



Society for Students with a Disability

2026 Annual General Meeting Minutes

February 27th 2026 at 2:30pm to 4:30pm PST

ZOOM Link: <https://uvic.zoom.us/j/84558121318>

In attendance: Hannah, Julia, Kai, Bella, Mickey, Claire, Elizabeth, Nicole, Lauren, Carolyn, Acorn

1. Call to Order/Welcome

Called to order by co-chair Hannah at 2:40pm

2. Land Acknowledgement

Chair does land acknowledgement

3. Access Needs Check-in

a. Break every 45 minutes

Chair asks for any further access needs

4. Ratification of SGM Minutes

- a. Ratification of November 28th 2025 meeting minutes

Move: Nicole

Seconds: Julia

Ratified by consensus

5. Adoption of 2026 AGM Agenda

Move: Nicole

Seconds: Julia

Ratified by consensus

6. General Overview and Intro to the SSD

- a. Presentation Slides

Bella presented the slides, to give folks an overview of what the SSD does and how it runs.

7. Exiting Office and Elections

- a. Motion to appoint Scrutineer and Electoral Officer.

Electoral officer: Bella

Scrutineer: Kai

- b. Details about available positions.

- c. Nominations for Council positions 1 by 1:

- a. Operations Director(s)

Julia nominates Hannah

Hannah motivates for themselves

Passed with

6 yes

1 no

1 abstain

b. Finance Director

Nicole nominates themselves

Nicole motivates for themselves

Passed with

8 yes

0 no

0 abstain

c. Communications Director

No nominations, remain vacant.

d. UVSS Constituency Representative

Acorn nominates themselves

Acorn motivates for themselves

7 yes

0 no

0 abstain

e. International Students Representative

Lauren nominates themselves

Lauren motivates for themselves

7 yes

0 no

1 abstain

f. Graduate Students Representative

No nominations, remains vacant.

g. Outreach Director

Bella nominates Julia

Julia motivates for themselves

7 yes

0 no

0 abstain

h. Director(s) of Council at Large (up to 8 positions)

Bella nominates Eve

Bella motivates for Eve

8 yes

1 no

0 abstain

Bella nominates Valentine

Bella motivates for Valentine

7 yes

0 no

0 abstain

8. Yearly Administrative Council Reports (Optional)

a. Chairperson(s)

a. Julia

b. Hannah

The SSD continued to strengthen disability justice, community care, and accessibility across campus this year. Our work focused on three interconnected areas I want to mention: community building, advocacy, and direct support for disabled students.

Community & Programming

Regular community drop-ins and social events: created consistent low-barrier spaces for disabled students to connect, rest, and build relationships. These included craft sessions, study/body doubling sessions, community meals, and peer-support groups.

Workshops and educational events: highlighted topics such as navigating academic accommodations and understanding burnout. Many were co-hosted with campus partners such as accessible recreation with AIR and our annual MHRF

Space and Respite Room ensured students had access to a quiet, sensory-friendly space in the SUB, with ongoing improvements to comfort, accessibility, and communication about its availability. We also maintained our snack program to support food security for disabled students.

Advocacy & Systems Change

SSD representatives continued to participate in UVSS Advocacy Group collaborations, strengthening cross-constituency solidarity with groups SOCC, Pride, GEM, and the NSU.

We worked to advance campus accessibility conversations, including physical access concerns, digital accessibility, and the need for more consistent accommodation processes. This includes working with staff and student unions on a joint letter on accommodations.

A4A has continued to create educational posts and capacity to advocate for accessibility and change.

Also the SSD continued to center decolonization and Indigenous disability justice, aligning with its commitment to the lək'wəŋən and W̱SÁNEĆ territories and the broader work of rethinking accessibility through an anti-colonial lens.

Partnerships & Collaboration

Strengthened relationships with the Centre for Accessible Learning, UVic departments, and student groups to improve communication and reduce systemic barriers.

Participated in UVSS-wide initiatives, contributing a disability justice perspective to campus-wide campaigns, events, and policy discussions. This includes the current referenda to increase our funding so we can continue to support disabled students.

Organizational Development

Continued to refine internal processes, communications, and event planning.

Updated resources and outreach materials to make SSD's services clearer and more accessible to new students.

Maintained a strong presence on social media to highlight events, share disability-related education, and celebrate community.

Impact

Across all of this work, the SSD provided a safer, more inclusive environment for disabled students at UVic. Students accessed community, advocacy, and support that helped them

navigate academic, social, and systemic barriers. The year reflected a continued commitment to disability justice, collective care, and meaningful accessibility.

b. Treasurer

- a. Absent
- b. Bella to present

https://www.canva.com/design/DAHCIaRyHjw/fowyxlFEzXv1uQ58RDtwzQ/edit?utm_content=DAHCIaRyHjw&utm_campaign=designshare&utm_medium=link2&utm_source=sharebutton

Bella used above slides to inform council of how we are doing budget wise. Overall we are doing well! We are still waiting for December & January budgets to come out.

c. SSD UVSS Representative

- a. Dacian
- b. Absent

9. Council Reports (Optional)

a. Student Liaison

- a. Valentine
- b. Absent

b. Graduate Student Representative

- a. Jitendra
- b. Absent

c. International Student Representative

- a. Lauren
- b. Nothing to report

d. Secretary

- a. Eve
- b. Absent

e. General Members at Large

- a. Acorn
- a. Nothing to report

- b. Nicole
 - a. Nothing to report
- c. Carolyn
 - a. Nothing to report
- d. Margot
 - a. Absent

10. Staff Reports

a. Office Coordinator

- a. Bella Jacobs

It's been a great year for me and I am so excited to be back at the SSD. Kai and I have really got together and have entered a flow for putting on our events and workshops. This year we have put on an event every month since September. We

b. Education and Administrative Coordinator

- a. Kai Punt

Been here since mid-august. It has been a bit of an interesting journey, a big learning curve. Feeling well with how we have been doing this semesters. In the fall we had the Neurodiversity and Disability Awareness Training, this training will become something more regular for faculty. Providing services and resources. January – Accessible Recreation Workshop, how to access accessible recreation. Hoping to improve our workshops pages on our website and make sure to upload everything on YouTube. February - Burnout workshop and accessible grocery shopping workshop. Working on the FEMEXPO event, sex and disability film screening and panel. March 25th workshop with campus community garden, intro to gardening. Resume building and transferrable skills workshop with Neils from co-op and career. Focusing on tabling and #A4A 😊 Wanting to build up the resources as well! Building connections with folks around campus as well,

11. Discussion

a. Council bios for website

- a. Send a short bio to Bella for the Website & Instagram
 - a. e.g. first name, pronouns, area of study, pets, what you hope to achieve in your role, etc.

12. Prizes!

13. Future Meeting Times

a. #Access4All Committee Meetings

- a. Next Meeting March 2nd 2026, @ 10:30am
- b. Email Bella (uvicssd@uvic.ca) if you would like to be included.

b. Council Meetings

- a. For council members please fill out this poll for the March council meeting:
<https://cabbagemeet.com/m/3uCFc6vobnml>

c. Council Training

- a. For new council members please fill out this poll:
<https://cabbagemeet.com/m/Dklx0VNQMnoV>

d. Thrive Meetings

- a. All Council members welcome but Administrative Council & staff required
- b. Next meeting March 9th 2026, @1:00pm
- c. To pick a new time to accommodate the new council members please fill out this poll: <https://cabbagemeet.com/m/oEdeRxpEEW0K>