



## VICTORIA UNIVERSITY STUDENTS' ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL

150 Charles St. West, Room 127  
Toronto, ON , M5S 1K9  
(416) 585 - 4473  
[www.vusac.ca](http://www.vusac.ca) | [fb.com/vusacuoft](https://fb.com/vusacuoft)

September 21st, 2020

### **Re: Canada Climate Change Strike**

One year ago, the Victoria University Students' Administrative Council (VUSAC) expressed distress at the climate crisis and the inaction of our governments and institutions. Now, it has been a year since the historic 2019 Climate Strikes. After a series of environmental commitments, personal and institutional, a wave of green fervour and support, little has improved. The climate crisis still wreaks havoc on our planet through the detrimental impact on our ecosystems and biodiversity. The urgency of the climate crisis is still not being recognized by governments and policy-makers who should be making significant institutional and systemic changes for climate action.

Progress has been halted amidst the COVID-19 pandemic and this time of upheaval has unearthed the inequalities and highlighted the flaws in our systems and institutions. Climate change will exacerbate this. Climate change will dwarf this. The intersectional and interdisciplinary nature of the climate crisis disproportionately affects Indigenous, racialized and low income communities who face the exacerbated social inequities of climate change. In a climate crisis and a pandemic, marginalized communities in Canada are the most vulnerable, and this is no coincidence. We do not require a return to 'normal', we demand immediate concrete and radical solutions to ensure a Just Recovery which prioritizes environmental policy and the protection of communities.

This is our era's monumental undertaking, and we will not succeed without momentum. VUSAC reaffirms its commitment to sustainability, reconciliation, human rights, and dignity. We encourage students to participate in the virtual events hosted by Fridays for Future Toronto and other local organizations from September 20th to 24th. On the 25th of September, show solidarity with climate action around the world by attending the livestream of the climate strike sit-in. However, the fight is far from over and it requires awareness, action, and accountability and extends past attendance of one event. We urge everybody to strike conversations about the climate crisis and its human effects. We encourage our students to identify their representatives at municipal, provincial and federal levels of government to advocate for policies that will mitigate the catastrophic effects of climate change and secure an equitable and just future.

For more information, please visit: <https://www.fridaysforfutureto.org>.

In solidarity and service,

**Victoria University Students' Administrative Council**