



Trent Durham
Student Association
Previous Referendums
and Results

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Multi Question Referendum, Fall (November) 2023

During this Fall By-Election cycle, the TDSA is running two (2) referendum questions to be voted upon by the general membership. If you are interested in running a Yes or No side for either referendum, please email elections@mytdsa.ca.

Summer Bus Pass

Do you support expanding the Durham Region Transit UPASS program to include the summer term? The cost for summer 2024 is \$150. (This fee will only be charged to full-time students in the summer, taking at least 1.5 credits of which at least one course is in-person)

- Yes
- No
- Abstain

The terms and reference for this referendum can be found [here](#)

Results of the referendum

Yes: I agree – 344 votes (92.72%)

No: I do not approve the fee – 14 votes (3.77%)

Abstain: I decline to cast my vote – 13 votes (3.50%)

[Referendum Package](#)

VP Title Change

Do you agree that the Trent Durham Student Association (TDSA) Membership should approve the Vice President University Affairs (VPUA) title change to Vice President External Affairs (VPEA)?

- Yes
- No
- Abstain

The terms and reference for this referendum can be found [here](#)

Results of the referendum

- Yes: I agree – 249 votes (67.12%)
- No: I do not approve the change – 38 votes (10.24%)
- Abstain: I decline to cast my vote – 84 votes (22.64%)

[Referendum Package](#)

Continuation of the Food Bank, Fall (September) 2023

In conjunction with the TDSA Fall By-Election, the TDSA is running a referendum question to be voted upon by the general membership. If you are interested in running a Yes or No side for this referendum, please email elections@mytdsa.ca.

Question:

Do you agree that the Trent Durham Student Association (TDSA) Membership should approve the continuation of a \$0.73 per credit fee in order to facilitate the maintenance of a food support program on the Durham campus?

Yes

No

Abstain

The terms and reference for this referendum can be found [here](#).

Results of the referendum

Yes: I agree – 188 votes (58.39%)

No: I do not approve the fee – 103 votes (31.99%)

Abstain: I decline to cast my vote – 31 votes (9.63%)

[Referendum Package](#)

Joining Canadian Alliance of Student Association, Winter 2023

In conjunction with the Annual TDSA Winter Election, the TDSA is running a referendum question to be voted upon by the general membership. If you are interested in running a Yes or No side for this referendum, please email elections@mytdsa.ca.

Question:

Do you agree that the Trent Durham Student Association (TDSA) should formally join the Canadian Alliance of Student Association at the conclusion of the 2022/2023 academic year?

The terms and reference for this referendum can be found [here](#).

Results

Yes: I agree – 277 votes (80.06%)

No: I do not approve the fee – 13 votes (3.76%)

Abstain: I decline to cast my vote – 56 votes (16.18%)

[Referendum Package](#)

Off Campus Housing Support Fee, Winter 2022

In conjunction with the Annual TDSA Winter Election, the TDSA is running a referendum question to be voted upon by the general membership. If you are interested in running a Yes or No side for this referendum, please email elections@mytdsa.ca

Question:

Do you support an annual non-refundable Off Campus Housing Support Fee of \$5.25 per term for full time and \$1.40 per course for part time undergraduate students?

The terms and reference for this referendum can be found [here](#).

Results

Yes: I approve the fee – 68 votes (28.69%)

No: I do not approve the fee – 110 votes (46.41%)

Abstain: I decline to cast my vote – 59 votes (24.89%)

Multi Question Referendum, Winter 2020

In conjunction with the Annual TDSA Winter Election the TDSA is running two (2) referendum questions to be voted upon by the general membership.

Food Bank on Campus

Question #1:

Be it resolved that the Membership of the Trent Durham Student Association approve the initiation of a \$0.70 per credit fee in order to facilitate the creation and maintenance of a food bank on campus associated with Feed the Need

Durham and maintained by trained TDSA staff.

Be it further resolved that this fee will be voted on again in the 2023 electoral cycle and every three years subsequently.

Lock on By-Laws

Be it resolved that the membership of the Trent Durham Student Association pass the following bylaws to govern the Trent Durham Student Association.

Be it further resolved that, with the exception of bylaws 4 and 5, the bylaws be locked for changes until September 1st, 2025.

