

# TMAPS ANNUAL REPORT

March 2024



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# INTRODUCTION

## Letter from Executive

Dear TMAPS Members,

Thank you for taking an interest in student government and trusting us as your elected representatives. Part-time degree, certificate and continuing education students are facing unique barriers to education and financial aid on top of rising cost of housing, food and transportation. TMAPS has advocated for a smooth and accessible transition back to campus for students taking in-person classes. We also continue to offer online services and programs for the majority of our members who are still learning online.

This term, TMAPS has prioritized events and services geared to immediate student needs. Starting in January, TMAPS has piloted a free, monthly produce box for members in collaboration with the Toronto Metropolitan Graduate Students' Union (TMGSU), Day of Action movement and stop the war against Palestine Campaigns. In addition to the TMAPS bursary and Emergency Grant, TMAPS has reopened the Global Emergency Relief Grant to reach more students requiring immediate financial aid.

We are working hard to make sure that student voices are represented. From our committees to Chang School Council and Senate, TMAPS is here to fight for student rights and ensure transparency from university administration. Our work for the remainder of the term will be largely based around the university operating budget. We look forward to hearing from our members to make sure their needs are being prioritized.

Best,

Olivia McIntosh, President  
Annie Yang, VP Equity & Campaigns  
Suanny Aranguren, VP Events & Outreach  
Shahed Salehi, VP Services & Finance  
Maya Taylor, VP Academic & Governance

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TORONTO METROPOLITAN ASSOCIATION OF PART-TIME STUDENTS



# ORGANIZATIONAL: REPORTS AND UPDATES

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## Operations

TMAPS continues to provide services and advocacy virtually, while regular events and outreach occur both in person and online. As Chang school and Continuing Education courses continue to remain online only, TMAPS has kept its operations in a hybrid format to accommodate members' needs who are distance education or simply unable to come to campus. TMAPS reopened its offices to members in March 2023 with regular in-person office hours happening on Wednesdays. Our office is located on the third floor of the Student Centre, at 55 Gould Street, room SCC 301. The new office hours have been shared through communication channels and are as follows:

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday : 11 am to 7 pm (Virtual)

Wednesday: 11 am to 4 pm (In-person)

Friday: 10 am to 6 pm (Virtual)

## Human Resources

TMAPS currently employs 6 full-time staff and 3 part-time student staff through the Career Boost program and 2 additional part-time staff for support. TMAPS will be providing student work opportunities during the spring and summer of 2024 through the Canada Summer Jobs and Career boost program.

## Finances

### TMAPS Membership Fees

- Operating Budget: \$11.55 (FW2022-23 Figures)
- Bursary: \$2.71 (FW2022-23 Figures)
- Student Campus Centre Fund: \$0.50 (FW2022-23 Figures)
- Health & Dental: \$271.80 (Latest figure)
- Canadian Federation of Students: \$ 2.80 (FW2022-23 Figures)



# ORGANIZATIONAL: REPORTS AND UPDATES

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## Communications

TMAPS prides itself on its regular communication with its members, utilizing various mediums to keep them informed and engaged. In an effort to improve this communication, TMAPS has made some significant updates to its membership communications this year. These updates include:

### **Monthly Newsletter:**

All TMAPS members are automatically enrolled to receive our monthly newsletter. This electronic newsletter contains important information about upcoming events, TMAPS services, Bursary deadlines, and other significant dates that our members need to know about.

### **Special Mailers:**

TMAPS members will also receive important email communications on an as-needed basis, directly to their student email accounts. These communications will include high-priority and time-sensitive information, such as Bursary deadlines, academic appeal dates, Health and dental, election information, and other essential details of which all members need to be aware. However, we try our best to minimize the number of emails we send as special mailers to make sure we do not inundate our members' inboxes with unnecessary information.

### **Social media:**

In addition to email communications, TMAPS is also committed to improving our social media channels. We regularly post on our Instagram, which has proven to be the most engaging social media outlet for TMAPS. We also cross-post our content on Twitter, Facebook, YouTube (for long-form content), and TikTok to engage with our members across multiple channels.

**Looking ahead,** TMAPS is focused on reinstating our D2L course shell in the upcoming term to increase our visibility to members. We encourage all members to follow us @TMAPS105 on all social media platforms to stay informed and engaged with the latest updates and events from TMAPS. We are planning term-long campaigns to increase the usage of our Legal Clinic, collaborating with our lawyer, Bill Reid. As well, we are focusing on updating our YouTube and Tik Tok page to update pre-pandemic videos and graphics with the new TMAPS logo and name.

### **Website:**

Additionally, TMAPS is dedicated to providing a user-friendly online experience for its members. Our website is regularly updated with the latest information and resources to help our members stay informed and engaged.



## Campaigns Priorities Winter Semester

### **Food Sovereignty:**

Amidst the crisis of food insecurity in Toronto, TMAPS is prioritizing this new campaign to provide members with affordable food options.

New budget line item: Line 5314 in Campaigns Schedule is allocated to address food insecurity faced by TMAPS and community members. Our priority is to provide accessible grocery boxes, and support existing services.

Support for Good Food Centre: TMAPS recently donated \$6000 from line 5314. Long term aim is to campaign for levy, so TMAPS members have access to services at Good Food Centre

### **Fairness for International Students:**

We are in process of recruiting international students to join a monthly working group for the Campaign. TMAPS recognizes that international students are underrepresented on the Board of Directors, events, and service usage. TMAPS is actively reaching out to international students, and the Events and Outreach team has taken on much of the work this semester. TMAPS is well-resourced to serve and address many pressing issues faced by international students on and off-campus. The goal continues to be recruiting and incentivizing international students, TMAPS members or not, to engage with their voices and perspectives.



