

Aziz Rakhimov

**SUO GENERAL
ELECTION 2023**

President Candidate





My name is Aziz Rakhimov and I am a 2nd year electrical engineering student. As for now, I am an executive member of multiple organizations such as Engineering Society, Piano Club and IEEE Okanagan Student Chapter.

Engineering like no other major teaches problem solving. As an amateur piano player, I was deeply frustrated with the lack of public pianos on campus. So, problem - there is no place on campus where a non-resident UBCO student can play piano. Solution - bring more pianos to the campus. Result: me and 2 of my friends created a Piano Club and brought 3 public pianos to UBCO campus; one of them is located at Well, another in UNC Theatre and third one in collegium in UNC.

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Additionally, I am the chair of IEEE Okanagan Student Chapter based in EME2245, widely known as a Hackerspace. My team and I organized multiple events such as E-workshop, where UBCO students learned how to design PCB, and IEEE Tech Industry Night, where students were able to network with industry professionals from 25 different companies.

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I am a strong opponent of tuition increase and high prices on parking/food on campus, intolerant of refund delays and stupid rules. With previous experience in place, I am ready to take on a new challenge and become your new SUO President!

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Here are the main points I will try to address as a president of SUO:

1. Food Insecurity
2. UBCO Gym and Fitness Centre Expansion
3. Tuition Increase & Parking
4. Credit Card for Clubs

1. Food Insecurity

Prices on the food on the campus are as high as they never were. I plan to solve this issue by bringing more private eateries on the campus and letting the market drive the prices down. Each food selling enterprise on campus will be encouraged to increase their profits through volume of food sold rather than through markup.

2. UBCO Gym and Fitness Centre Expansion

With UBCO's plans to double by 2040, a small size of the UBCO Gym will only be a bigger problem. As a regular visitor of Hangar Fitness Centre, I take it personally. As for now, there is a petition to build new recreation & fitness facilities at UBCO. If elected as a President, I will speed up the process and ensure we get enough votes (at least 10% of the UBCO student population i.e. 1200) to call a referendum.

3. Tuition Increase & Parking

As an international student, every tuition increase hits my pockets at least 10 times harder than for domestic students. If there will be another tuition increase this year, instead of writing angry letters to the university (like current's SUO leadership did), I will personally lead a protest. As for parking, my promise would be to decrease the parking rate from \$8 per day to \$4 per day.

4. Credit Card for Clubs

Being co-president of Piano Club at UBCO, I perfectly understand how painful of an experience it is to get a refund from SUO. As for now, the way it is setup, you are required to cover all the club costs yourself, then send a reimbursement form, and, then, in the best case scenario, you will receive a refund in 3-4 weeks. To solve the problem is to issue clubs a credit card which is directly linked to their account within SUO.