

CALEB TREMBLAY

Academic Leadership Award Winner 2024

I graduated from UNBC in 2024 with a Bachelor of Arts in Economics. My time at UNBC was shaped by both academic achievement and active involvement in the university community. I was drawn to economics for its practical insights into decision-making, policy, and development, particularly in the context of Northern BC.

Beyond the classroom, I took on leadership roles that reflected my commitment to service and teamwork. I was proud to be nominated for the UNBC Senate Student Leadership Award, recognizing my contributions to student life and academic excellence. I also participated in unique experiential learning opportunities, including a canoe-based field course in Jasper National Park, which highlighted the value of interdisciplinary learning and collaboration.

My education at UNBC not only strengthened my understanding of economics but also developed my skills as a communicator and leader, tools I now bring with me into a career in military aviation.



ZETA ADJEI- BRUCE

Campus Leadership Award Winner 2024

I am a recent graduate of the M.A. Development Economics program at the University of Northern British Columbia (UNBC). During my time at UNBC, I was deeply committed to leadership and community engagement. I served as Vice President External of the Northern Economics Students Society (NESS), where I led initiatives that connected students with professionals in the field of economic development. I was also honored to be selected as part of the inaugural cohort of Graduate Student Faculty Ambassadors (GSFA) for the Faculty of Business and Economics, where I worked to strengthen communication between graduate students and faculty.

In addition to my academic work, I had the opportunity to serve as a Teaching Assistant over multiple semesters, providing support to students and faculty members. I'm truly grateful to have received the 2024 UNBC Senate Student Leadership Award in the category of Campus Leadership, recognizing my efforts to help create an inclusive and enriching academic environment. I'm thankful for all the opportunities and support I received at UNBC and look forward to using my skills and experiences to contribute meaningfully to community and policy development initiatives.



KIARA MILLS

Academic Leadership Award Winner 2025

Kiara Mills is a dedicated leader who has made a significant impact on the campus culture at the University of Northern British Columbia (UNBC). As President of the Arts Club, Kiara has led several creative initiatives, including the Writing Support Group, Knit and Sip, Craft and Art Swap, and her recent involvement with the student anthology, Pulp Mill Fiction. These activities have fostered a vibrant, inclusive creative community where students are encouraged to express their creativity in a supportive and collaborative environment.

In addition to her work in the arts, Kiara has also contributed to engagement-based projects in the Environmental and Sustainability Capstone class. These projects, which were team-led, allowed Kiara to work on practical sustainability solutions while promoting positive environmental change.

Kiara's leadership is marked by her ability to connect with people, inspire creativity, and create a sense of belonging. Her Writing Support Group workshops, in particular, have become known for building confidence through collective storytelling and hands-on learning. Kiara's dedication to fostering the arts, even in challenging times when they are often underappreciated, has been pivotal in maintaining a thriving creative community at UNBC and in Prince George.

Kiara's organizational skills, kindness, and compassion leave a positive and lasting impression on everyone she works with, making her a standout leader in both academic and creative spheres.



NICK JANSÁ

Academic and Community Leadership Award Winner 2025

Born and raised in Prince George, BC, I graduated from Kelly Road Secondary School before pursuing my Bachelor of Commerce, majoring in Finance, at UNBC. During my time at UNBC I spent four years on UNBC's JDC West team (2021-2025). This experience helped me grow both personally and professionally, developing leadership, communication, and analytical skills. In my final year, I had the privilege to serve as Team Captain, preparing our delegation for competition and helping raise over \$80,000 for healthcare in the north through the Spirit of the North Healthcare Foundation.

My time at UNBC has been defined by hard work, collaboration, and community engagement. The relationships I've built with professors, peers, and community members have been instrumental in shaping my path. Today, I'm proud to be working in Prince George as an Associate in Commercial Banking with CIBC. I secured this role through the experiences, knowledge, and connections I cultivated at UNBC. One of my most memorable moments this year was being publicly recognized by Simon Philp, Market Vice President, Commercial Banking at CIBC, during his speech at the recent UNBC FBE Dinner. That was a proud reminder of how far I've come.

Looking ahead, I'm excited to continue giving back to the community that has supported me. I plan to stay actively involved with the Spirit of the North Healthcare Foundation, UNBC, and the JDC West team.



AHMAD JALIL

Campus Award Winner 2025

I am a PhD candidate in Natural Resources and Environmental Studies at UNBC, researching the nexus between air quality, urban infrastructure, and public health in Prince George. My work employs environmental analytical chemistry tools and geospatial analytics to identify populations most at risk from air pollution.