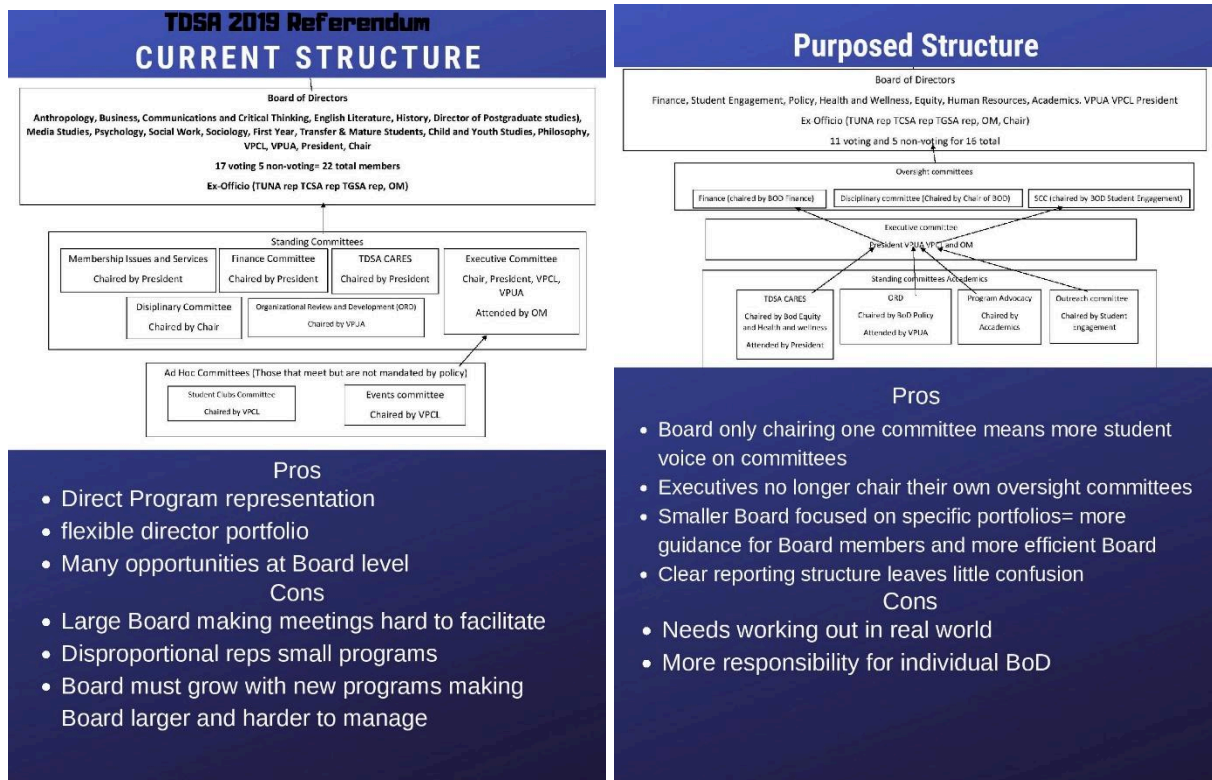
[By Laws to be voted for approval](#)

Restructuring of the Board of Directors Referendum, January 18, 2019

Whereas the Trent Durham Student Association Board of Directors is proposing the restructuring of the Trent Durham Student Association (TDSA) Board of Directors to dissolve the current model and instead to be replaced by eight (8) Directors in total including:

- Finance, Student Engagement, Policy, Health and Wellness, Equity, Human Resources, Outreach, and Academics.

Whereas these members will be tasked with chairing the committees mirroring their specializations. Whereas the current model of representation disproportionately represents students in smaller programs and the new model allows for more student participation at the committee level and a more efficient distribution of resources at the executive level.



Results:

Total Votes: 218

Yes: 183

No: 16

Abstain: 19

Athletics Referendum, April 3rd, 2018

As we enter a new contract year with the city of Oshawa, the membership fees for 2018-19 have increased by \$10.46 in order to maintain the same level of service. The membership fee increase has been reviewed and the TDSA Board of Directors has approved that the following question be put to a vote.

Motion:

Do you approve of an increase of \$10.46 to the Athletics Fee to cover the increase in cost of the athletics membership with the City of Oshawa?

Result:

Total Votes- 147

Yes- 77

No- 61

Abstain- 9

Athletics Referendum, February 17th, 2018

The Trent Durham Student Association agreed to transfer daily operations of the Athletics Program to Trent University Durham for the 2017-18 academic year. The University was able to increase the capacity of the program using supplemental resources which resulted in additional programming and significant growth in participation rates. The program has been reviewed and the TDSA Board of Directors has approved that the following questions be put to a vote.

