

Candidate Profile for Waggie Alquiros

Running for Director of External Affairs

Tell us about yourself

I'm Ed Wagner Alquiros – but everyone knows me as “Waggie” from the Philippines. I have a BS degree in Computer Science & Supplemental units in Professional Teaching. My work experiences include Teaching, Social & Community work, Customer Service focusing on quality evaluation, customer success, and people management. Currently taking up Business Administration Diploma - Supply Chain Management Major. Happily married for 13 years with a 12-year-old son who is a 7th grader. Love to speak my mind out & is always ready to help. My simple pleasures are eating, sleeping, watching T.V., listening to music, doing grocery, laundry, & thrifting.

What do you know about the Students' Association of Bow Valley College?

The SABVC is a non-profit organization that is dedicated to the effective representation of all Bow Valley College students based on each of its current school division, including indigenous and regional learners. Furthermore, the student body is being led by Councilors (9), Executive Committee (4), and Board of Governors Representative (2). SABVC aims to promote positive campus experience and exceptional support services to all members through strong Connections, committed Accountability, change Opportunity, Trust, and Innovation. Through various offered programs and services, SABVC time and again is committed on working towards enhancing the overall student experience in the entire campus community.

Can you describe some key issues facing post-secondary students in Alberta right now?

- Cost – High inflation on anything with \$ value, while salaries remain constant. This creates an imbalance leading towards a huge challenge to support one's study.
- Skill mismatch – Most of us are working students and often we land a job that is a skill mismatch leading to scaled-back career path, high employee turnover, and poor work quality.
- Support System – As students we all need a firm support group at home, in school, and from our peers. Unfortunately, not all is able to have these which in turn leads to mental and emotional health issues as well as lack of goal setting.

What is your platform?

To address the mentioned issues facing post-secondary Albertan students, I'd advocate on the following: 1. Partner with public and private organization to utilize BVC's huge talent pool of students via job fairs, internship and apprenticeship programs; 2. Seek additional scholarship and financial aid funding to be able to alleviate the huge financial challenges that we are all currently facing; 3. Ensure that we have a clear line of communication through regular forum with BVC students up to simply recording relevant meetings which will be shared – thus serving my purpose of representing BVC of being primarily an ear, before the voice.