## Introduction by Vice-President Services and Finance, Shahed Salehi

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As the Vice President of Services and Finance at TMAPS, I am delighted to introduce our comprehensive suite of services tailored specifically to meet the varied needs of our part-time degree students. At the heart of our offerings is the TMAPS Bursary program, which includes both Emergency and Semester-wise assistance, alongside our Health & Dental Plan that offers extensive coverage for prescription drugs and dental care, ensuring our students have access to essential health services without financial strain.

Our commitment to student welfare extends to legal support, facilitated by our in-house lawyer, Bill Reid. This past academic year, over 80 students availed themselves of our legal services, making it one of the most sought-after resources we offer. In addition, we are proud to collaborate with the Canada Revenue Agency to conduct our Annual Tax Clinic, a complimentary service assisting members with their tax filings. Scheduled from March 25th to April 5th, 2024, this initiative has consistently seen robust participation, highlighting its value to our community.

Further enhancing our support network, we are excited about our initiatives to improve accessibility and ensure the long-term sustainability of the Good Food Centre (GFC). With a generous contribution of \$6,000 and the appointment of a dedicated part-time staff member for the summer program, we are laying the groundwork for significant improvements. Our upcoming campaign for a student levy aims to secure sustained funding for the GFC, reinforcing our commitment to nurturing a healthy, supportive environment for all students.

Through these services and initiatives, TMAPS is dedicated to fostering a community where students feel supported in every aspect of their university experience, from financial aid to health and legal services. We remain committed to enriching our students' academic journey and wellbeing.

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## Health & Dental Plan

All part-time undergraduate degree students are automatically enrolled onto the TMAPS Health & Dental Plan. Plan coverage includes 80% coverage for prescription drugs, discounts on eye exams, up to 65% dental coverage, and more. This coverage begins in September or January depending on your date of enrollment, and spans through the Spring and Summer terms until August 31. More than two thirds of all part-time degree students enrolled in 2023-24 academic year currently access the TMAPS Health & Dental Plan service.

**Winter 2024 Opt-out Period:** TMAPS began distributing refunds via e-transfer on March, 1st, 2024 to 74 students who opted out of the 8-month Health & Dental Plan. TMAPS will be following up periodically to ensure each student gets their refund this term.

**Temporary Inactive Period:** The Winter 2024 temporary inactive period for first time plan users ended on March 1st. This means that new students are now able to submit claims online through the [GSC everywhere](#) portal and access the additional discounts using their Green Shield Canada ID card available online via the TMAPS website.

### **2023-2024 Rate Renewal:**

The Health & Dental Plan and negotiated rates are secured annually, and partly paid for, by the National Student Health Network (NSHN) and the Canadian Federation of Students (CFS), as part of TMAPS' membership.

NSHN and GSC negotiated the 2023-24 Health & Dental Plan rate to a 5.55% increase for the upcoming benefit year. This increase was driven by inflation and the Consumer Price Index (CPI), as well as increased plan usage by students. This cost also reflects new plan designs of which students will be able to take advantage, with a focus on accessing mental health support.

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## Health & Dental Plan

### **New plan enhancements include:**

- **Room for Her:** an initiative focused on promoting mental health and well-being for all women in Canada through webinars, podcast series, educational materials and free counseling support!
- **Tranquility:** Tranquility by Inkblot is an internet-based Cognitive Behavioural Therapy (iCBT) program co-developed by clinical psychologists.
- **KITS:** a leading Canadian eyewear e-retailer, brings GSC student plan members savings of 25% off any prescription glasses (designer brands included!) or 20% off contact lenses.
- **Inkblot Therapy:** Inkblot Therapy delivers progressive and comprehensive mental health services which effectively provide students support and treatment regardless of the severity of issues they are facing. Highlights include a full spectrum of support - short-term or long-term, 5 free hours of individual counselling, 5 free hours of couples counselling, complimentary 30 min consultation, and more.

Additional highlights include ongoing access to PocketPills, Maple, Change4Life, Mindfulness and MindBeacon! Students can also take advantage of further plan member discounts such as:

- **Student Dental Discount Network (SDDN):** The SDDN is unique to GSC, and the discount is guaranteed for plan members. When a dentist joins the SDDN, they agree to submit claims directly to GSC via Provider Connect. The value is automatically calculated, so the dentist will always provide a discount to the student. Students can receive up to 30% off their dental treatment.



## Legal Service

TMAPS members have access to services provided by our in-house Lawyer, Bill Reid, through in-person or online appointments. Initial consults can be requested via the email [legal@tmaps.ca](mailto:legal@tmaps.ca). Bill supports our members with a wide range of issues including landlord & tenant conflicts, family law, employment law, criminal law, debt issues, accident claims, immigration and other government matters, corporate, commercial and intellectual property issues, notarization or commission documents when appropriate, and advice on legal documents or proceedings. Online legal workshops about common issues are also available on the [TMAPS website](#).

## Tax Clinic

**Annual Tax Clinic:** TMAPS is currently planning our annual in-person tax clinic in partnership with Canada Revenue Agency's Community Volunteer Income Tax Program (CVITP). This clinic is free and open to TMAPS, TMSU and TMGSU students! This year, an incredible 42 volunteers have joined our ranks to assist students in filing simple tax returns. Our clinic will run from March 25th - April 5th, 2023. Varying times will ensure the clinic is accessible to all.

Members who need their taxes filed for the upcoming season will be able to start booking appointments online starting March 11th. TMAPS members who are unable to attend the in-person clinic can access free [Ufile software](#) through membership with our national students' union- the Canadian Federation of Students (CFS), using the special offer code: CFS1981



## Bursary

The TMAPS Bursary is a needs-based bursary that helps members with the cost of education and living expenses. The bursary is open every semester. All TMAPS members are encouraged to apply to the bursary, although due to high volume of applications and limited funding, the grant is not guaranteed.