As Director at Large for the Northern Undergraduate Student Society, I represented over 3,000 undergraduates, advocating for improved health insurance and guiding campus reopening during COVID-19. As a Research Ambassador, I organized Research Week and increased student participation in research. Through my work at Sparklab, I utilize 3D printing and modeling technologies to create customized solutions that enhance research capabilities across departments.

Since 2020, I have served as a Research Assistant at Northern Analytical Laboratory Services (NALS), streamlining workflows and improving laboratory processes. My commitment to community extends beyond campus through extensive volunteer work, including at St. Vincent de Paul's.



CHERI BROWN

Campus Leadership Award Winner 2025

Cheri is a citizen of the Nisga'a First Nation, Gisk'aast, Killer Whale clan and the house or Wilp Niss y'uss. Her mother originates from the Village of Laxgalts'ap, in the Nass Valley, their traditional lands from time immemorial. Cheri is a graduate student in the First Nations Studies department, studying Indigenous post-secondary education attainment and student lived experience. She has held governance and leadership roles as Graduate Student Representative for Faculty Council, Board of Governors, Senate, Senate Committee on Indigenous Initiatives, Senate Committee on Student Appeals, Strategic Planning Steering Committee, numerous Academic Selection Committees, Student Life Orientation Committee, and Convocation Event Assistant. Cheri served as graduate teaching assistant for the First Nations Centre in 2023-2024, supporting and mentoring students. She has represented UNBC and the Indigenous student perspective in the 3-Minute Thesis regional finals in 2023, as well as at an international gathering in Europe in 2025 centered on peace talks and dialogue. Cheri developed and obtained IIIF funding for a workshop which ran twice in 2024 entitled Allyship and Interrupting Privilege: Walking Together Toward Truth and Reconciliation, which was attended by over 100 faculty, staff, students, leaders, and Indigenous knowledge holders and elders. In everything Cheri does, her academic excellence, community focus, and heart for service is evident as she fights for social justice for Indigenous peoples and equity building for all under-represented groups.



DHANIELLA DELA ROSA

Campus Leadership Award Winner 2025

My name is Dhaniella Dela Rosa, a third-year Accounting and Political Science student at UNBC. I currently serve as the President of the Commerce Student Association, a Student Life Ambassador, and CPABC Campus Ambassador. From shaping leadership initiatives to sparking student life with fun, relatable social media content for the students, I love bringing energy and purpose to everything I do on campus.

As someone who is engaged in student leadership, I'm all for creating inclusive spaces, amplifying student voices, and building a strong sense of community. I am committed to ensuring that students are not only heard but empowered.

I lead with confidence, compassion, and clarity, staying proactive in my responsibilities and rooted in integrity and heart. Whether it's through a strategic meeting or a spontaneous campus reel, my mission is simple: to serve, support, and inspire.



EMILY ROBERTS

Campus Leadership Award Winner 2025

Emily Roberts is a fourth-year Commerce and Economics student whose leadership has significantly advanced UNBC's academic, philanthropic, and public profile. As Director of Charity for the UNBC JDC West team, she is leading a campaign projected to raise over \$200,000 for Spirit of the North to bring life-saving cancer-diagnostic equipment to Northern BC: one of the most substantial student-driven fundraising efforts in UNBC's history.

Emily has brought national recognition to UNBC through major debate achievements, including winning JDC West Debate Nationals, and representing the university in interviews and podcasts across UNBC channels, CBC, CIBC Radio, Daybreak North, Vista Radio, the Prince George Citizen, and OTE newspaper.

She was a founding member and VP Marketing of UNBC's Model United Nations club, strengthening student engagement in global affairs and representing UNBC at the NAMUN conference. She is also the President and a founding member of the Prince George chapter of Junior Chamber International, where she won the national debate title and now represents Canada internationally.

Emily contributes widely to campus culture through her role as Director of Academics for Alpha Pi Beta Sorority and as the elected undergraduate representative on the UNBC Board of Governors, where she was involved in signing a 30-year educational agreement between UNBC and the Nisga'a Nation. To relax, Emily enjoys painting, anime, and spending time with her friends.

She believes that "What we do for ourselves dies with us. What we do for others and the world remains and is immortal." - Albert Pine



FRANCISCO GASPAR

Campus and community Leadership Award Winner 2025

Hi, I'm Francisco Gaspar, a third-year student currently enrolled in the Northern Collaborative Baccalaureate Nursing Program. Throughout my time in this program, I have remained committed to advocacy, equity, collaboration and student empowerment.

I proudly serve as a Senate Representative for the Faculty of Human and Health Sciences at UNBC, as well as a Third-Year Student Representative for the Nursing Club. With seven years of professional experience in mental health, substance use disorders, and community outreach, I am passionate about amplifying voices and advocating for meaningful change.

