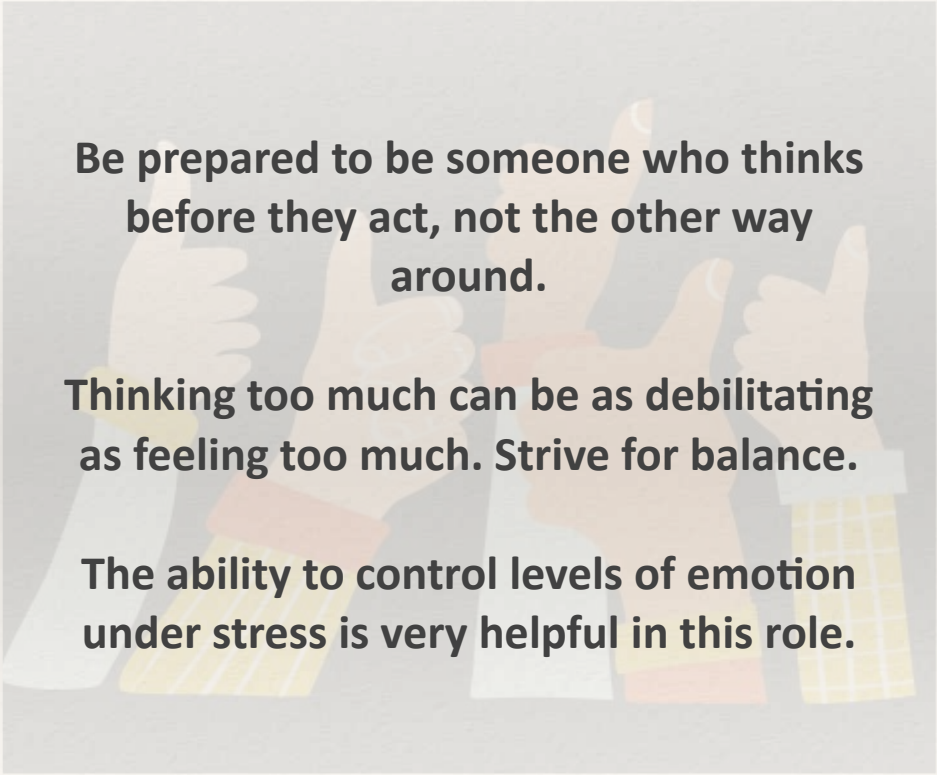


On a team of four people, with a lot of pressure and responsibility, everyone contributing in a balanced way is critical.

Be prepared and enthusiastic about making a contribution and helping the team be successful.

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Be prepared to be someone who thinks before they act, not the other way around.

Thinking too much can be as debilitating as feeling too much. Strive for balance.

The ability to control levels of emotion under stress is very helpful in this role.

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Not required to start the role, but be prepared to have plenty of opportunities throughout the year to become a very skilled communicator

- **Public speaking**
- **Presentations and orientations**
- **Media interviews**
- **Negotiations**
- **Networking and relationship building**

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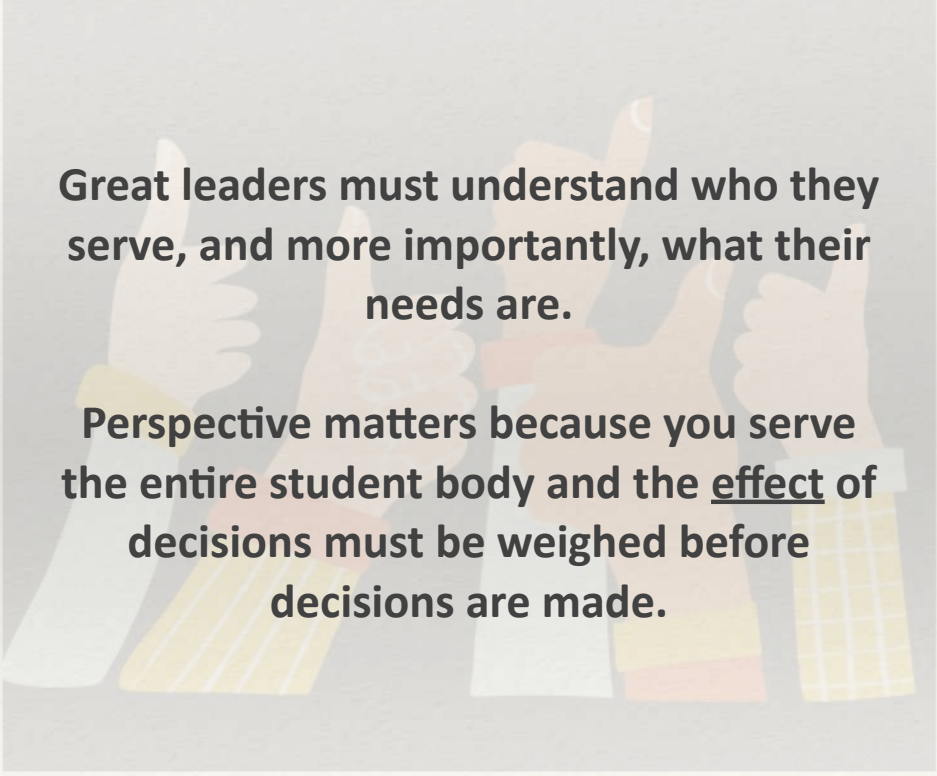
Executives have an elevated profile on campus. The spotlight can be bright.

Self-motivation is critical.

(Pro tip: Review your social media history and take appropriate action)

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Great leaders must understand who they serve, and more importantly, what their needs are.