### **By the Numbers:**

To date, TMAPS has given out a total of 210 bursaries in Spring & Summer 2023. It is important to note that this is more than double the amount of bursaries given out during the Spring & Summer 2022 semesters. For the Fall 2023 bursary TMAPS has given out a total of 120. The winter 2024 bursary is closed and undergoing a selection process as the AGM report is being prepared. TMAPS will continue to prioritize serving our members' financial needs through making the bursary available and known to our members.

## Emergency Grant

The TMAPS Emergency Grant is designed to assist members dealing with immediate crises, including financial, health, or family emergencies. Members facing these challenges are encouraged to apply for this grant, which is accessible all year. Applicants who clearly emphasize the urgent or emergency aspect of their situation and provide the documentation are generally granted the bursary.

## Global Emergency Relief Grant

This fund seeks to support those who do not qualify under the standard Emergency Fund criteria. With an initial allocation of \$5,000.00, individual grants can amount up to \$500. The grant aims to assist current and former TMAPS members affected by global crises, including warfare and natural disasters including earthquakes, supply shortages, injuries, race-based violence, and religious persecution.



## Sponsorship & Donations

The TMAPS Events Committee aims to support students and community groups that promote values of education, well-being and equity. Our goal is to utilize our resources to help bring impactful events and initiatives to life. We are always looking to support student-led initiatives! If you are a student (or student group) interested in being sponsored by TMAPS, make sure to apply for our sponsorship program. We sponsor events, groups and clubs! Eligible applicants can receive up to \$1000 per academic year. Below are the organizations that TMAPS has sponsored financially, through resource distribution or through room-bookings or even catering for the last 12 months:

- TMU Cinema Politica
- Pink Detect
- We Are Worth It - We Are Visible
- Disability Without Poverty
- Accessibility For All
- Mutual Market
- Gdoo-maawnjidimi Mompîi Indigenous Student Services (Treaty Week Committee)
- Students for Justice in Palestine
- Toronto Metropolitan Campus Lions Club





## Introduction by Vice-President Academic and Policy, Maya Taylor

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## All Union Coalition

TMAPS continues to initiate and facilitate monthly meetings with campus labour unions and students' unions around mutual concerns to develop allyship.

Collectively, we have been able to work to share information on the international students' issues, Health and Safety planning, cuts to education and collaborate on policy proposals that serve students, instructors and staff members. When we work together, it becomes more difficult for the university administration to divide us.

## Senate

TMAPS continues to actively participate in the university Senate where academic decisions are made on behalf of the entire university. The students' union has one appointed representative (VP Governance and Academic Policy) and works collaboratively with other student senators and faculty representatives to ensure students get policies that are fair and equitable for all students, including continuing education members.

## University Policy Review

There is a list of Senate Policies that shows the life cycle for review and management of these documents, which can be found [here](#). We are carefully tracking the review processes of relevant Senate policies through our representative on the Academic Governance and Policy Committee (AGPC), which is a standing committee of Senate. We also always monitor the agendas of the Senate and policy developments and decision making through Senate meetings. A major Senate policy that is under review is the Academic Integrity Policy, Senate Policy 60. TMAPS will work to ensure students are consulted about changes to this very important policy. In June 2023 our Student Rights Coordinator, along with the Ombudsperson's Office and a representative from the TMSU, presented some recommendations to the Policy 60 Review Committee to improve the student experience.



## Sexual Violence Policy Review

On March 1st, TMAPS had a feedback session with the Office of Vice Provost Students (OVPS) regarding the current revision of Sexual Violence Policy during their Phase 2 of review. TMAPS pointed out the fact that Part Three of the Policy, *Procedures: Process of Complaint Resolution*, has not been updated in this revision and was not included for feedback. TMAPS recommended changes to *Process of Complaint Resolution*, including acquisition of a neutral third-party as decision-makers rather than leadership of the institution or organization when rendering decisions. This feedback was to be brought back for discussion by core advisors of the Policy. TMAPS also asked for clarification of the accountability measures for people in positions of power, and advocated for support and academic amnesty for complainants in the process of resolution.

## Chang School Governance

TMAPS continues to meet with the Dean of the Chang School to advocate on behalf of our members. This has included advocating for clearer direction on requests to convocate, the refund policy and communication around COVID-19 policies and procedures to CE students. TMAPS has also advocated for a lower barrier of enrolment to be used as the standard for certificate and course discontinuations, which would ensure smaller class sizes and more options available to students. The students' union has also coordinated filling the student representative seats on Chang School Council again this year, so TMAPS facilitates support for these student reps and ensures that students know about academic and organizational changes at the Chang School. This year there are many new proposals for micro certificates and microcredentials, which must be approved by the Chang School Council. The Bylaws of the Chang School Council were recently amended by the Senate to be more consistent with other departmental or governing council bylaws within the university.



## Academic Standing and Appeals Workshops

Every semester TMAPS, the Graduate Student' Union (TMGSU) and the full time undergraduate Students' Union (TMSU) host workshops to support students facing issues with their academic standings (such as Academic Probation, Required To Withdraw, or Permanently Program Withdrawn) or who want to file grade appeals to challenge the final grades they received from the semester previous. Between 5 - 50 students attended each session.