Question:

Do you approve of the Trent Durham Student Association Athletics Fee to be converted into the Student Services Athletics Fee, thereby allowing Trent University to manage the athletic memberships and programs and allowing students to retain oversight of the program through a student majority based Athletics committee, commencing for the 2018/19 academic year?

If you vote YES:

The day-to-day operation of the athletics program will be run by Trent University. The university will provide additional assistance to the program through staffing, management, budget, and stability. The university will continue to research and improve the athletics program and fitness memberships under the guidance of an athletics committee comprised of a majority of students.

If you vote NO:

The day-to-day operation of the athletics program will be run by members of the Durham Campus student body, through the Trent Durham Student Association, and financed through existing levies with student organization support. The university will not be able to provide additional assistance to the program through finance or staffing.

Result:

Yes- 252 votes

No- 36 votes

Abstain- 54 votes

Health & Dental Plan Referendum, March 21st, 2016

The Trent Durham Student Association is conducting a referendum to improve the Health & Dental plan. The current TDSA Health and Dental Plan is funded by a premium each student pays through ancillary fees. If students show proof of external health insurance coverage, they can opt-out of this plan and receive a reimbursement.

The cost of our current Health and Dental Plan is increasing; current claims made by our membership far exceed (by about 10%) the total amount of funds our current provider receives to offer us these benefits. The TDSA needs student approval for fee increases in excess of 5%. If students do not approve the fee increase of \$62.00, benefits will be reduced significantly.

TDSA is planning to use a fee increase as an opportunity to seek out a new Insurance provider and to improve and rebrand TDSA's Health and Dental Plan service to better serve our membership and make the most of the premium they pay for this service.

C&C Insurance ("VIP") is our new Insurance provider. They are the current provider for Trent Central Student Association (TCSA). By partnering with C&C and TCSA, TDSA is able to offer our membership a significantly better Health and Dental Plan while maintaining a "low" premium and remaining autonomous. (For instance, without TCSA's partnership, the "new" plan would actually cost the TDSA membership a premium of \$320+ so while we are approving an increase, we are still getting a great deal on this new plan). C&C Insurance has demonstrated their commitment to a responsible business philosophy to both TCSA and TDSA, and so TDSA is looking forward to this new partnership.

The TDSA Health and Dental Plan Referendum will begin March 23rd and will conclude March 30th. It will be conducted online. Students will receive an email with a link to the referendum question. Email admin@mytdsa.ca for more information.

Result:

Total votes: 209

For: 80%

Against: 18%

Abstain: 1%

U-Pass and Continuation of Services Referendum, March 24th, 2014

U-Pass

The U-Pass is a Durham Region Transit bus pass for students. It is included in the student levy fees paid by each full time student. The cost of the U-Pass is increasing from \$147 to \$240 per year over the next 3 years.

Vote Yes: U-PASS continues, students continue to pay the transit fee. All full-time students will have unlimited access to Durham Transit.

Vote No: U-PASS discontinues, students no longer pay the transit fee. Students will be required to purchase passes directly through Durham Transit.

Results:

Turnout- at least 150

Vote Passed

Continuation of Services

The following levies are collected from Trent Oshawa students on behalf of TOSA:

Athletics levy: \$103.05 (\$12.88/month)

Health and Dental Benefits: \$192.66 (16.06/month)

Walksafe levy: \$2.50 (\$0.31/month)

The contracts for these services are negotiated with 3rd party providers on behalf of students by TOSA and the University. Due to contractual obligations, including inflation, the cost of running these services negligibly increases each year, however, under current student bylaws and protocols, the associated costs have not been able to be collected from students thereby threatening the ability to continue offering these services to Trent Oshawa students.

Yes: Continue Services

- All Trent Oshawa students will continue to pay the TOSA levies, including annual increases of up to 5%
- All Trent Oshawa students will continue to have membership access to City of Oshawa athletic facilities, Walksafe, and Health & Dental benefits

No: Discontinue TOSA services

- Trent Oshawa students will no longer have access to the following services:
 - o Membership to City of Oshawa athletic facilities
 - o Walksafe
 - o Health & Dental benefits

Result:

Vote Passed

Multi Question Referendum, April 4, 2011

TOSA Fee

Do you approve a Trent in Oshawa Student Association (TOSA) fee of \$28.00 per credit to be paid by full-time, part-time and web students?

