

Re-Elect Student Senator:**Cole J. Kennedy****Senate 2024-2025****Biography**

Cole is a UVic B.A. (Hons.) graduate (2021) and current Doctoral Clinical Neuropsychology student in the Department of Psychology. A passionate researcher, his previous research examined concussion among elite athletes through patient-centered approaches. Broadly, his more recent research aims to better the lives of people struggling with brain injury, mental health, and addiction-related disorders. At the departmental level, Cole has held research and teaching positions and serves on several committees, including the Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (EDI) Committee, where he advocates for students and promotes EDI through programs and events. Elected last year for a one-year term (2022-2023), Cole is a dedicated Student Senator. He serves on multiple Senate committees, representing the interests of students and steering change such as new degree programs, changes to existing programs, and the creation of a new Faculty of Health at UVic. Professionally, Cole has worked for non-profits in the fields of social services and healthcare.

Re-Election Platform

As a UVic student of six years and counting, I am committed to enhancing the student experience. With your input and guidance, I hope to be re-elected to Senate and promote equitable and lasting change, including:

1. Prioritize student mental health and well-being, including policy surrounding student mental health and coursework, and increased accessibility to culturally informed services;
2. Increase funding, research opportunities, and access to specialized training for students at the undergraduate and graduate levels;
3. Need-based financial aid and fair tuition, with acknowledgment of issues such as international student fees, the housing crisis, and the rising cost of living;
4. Promote EDI programs and initiatives campus wide, including inclusive recreation and club-based programming.

With your support, I hope to advance these priorities and more as a Student Senator.



Cole J. Kennedy
January 19, 2024