### Watch Online

Watch the recordings of the webinars on our YouTube Page:  
<https://www.youtube.com/@tmaps105>

## Statistical Data on Appointments

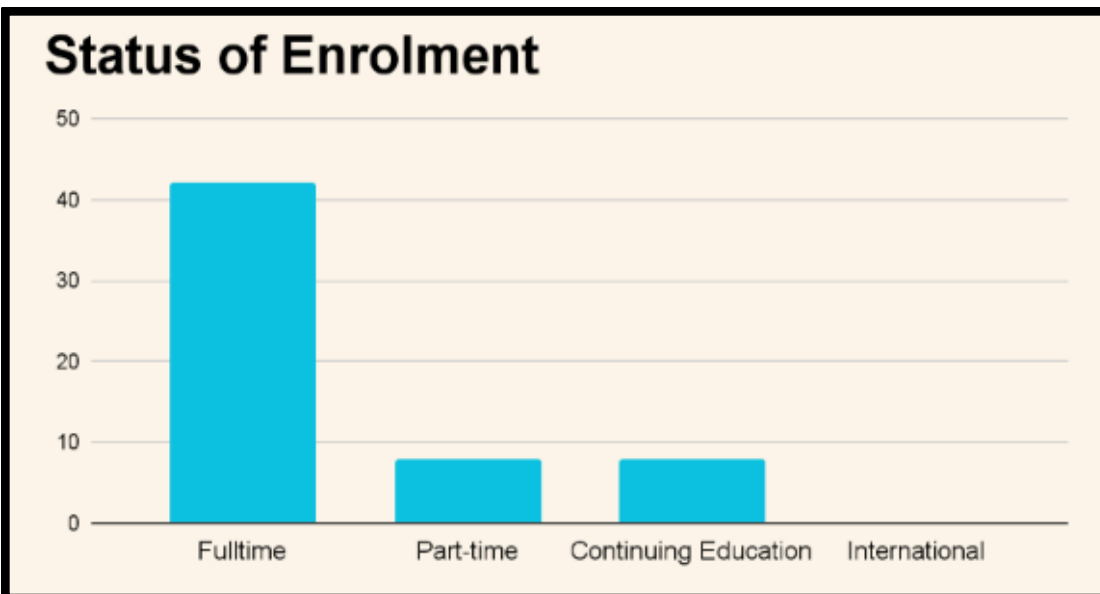
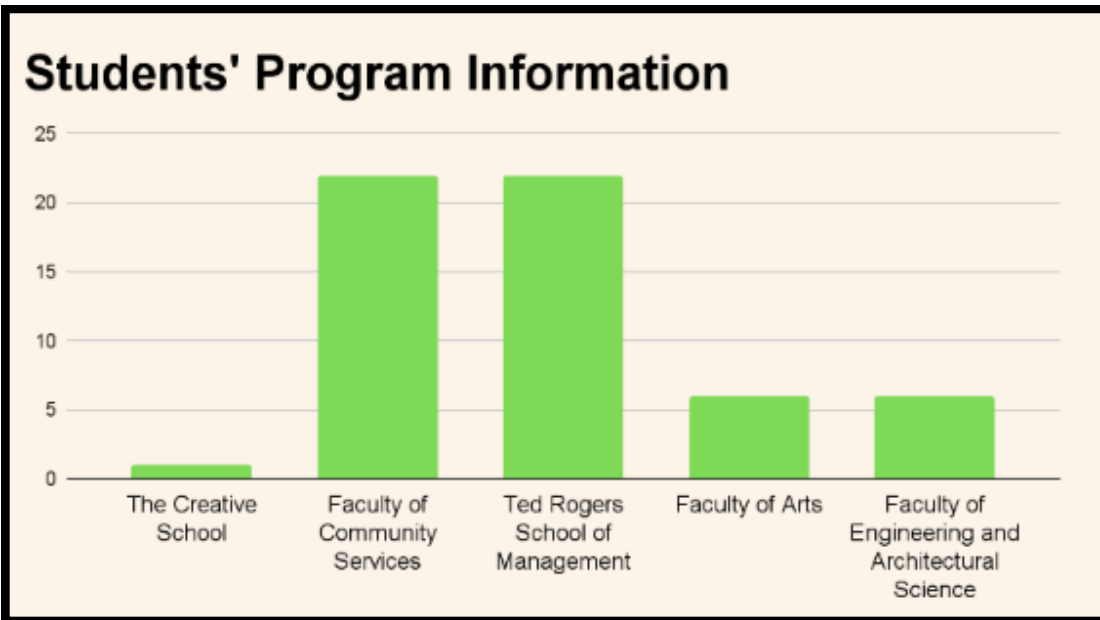
In order to track information about the students who seek advice from the Student Rights Coordinator, students utilizing this service are asked to fill out an Intake Form. The total number of Intake Forms for March 2023 to March 4th 2024 is 58. This is inline with the number of intake forms reported for 2022-2023 (57 intake forms) and from 2021-2022 (65 intake forms).

The statistical information below reflects what was indicated by students. Keep in mind that some students chose to identify themselves in certain ways, filling in some fields and not others, and that completing the form is optional and not at all mandatory. Therefore the number of students reflected in each category and overall is not an accurate representation of the actual number of students supported over this time period.