If you vote YES: You agree to pay a TOSA levy, per credit, for the 2011-2012 year. You will have a dedicated team of student representatives who will be better able to address your concerns and interests. If you vote yes you will see more on/off campus events, clubs and funding, and a larger dedicated student staff working for you

If you vote NO: Events, clubs and funding, and student representation will be minimal. The TOSA fee will remain \$23.00 for the 2011-2012.

- a. Yes, I approve the increase in the TOSA fee of \$5 to \$28 per credit
- b. No, I do not approve the increase in the TOSA fee of \$5 to \$28 per credit

Result:

- a. 113 (52.6%)
- b. 102 (47.4%)

Athletics

To you approve an athletic fee of \$103.05 to be charged to both full-time and part-time students? This fee will give you access to athletic facilities for an 8 month period from September to April. Please note: this fee is pending approval from the City of Oshawa.

If you vote YES: You will gain access to the pool, indoor and outdoor track, and fitness facilities at the Oshawa Civic Centre located directly south of the Thornton Road campus for the eight-month period. You also gain access to the pools, tracks, ice rinks, and fitness centres at the Legends Community Centre in North Oshawa and South Oshawa Community Centre and all other branches of the City of Oshawa recreational facilities. Students may also opt for add on options for racket sports, fitness and other recreational course for an additional cost. In addition, Trent will organize and procure recreational space for intramural programming consisting initially of pick up or team soccer, ultimate Frisbee and other activities and club programs to be developed as funding and student interest permits.

If you vote NO: No fitness fee would be charged. Students can seek their own memberships at various fitness facilities individually. For your reference, a full-time student 12-month membership (18 and under) at the City of Oshawa is currently \$217.00 and an adult membership (over 18) is \$326.00

- a. Yes, I approve the athletic fee of \$103.05 for all students.
- b. No, I do not approve the athletic fee of \$103.05 for all students.

Results:

- a. 121 (57.6%)
- b. 89 (42.4%)

Walksafe

Do you approve a Walksafe fee of \$2.50 per credit to be paid by full-time and part-time students?

If you vote YES: A Walksafe program will be established on the Trent Oshawa campus. This program will allow students to request a trained volunteer to walk them safely to their car or bus stop within the campus vicinity. This program will operate for an eight month period from September 2011-April 2012.

If you vote NO: There will be no Walksafe fee or service available on the Trent Oshawa campus.

- a. Yes, I approve the Walksafe fee of \$2.50 per credit to be paid by full-time and part-time students.
- b. No, I do not approve the Walksafe fee of \$2.50 per credit for be paid by full-time and part-time students.

Results:

- a. 110 (51.9%)
- b. 102 (48.1%)

Agenda

Do you approve an agenda fee of \$5.00 to be paid by full-time and part-time students?

- a. Yes, I approve the \$5 agenda fee.
- b. No, I do not approve the \$5 agenda fee

Results:

- a. 86 (40.8%)
- b. 125 (59.2%)

ACL Health Benefits

Do you approve a student health benefits fee of \$187.05 to be charged to full-time and part-time students? This fee will provide you with health benefits for a one year period from September 1 to August 31.

If you vote YES: You will have access to health benefits for prescriptions, dental, vision care, massage and chiropractic services. You may opt-out of this service and receive a refund cheque if you have alternative coverage.

If you vote NO: There will b no student health benefits.

- a. Yes, I approve the \$187.05 health benefits fee.
- b. No, I do not approve the \$187.05 health benefits fee.

Results:

- a. 136 (63.8%)
- b. 77 (36.2%)

Durham UPASS

Do you approve a Durham Region Transit UPASS fee of \$177.00 per academic year to be paid by full-time students only?

If you vote YES: You agree to pay a UPASS fee which will provide you access to Durham Region Transit (DRT), as well as GO busses within the Durham Region from September to May. Trent in Oshawa Student Affairs in conjunction with TOSA will put 5% of this fee towards added extracurricular student programming on the Trent University Oshawa Campus.

If you vote NO: No UPASS levy will be charged. Students will be responsible for paying their own public transportation at regular prices. As a reference the DRT monthly rate for students for the 2011-2012 year is expected to be \$100.00/month.

- a. Yes, I approve the Durham Transit fee of \$147 per year for full-time students.
- b. No, I do not approve the Durham Transit fee of \$147 per year for full-time students.

Results:

- a. 136 (74.3%)
- b. 47 (25.7%)