Perspective matters because you serve the entire student body and the effect of decisions must be weighed before decisions are made.

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Leaders inspire through their actions and behaviours.

“Self-confidence is the fundamental basis from which leadership grows. Trying to teach leadership without first building confidence is like building a house on a foundation of sand. It may have a nice coat of paint, but it is ultimately shaky at best.”

Francisco Dao

Fiduciary Duty

- ❖ To have accepted legal responsibility to act in the best interest of someone else.
- ❖ NAITSA Executives are fiduciaries for the NAIT student body - are obliged to act on their behalf, and for their benefit.
- ❖ A breach of Fiduciary Duty is serious and can be...
 - ❖ any behaviour that is not in the best interest of the membership
 - ❖ any action that solely benefits the fiduciary
 - ❖ or any failure by the fiduciary to be completely transparent with important information (i.e. information that could cause real harm to the members or the organization.)
- ❖ NAITSA carries an insurance policy for Directors & Officers Liability, but it does not cover intentional breaches of fiduciary duty.

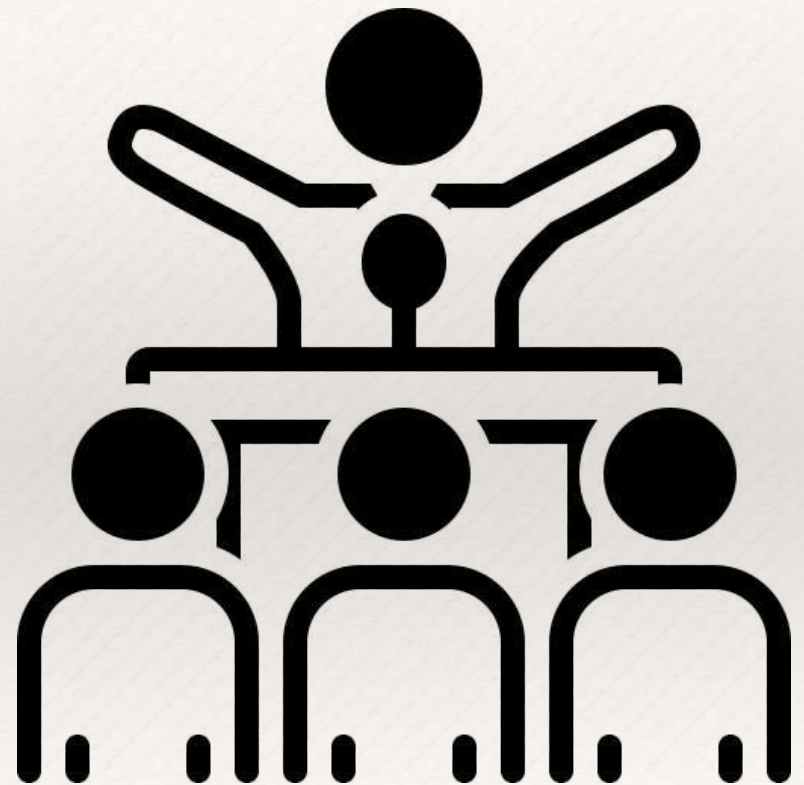
Nomination Tips

- ❖ Figure out what position you would like to run for, and **know why you want to run.**
- ❖ Get a nomination package and follow the instructions.
- ❖ Submit the completed nomination package prior to the deadline:
 - ❖ **Tuesday, February 1st at 4:00 p.m.**
- ❖ Ask questions!!!
 - ❖ Leeanne Mills
 - ❖ Deputy Returning Officer, Jerilyn Kotelniski
 - ❖ Current Executive Council members



Campaign Tips

- ❖ Understand what promises you can and cannot make
- ❖ Follow the rules and seek clarity when necessary
- ❖ Don't rely on posters and social media - NAITSA campaigns are won by meeting students and talking with them about their concerns
- ❖ You will make an impression with your campaign
 - ❖ Politicians, NAIT administrators, and other stakeholders will be watching



“What if I win?”

- ❖ Term of office is one year
 - ❖ Training March 1 to April 30 (10 hrs/wk)
 - ❖ Full-time role from May 1st, 2021 to April 30th, 2022
- ❖ Executive Retreat is mandatory
 - ❖ End of April, tbd (after exams, before convocation)
- ❖ Limits on number of classes you can enrol in as an Executive
- ❖ Some conference travel may be required



“What if I win?”

- ❖ Salary position, paid on 15th and last day of the month (est. \$43,000/year)
- ❖ Health/Dental/Vision benefits
- ❖ Tuition paid by NAITSA (only domestic tuition rate)
- ❖ Office space & computer provided
- ❖ Parking or transportation provided
- ❖ Mobile phone reimbursement (partial)
- ❖ RRSP matching contribution to 5%
- ❖ Professional development and executive coaching provided
- ❖ 10 Vacation Days* & 10 Personal Choice Days



“What if I win?”

- ❖ Train during March & April
- ❖ Maintain regular office hours during term, some weekend days and weeknights required
- ❖ Representation duties
- ❖ EC team responsibilities
- ❖ Operational oversight (Executive Council meetings)
- ❖ Special projects related to your role
- ❖ Accountable to EC and Senate
 - ❖ Written reports in advance of meetings
- ❖ Fulfill your fiduciary duty
- ❖ Carry a baton for a year, and then pass it on in better condition than you found it.



Questions?

Good luck!

- ❖ Thank you for attending.
- ❖ Contact NAITSA Administration Director Leanne Mills for more election-related information
 - ❖ leeannem@nait.ca
 - ❖ DRO - sapresident@nait.ca
- ❖ NAITSA Election Website
 - ❖ elections.naitsa.ca