I am deeply honoured to receive these awards and share this academic achievement with my graduating class. It's a reminder that the support and collaboration we share with one another is the true foundation of academic success, and this collective effort is not lost on me.



HANNAH TENCH

Campus Leadership Award Winner 2025

Hannah Tench is a committed graduate student at the University of Northern British Columbia (UNBC), widely recognized for her leadership in promoting equity, accessibility, and student advocacy. As a member of the Graduate Student Orientation Committee, Hannah was instrumental in developing graduate-specific orientation activities and ensuring resources were available to support new students.

Her work on the Accessibility Committee highlights her dedication to addressing inequities and creating more inclusive academic environments. Additionally, as a member of the Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Committee for the Society of Canadian Ornithologists, she advocates for increased diversity within ornithology, offering valuable recommendations for change. Hannah is known for her ability to speak up on behalf of students, bridge gaps between different academic levels, and ensure that underrepresented voices are heard. Her leadership continues to leave a lasting impact on both her campus community and professional field.



JEANNINE RANDALL

Campus Leadership Award Winner 2025

Jeannine is a PhD candidate in the Natural Resources and Environmental Studies program at UNBC studying the effects of weather variability on Tree Swallows. She believes that graduate programs are strengthened through connection and knowledge exchange and has fostered community by organizing a discussion group for graduate students studying vertebrate ecology. As a mentor, Jeannine has guided both undergraduate and graduate students in developing essential practical, analytical, and communication skills. She has served on the Animal Care Committee, the TA union/CUPE 2278 and the NRES Graduate Committee while teaching a variety of undergraduate and professional courses in both classroom and applied field settings. Jeannine is also committed to bridging research and real-world conservation applications. She has successfully raised campus-wide awareness about bird fatalities from window collisions and played an instrumental role in implementing mitigation measures on UNBC's Prince George campus.



LIZNA LAKHANI

Campus Leadership Award Winner 2025

Lizna Lakhani is an undergraduate student at the University of Northern British Columbia with a focus on student well-being, academic advocacy, and community engagement. Through a co-operative education placement with the Student Success Department, she contributed to UNBC's alignment with the National Standard for Mental Health and Well-Being. Her work involved supporting the integration of mental health priorities into institutional planning, collaborating with campus groups on health-related initiatives, and developing the Mental Health and Well-being visual framework to support UNBC's holistic approach to student wellness.

In addition to her co-op, Lizna serves as a Student Senator for the Faculty of Human and Health Sciences, where she represents student perspectives in university governance and contributes to policy discussions aimed at enhancing the student experience. She also holds the role of Director-at-Large with the Northern Undergraduate Student Society (NUGSS), where she supports student-led initiatives and organizational governance.

Her academic performance has been recognized through the International Student Academic Excellence Scholarship. She further contributes to the campus community as a Peer Mentor with the International Department, helping new students navigate their transition to university life.

Together, these roles reflect a commitment to promoting a supportive, engaged, and inclusive university environment.



NOAH KEYZERS

Campus Leadership Award Winner 2025

I'm passionate about building community through outdoor adventure, experiential learning, and student support. As President of the UNBC Outdoors Club, I worked alongside a fantastic team to expand our gear library and make outdoor experiences more accessible for students. I also served as a Senior Residence Assistant with UNBC Residence Life and Housing, focusing on inclusive programming and peer support.

During my time at UNBC, I've also had the opportunity to be a teaching assistant for the Outdoor Recreation and Tourism Management program, which deepened my commitment to hands-on, place-based learning. These experiences have shaped my belief in the power of connection on campus, on trail, or in the classroom.

I'm grateful for the opportunities to lead, learn, and give back to the community that's given me so much.



MARION ERICKSON

Community Leadership Award Winner 2025

Marion Erickson is a Dakelh woman from the Lhts'umusyoo (Beaver Clan). She is a PhD student in Health Sciences at the University of Northern British Columbia, supervised by Dr. Davina Baner Lukaris and Dr. Sarah de Leeuw. Marion's research focuses on improving the wellbeing of First Nations women and addressing racism in healthcare. She works as a Research Manager at the Health Arts Research Centre where she works to interrogate the determinants of health disparities in the north especially with regards to inequities experienced by First Nations peoples.

Marion serves as a Public Member of the College of Oral Health Professionals and the BC Anti-Racism Data Committee. She is also the Nak'azdli Band Representative for Nezulbe Hunuyeh Child and Family Services and has contributed to the Dakelh Language Curriculum Development Committee for School District 57.

Throughout Marion's experiences, Marion has recognized that the health and well-being of Indigenous people are connected to the health and well-being of the land. Marion also recognizes art as a way of storytelling and that this storytelling is a way to build relationships within northern communities. This relationship building is necessary to work collectively towards actively addressing health inequalities in the north.

