

## **Ali Safdari**

BC's post-secondary system has been neglected for far too long. The system we rely on today was funded on the backs of international students, who filled gaps left by declining government support. Funding per student has dropped 17% since 2006/07, leaving institutions like Langara scrambling to do more with less. The result? Higher tuition, fewer courses, and lost faculty jobs all while the province calls for more nurses, teachers, tech workers, and skilled professionals. Students are paying the price, and I refuse to let that continue.

During my time on the Board, I've been a strong voice for students, voting for policies and decisions that put them first. I proudly supported Future Focused Langara, our bold new framework that reorganizes programs into six Academic Centres. These centres help students move quickly from the classroom into real-world jobs, giving them hands-on experience, career connections, and the skills employers need.

Post-secondary challenges cannot be solved by Langara alone. They require both provincial and federal action. The provincial government has made it clear they will not increase funding, blaming fiscal pressures, but students and faculty should not pay for government overspending and deficits. Even though it's not required of me as a Board member, I will personally petition the provincial government—whether for a review of the funding formula or policies that protect student opportunities and quality education. My experience in student leadership, community advocacy, and working with government has prepared me to navigate institutional decision-making, organize effectively, and push for meaningful change.

Your voice matters — make it heard

## **Armor Valor Corrales**

An established leader of the community he belongs to, Armor Valor has previously served as a re-elected member to Langara's Board of Governors, having served four consecutive terms; previously, he served at Vancouver Community College for two consecutive terms. Simultaneously serving as an elected campus director on the Student Union of VCC and on the British Columbia Federation of Students as SUVCC's executive representative.

Whilst on the BCFS, he joined the campaign which successfully made provincial student loans interest-free in 2019, which was then followed by the federal government making student loans interest-free in Canada in 2023. In 2018, he voted for a motion which capped international student rate hikes at 2%. In his tenure at Langara, Armor Valor has overseen the school's transition from CoVid, to post-CoVid, and the new normal. He voted in favour of removing gender-based requirements for Langara Board elections.

In all of his elected roles, Armor Valor has championed the ideals of community building and multiculturalism. He recently was nominated for the Emerging Leader Award of the Provincial Ministry of Justice, Multiculturalism and Anti-Racism Awards, for his efforts in both student life and Filipino-Canadian cultural advocacy.

Re-Elect Armor Valor Corrales.  
One Community, One Langara.