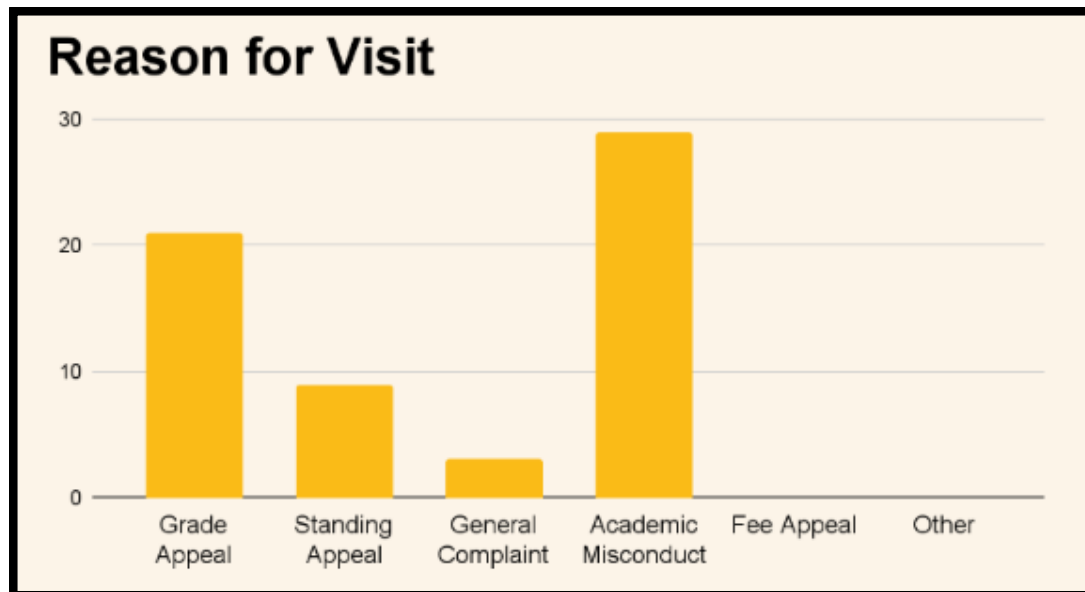


## Statistical Data on Appointments



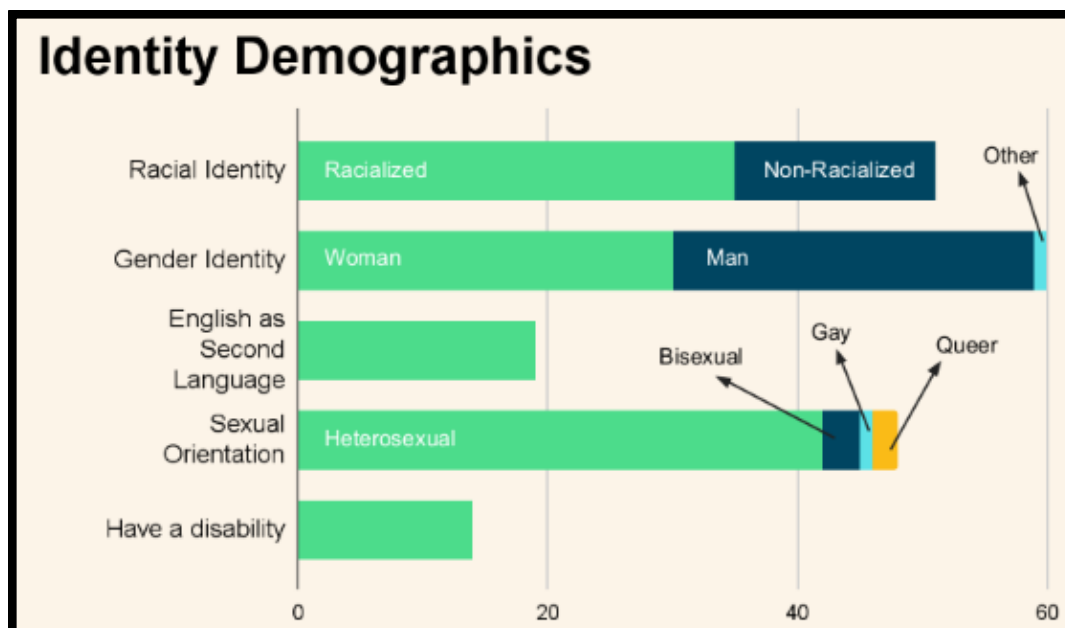


## Statistical Data on Appointments



## Student Advocacy Intake Form Identity Demographics

Our intake forms also track identity demographics, however it should be stated that many students opted not to complete this part of the form.





## Introduction - Vice-President of Events & Outreach, Suanny Aranguren

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TMAPS has focused on building a new presence on Campus and being in contact with our members. creating events where everyone is welcome, from neurodivergent and sensory needs to the possibility for open events to all ages so members who are also parents feel comfortable and are able to attend without experiencing more barriers. We are here to represent you. From very serious and important events like our day of action to demand student rights to not so serious but also really important events filled with art and creativity, TMAPS is always looking for new ideas and members who want to share their amazing talents with other members. Our volunteer program and class rep program are back in place and taking new additions.

After this small introduction you can find a detailed list of all the events TMAPS took part in and the sponsorships and collaboration we were also able to achieve during the year.

Last but not least I want to Thank our team, None of this work would have been possible without the amazing work of our Events and Communication Team and every single member that has shown up for these events.

Thank you

### **Get Involved:**

If you want to get involved in TMAPS events, join the Events Committee from our website. You can also email any questions to [vp.events@tmaps.ca](mailto:vp.events@tmaps.ca).



# EVENTS & OUTREACH

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## Collaborations with Disability Justice Advocates and Organizations:

### **Accessibility For All (In-Person): May 10 & 11**

Description: Through a two-day focus group, TMAPS members learned more about barriers persons experiencing disabilities face when seeking healthcare. With consent, notes and interviews were taken and the resulting data was shared directly with participating healthcare institutions across the Greater Tkaronto Area.

### **Disability Without Poverty (In-Person): May 15**

Description: This banquet and presentation informed community members about the progress of Bill C-22 (Canada Disability Benefit). TMAPS members were introduced to what the grass root organization, Disability Without Poverty, has done to date and invited them to be part of this movement for change. As we know, the level of poverty is at an all-time high, and it is affecting people experiencing disabilities even more seriously. The Canada Disability Benefit (Bill C-22) aims to help working-age address financial security concerns and gaps left by current social assistance.

