

## Jason Monette – Presidential Platform 2023/24

Hi everyone! My name is Jason Monette, and I am thrilled to be running for EBSS President in the 2023 to 2024 school year. I am currently the VP Academic for the EBSS where I have the pleasure to work with amazing directors to run programs and events like TASTE, Mentorship, Scholarships, Lunch N' Learns, Edwards Case Competition, International Women's Day gala, help send students to national business conferences, and so much more!

With three year's experience on the EBSS and having the opportunity to be an executive this past year, I have come to learn and appreciate so much on what the EBSS and student involvement can do. Business schools across Canada have largely similar curriculums and diplomas using the same textbooks and learning concepts. However, it is the experiences beyond the classroom that differentiate, define, and really add to college life for students.

I want to run for president to help the EBSS be an outlet for those experiences and really help Edwards students get the most out of their college years. I am proud to be running for president, and I hope to accomplish these goals with the following:

### **Vision Statement:**

*Make the EBSS the best student group in Canada*

### **How I Plan to do it:**

#### **A. Action**

- As president, I will maintain a high level of focus on our sustainability, community, and EDID (Equity, Diversity, Inclusion, and Decolonization) goals. With my experience meeting with BSA (Business Student Association) executives across Canada, I learned that the EBSS is a leader in these areas. But there is still much that we can improve!
- For our sustainability goals, I want this to be a key factor in *all* of our student-led events. I plan to help our EDID portfolio lead these initiatives with ideas like reducing disposable cutlery/plating at events and installing proper recycling bins around the college.
- For our community goals, I plan to continue and grow these initiatives with the Community Outreach portfolio through events such as Comm-cert and 5-days, as well as initiatives like supporting local businesses for catering, charity fundraisers, and finding speakers for events.
- For our EDID goals, I plan to continue the great work of the EBSS members before me to ensure every student has equitable opportunity and never has to worry about being included.

#### **B. Balance**

- With Covid regulations being lifted and things being back in person, I know many students feel overwhelmed and burned out. There are events coming from everywhere all the time! For this reason, I want to make a shared live calendar for the EBSS, umbrella clubs, and the undergrad department to help our groups better coordinate our events and help students pick and choose the events they would like to attend.
- In addition to balancing our events, I will work to balance our budgets making the greatest impact of every dollar the EBSS has while never charging student levies.

### **C. Collaboration**

- A major area I want the EBSS to collaborate and support more are our umbrella clubs. The EBSS has 12 official umbrella clubs each with unique needs and goals. I will work with our internal portfolio to better listen and support these clubs and help them rebuild after Covid.
- I will also work hard to better communicate and collaborate with our undergraduate office. With resources like printing, funding, faculty support, alumni networks, and so much more, I will work thoroughly with undergrad to benefit both of our groups.
- I also want to strengthen our relationship with the USSU to better communicate Edwards' unique needs for room bookings, advertisement, and more. To do this, I will bring back our USSU representatives to council and personally strengthen relations as the president.

### **D. Development**

- People go to university to pursue a degree and get a job or further education. I want to help students accomplish these goals by continuing and growing professional development opportunities and networking events from the EBSS and other groups at Edwards.
- To do this, I will first revamp the 'Academic' portfolio into the 'Professional Development' portfolio with a higher focus on these end goals rather than the academics to get there.
- Furthermore, I want to introduce a freemium sponsorship tier to our Corporate Partner Package. Currently, the EBSS often requires partners to make a minimum monetary donation before gaining access to our events and programs. While this provides incentive for organizations to donate, it also limits these events to a smaller list of organizations that have this money. I don't want our students limited to networking with only big corporations, but we also need donations. With this freemium tier, I hope to bring in more partners giving them a taste of how great it is to partner with the EBSS and inspire them to donate for higher tiers with premium access.

### **E. Engagement**

- I fundamentally believe there is immense benefit to getting involved during university, especially for business students. However, colleges across Canada all experience the same issue where a small portion of the same students always get involved while others miss out. While I understand everyone has their own thing going on, I want the EBSS to be the first and most accessible resource for Edwards students to get outside their comfort zone and go beyond the classroom. My idea of engagement is not that more students attend every event the EBSS puts on, but that the EBSS help all students reap the benefits of getting involved.
- In addition to student engagement, I believe there is opportunity for further faculty involvement. With initiatives like in-class advertising, faculty-led workshops, grade incentives, and professors being invited to events like JDC West coaching, Chillin for Charity (charity event with a dunk tank), or Pies for Parkinson (charity event to pie people in the face), I think many staff would be happy to get more involved given the opportunity.

Thank you for taking the time to read my platform! If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at [jason.monette@usask.ca](mailto:jason.monette@usask.ca).