### **Day of Action w/ Disability Without Poverty (In-Person): June 2**

Description: TMAPS attended a media event hosted by Disability Without Poverty to launch the disability poverty report card and featuring the postcard campaign calling on leaders to fast-track Bill C-22 and Budget the Benefit. We gathered at the South West Corner of Bloor and Spadina, at Matt Cohen Park. Then, we walked to the constituency office of Chrystia Freeland to deliver the hundreds of signed postcards asking her to #BudgetTheBenefit.

### **We Are Worth It - We Are Visible (In-Person): June 19, 26 and July 10:**

Description: This was a multi-session focus group for a documentary directed by Veronica Correa. Members of the focus group are part of a grass-roots arts collective led by and including folks with cross-disabilities who are BIPOC and members of the 2SLGBTQAI communities. We discussed our personal experiences as well as barriers to accessibility within downtown Tkaronto. Part of the sessions included mini field trips to various locals to capture footage and investigate how accessible the city is.







# EVENTS & OUTREACH

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## Summer 2023 Events and Initiatives

### **Pride (In-Person): June 23-25**

TMAPS executives and staff were excited to once again participate in the float organized by TMSU, TMGSU, TMAPS and Equity Service Centre for the Toronto Pride Parade last June. Volunteers and staff worked together to build the float and celebrate pride during the Pride March. We attended various events throughout Pride Weekend, including: Trans March, the Street Fair, Dyke March. We also collaborated on other events on campus such as a Zine Making event and Drag Isn't Dangerous Pride BBQ.

### **Free Grassy Nations Land Alliance Rally: July 20**

The Land Alliance was formed to push back against mining in their territory. Grassy leaders and other members of the five nations will be in Toronto near the Ministry of Mines to demand respect for Indigenous rights. For more information, visit: [www.freegrassy.net](http://www.freegrassy.net)

### **D.I.Y. Night (In-Person): July 21st**

The Toronto Metropolitan Association of Part-time Students (TMAPS) hosted a D.I.Y. Night event on July 21st, 12pm – 6pm. It was a fantastic opportunity to showcase your creativity and passion for hands-on projects, while connecting with students who share similar interests. The event included live music, featuring musical group Black Mambo along with our friends at CJRU - Toronto Metropolitan's local radio station.

## TMAPS Fall 2023 Orientation

In addition to our events lineup, we also organized Orientation Kits and in-person outreach to welcome students back for the fall semester. The turnout was amazing for several events.



## TMAPS Fall 2023 Orientation

### **Drag Bingo (Virtual): Sept 20**

Description: We brought back Drag Bing - this time hosted by the sensational Miss Luna Dubois! Luna DuBois is a fashion diva (or "fashion icon" as her fans like to call her). She was born and partly raised in Nigeria, and partly in Canada, making her a Nigerian-Canadian queen. She is known for her jaw-dropping looks, snatched mug, modeling skills, and captivating soulful dance performances. Her background in fashion design and her self-taught makeup skills come in very handy with her brand which has allowed her to be a well known name in the drag scene and fashion industry in Toronto. This virtual event was a fun way to win prizes and kick off the semester!

### **Arts & Crafts Night (Virtual): Sept 21**

Description: In this workshop, students were invited to take some time to get in touch with their creative sides. Hosted by the talented Anénia Victor, members were encouraged to create a new masterpiece for your wall using a textile collage technique. Anénia Victor is a Toronto based mixed media textile artist. They revisit the methods and discourses from the past to better innovate a new trajectory for the future by creating collages, sculptures, installations, and various pieces using textiles, found items and natural materials. Anénia's founding themes are identity, herbalism, farming and Afrofuturism with a focus on Black and Queer Histories, Caribbean textile history and textile sustainability all while using a futuristic lens. Whether students were master artists or interested beginners, this calming space allowed us to decompress and channel our creativity.

### **TMAPS Takes on Gould St (In-Person): Sept 22**

Description: TMAPS took to the streets to connect with our members and students across campus! We were joined by Mutual Market, a student run initiative to provide affordable produce and clothing. SABRE, a live band, set the vibe through melodic tunes with R&B, soul and jazz influences. Cafeteca was on deck to make sure the sound equipment was running smoothly; and we had delicious food from Samoserie to keep us fueled throughout the afternoon. TMAPS members who stopped by received a free orientation swag bag. We're happy to meet you all and answer any questions related to TMAPS services and the upcoming year.

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## TMAPS Fall 2023 Orientation

### **TMAPS 101 (Virtual): Sept 22**

Students learned about the various services, events, and campaigns that the union has to offer. Questions were asked about the health and dental plan, who can access our services, and how to get involved.

### **Free Grassy Narrows Land Alliance Rally (In-Person): Sept 27**

Description: The Free Grassy Narrows Land Alliance took to the streets once again to lead a march calling on Premier Ford to end unwanted mining activity on their Territories. Five First Nations formed a historic alliance to protect their lands and waters in the face of mounting concerns about encroachment on our territories by mining exploration companies who have been enabled by the Ford Government. For more information, visit: [www.freegrassy.net](http://www.freegrassy.net)

### **International Students Meetup and Campus Tour: Sept 27**

In collaboration with the TMGSU, the goal of this event was to provide international students and their family members with the relevant and important information they need about campus, campus services, and more! Due to unforeseen circumstances, we had to postpone this event. But we hope to relaunch it in the upcoming semester (and during warmer weather). This campus tour and meet-up is part of the programming for the new International Students Committee at TMU.

## Fall 2023 Events

### **Halloween Crafts Night: October 30th and 31st**

Students joined us for a creative activity night, making amazing decorations, gifts, and much more. We created Halloween themed watercolor paintings and made signs for the Nov 8th National Day of Action for a free and accessible education!

### **Day of Action: Fight the Fees: Nov 8th**

TMAPS Executives, staff, and students altogether rallied at the TMU Campus Centre and marched to Queen's Park to spread further awareness for the Fight the Fees campaign (in partnership with the Canadian Federation of Students). Breakfast was provided to students in the morning, and we led the march to Queen's Park, followed by folks rallying at Grange Park. This day of action took place on Nov 8th all across the country; and is part of a larger campaign to lobby the federal and provincial governments for a tuition-free post secondary education for ALL!



# EVENTS & OUTREACH

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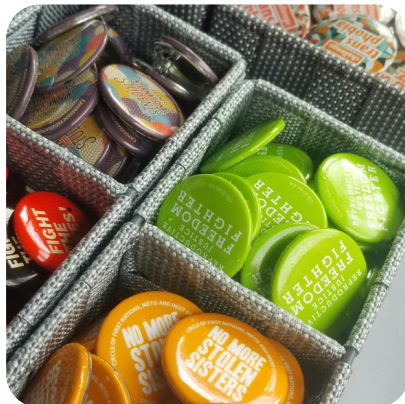
## Fall 2023 Events

### **Trick or Treaty Film Screening: directed by Alanis Obomsawin - Nov 9th**

We are all treaty people. In collaboration with the Gdoo-maawnjidiimi Mompîi Indigenous Student Services and the Treaties Recognition Week Planning Committee, we held a community dinner and screening of the documentary Trick or Treaty, directed by world renowned filmmaker and artist: Alanis Obomsawin. The screening of Trick or Treaty was followed by an interactive Q&A session with Alanis Obomsawin.

## Winter 2024 Events

- TMAPS 101 (Jan 17th)
- Fireside Chat with the Chang School (Jan 18th)
- Pranayama Breathwork Session (Jan 23rd)
- DIY with TMAPS: Sewing & Embroidery (Jan 24th)
- Drag Trivia Night (Jan 25th)
- TMUSC Open House: Valentines Art Decompression (Feb 13th)
- Black: All Year Long! - Virtual Poetry Workshop (March 1st)
- Black: All Year Long! - Paint Night (March 14th)
- Black: All Year Long! - Open Mic (April )
- Exam Destressors Pick-up Days (April 3rd, 10th, 17th)
- Bi-Monthly Volunteer Training Sessions







# COMMITTEES

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## By-laws & Policy Committee

The Bylaws and Policy Committee is responsible for overseeing and recommending TMAPS bylaws and policies to the TMAPS Board of Directors. The Bylaws and Policy Committee is a great place to get involved if you are interested in not-for-profit structures, operational or issues-based policy work or if you are just interested in getting involved in TMAPS's internal structure.

## Campaigns & Equity Committee

The Campaigns & Equity Committee is an open committee for TMAPS members to discuss campaigns and issues that range from issues in post-secondary education to climate justice to social justice and equity issues. This is a great committee to get involved in TMAPS's outreach initiatives and political programming.

## Events Committee

The Events Committee is an open committee for TMAPS members to discuss events and programming that range from Orientation to career development workshops to speaker series. This is a great committee to get meet other students who are looking for social interactions and community building opportunities.





# STAFF APPRECIATION

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The wonderful services, engaging campaigns, and vibrant events at TMAPS are a testament to the dedication and skill of our amazing staff. Your devotion to the students and readiness to take on essential roles ensure our student union is welcoming and runs like a well-oiled machine.

A heartfelt thank you to Rohin Taebi, Malik Asoh Ajesam, Amir Moazzami, Chloë Thibault and Lyndall Musselman's for your exemplary work in student services. Your efforts have not only been impactful but also made our space feel inviting and friendly. We're incredibly appreciative of all that you do for TMAPS. Our sincere thanks go to Bill Reid, our approachable in-house lawyer, for offering sound legal advice and support to our students whenever they need it.

Finally, a big shout-out to all our part-time staff, especially, Priya Paul our new Book keeper, and to Andrea Bancod, Doga Koroglu, Hope Ghobrial, and Bev Field for your energy and dedication to TMAPS.

Thank you, each one of you, for being the pillars of TMAPS and for all you do to support our community.





## President

Over the past year, I've been working with our team to advocate for our members, participating in meetings with university administrators, relaying concerns and confusion from members around on-campus learning, collaborating with campus labor partners and sister students' unions. Through persistent efforts, we've maintained a focus on the need for clear communication from the university, the importance of increased government funding to reduce tuition fees, and among other issues affecting students. Participated in Chang School Council meetings on behalf of TMAPS as an elected representative. Worked alongside the Office of Vice Provost in selecting the General Manager for the Student Centre. Was apart of the Board of Governors election procedure committee, lobbying the university on behalf of TMAPS members by meeting with President Lachemi, senior administrators, and the TMAPS team as a part of the university's budget consultation process.

## Vice-President Equity & Campaigns

It's a privilege for me to work on the Equity and Campaigns portfolio with TMAPS team. This winter term, my focus was cross-portfolio collaborations with the other executives. Below are my updates and highlights:

I worked with Vice President Finances is to re-activate a Global Emergency Relief Grant, to create more opportunities for accessible and equitable financial aid for current and former TMAPS members who are being affected by emergency situations or disasters around the world.

I collaborated with Vice President Academic to review and revise TMAPS policies and bylaws. This collaboration aims to support Board of Directors and TMAPS as an organization. Having robust and equitable policies and bylaws set healthy expectations and clarify fiduciary duties holding BoD responsible as employers, as well as helping establish a healthier and safer work culture. Policies amendments and additions which are underway include Support for BoD success, safe workplace, BoD accountability, procedures for discipline. Bylaw amendments include addition to Code of Ethics. As an organization, TMAPS is also growing and improving. The hope is to achieve equity in the interior of our organization.

I prepared agendas and chaired Fairness for International Students Working Group meetings. This monthly group is open to all TMU community, both TMAPS and non-TMAPS members, and we are looking for more community members to join the meeting. The priorities of the working group this term has been supporting Int'l students on campus amidst food insecurity issues, navigating campus and services, and trying to engage students attending the TMUIC, and so on.



## Vice-President Services & Finance

During my tenure as Vice-President of Services & Finance, I have been deeply committed to advancing the quality and range of services we provide to our members, alongside striving for operational excellence. The management and enhancement of the Bursary and Emergency Grant program stand out as a notable achievement, reflecting our direct support for members in challenging times. My efforts have been further amplified through collaboration with our diligent staff and various committees, ensuring our organization remains agile and responsive to the evolving needs of our community.

Looking ahead, I am energized by the prospect of developing and introducing new services and initiatives that will have a meaningful impact on our members. My part of my recent endeavors include negotiating with food box organizations to secure discounts and subsidies, as well as working with our staff and board for continued access to the Good Food Centre highlighting my commitment to creating a dynamic, value-aligned environment for our community.

A significant stride in operational efficiency was achieved through a collaboration with our new Executive Director, Yasir Hameed, and our Internal Coordinator, Amir Moazzami. Together, we have transitioned to a fully digital platform for our paperwork and forms, enhancing our organizational processes thanks to the dedication of our staff. Additionally, in partnership with our VP Equity, we successfully reopened the Global Emergency Grant Relief program, processing applications for over 30 members in need.

### Key Achievements:

- Led the Bursary committee, ensuring effective distribution of financial aid.
- Presided over Finance committee meetings, safeguarding our fiscal health.
- Provided critical financial insights to the board and executives.
- Managed emergency grant applications and sponsorship requests, offering timely support.
- Collaborated with the president and executive director on management and HR initiatives.
- Initiated an office procedure review committee to streamline operations.
- Represented our interests at the Chang School Council meetings.

### Upcoming:

- I am committed to exploring accessible food alternatives and securing discounts for our members.
- I will continue to advocate for equitable and accessible financial aid, ensuring all members have the support they need.
- Plans are in place to review and enhance our Health and Dental program, aiming for improved member services.
- I am involved in organizing the upcoming tax clinic, providing essential assistance to our members.

My ongoing dedication to service improvement and operational excellence reflects my commitment to our members and the broader community, underscoring my role in driving positive change within our organization.



## Vice-President Governance and Academic Policy

I'm very grateful to have worked within the Governance and Academic Policy portfolio for almost two years. This term the Bylaws and Policy Committee revised several of TMAPS internal rules, including two proposed Bylaw changes that you can vote on at the Annual General Meeting. I'm still a vocal representative at meetings for the Senate, Chang School Council and Canadian Federation of Students (CFS). I care about advocating for academic fairness and accessibility, and highlighting any concerns that the TMAPS team or members need me to. I have also been supporting other team member's initiatives or events, and collaborating on cross-portfolio projects. Here are some updates:

### Academic portfolio:

- Chairing Bylaw and Policy Committee meetings, focusing on making our operations reflect TMAPS values
  - Policy amendments: Land Acknowledgement practices
  - Bylaw amendment proposals: Elections and the President Portfolio
- Representative on TMU Senate
  - Elected to Academic Governance and Policy Committee (AGPC)
  - Actively asking questions and voting for our interests at meetings
- Chang School Council
  - Reviewing and voting on program revisions and proposals
- Ombudsperson Committee member

### Supporting other portfolios:

- Preparing agendas and chairing meetings of the Executive and Board
- Representing TMAPS on the Canadian Federation of Students-Ontario (CFS-O) Executive Committee
  - Attended Provincial Executive Committee meetings
  - Attended CFS-O General meeting
  - Elected as the CFS-O Students with Disabilities Constituency Commissioner
- Attending and supporting set-up for community engagement events
- Working in Bursary Committee
- Giving feedback to ongoing project to review Health and Dental Plan

### Cross-portfolio collaboration:

- Participating in working groups like Events Committee and Fairness for International Students
- Delegate at CFS National Annual General Meeting with VP Events
- Advocated to Members of Provincial Parliament at Lobby Week with VP Events
- Co-working with VP Equity on upcoming Bylaws and Policy projects

You are welcome to send me an email at [vp.academic@tmaps.ca](mailto:vp.academic@tmaps.ca) if you have any questions, or comments about my work at TMAPS.



## Vice-President Events & Outreach

I am very grateful for the opportunity to be elected in the position of Vice President Events and Outreach. I have had the amazing opportunity to create an environment of hope, support and creativity for our members in our office, bringing some ease to the tough post secondary life.

As a first generation Canadian for many years I struggled with not feeling like I belonged in certain spaces and throughout my whole life in Canada a sense of uncertainty and isolation brought me to take a certificate program from Chang school on Community Engagement, Leadership and Development. To create and facilitate spaces where people like me or people who for different reasons have had the same feeling could feel like we belong, where all the little things that make us unique and amazing in our own ways are praised and cherished and all the color we bring can create a beautiful collage of art and support

I am incredibly honored to have had the opportunity to bring all the events to fruition and continue to focus our events on an equity and inclusion lens with collaborations from different stakeholders at all times to the university but also to have had represented all 16,000 TMAPS members as delegate to the Canadian Federation Of Students (CFS) At their Annual General Meeting and bring the students demands to the provincial level.