



Karanvir Singh Thiara

New Member:
January 2017

Hometown:
Surrey, BC

Current Community:
Surrey, BC

Inspiration

I saw the great work the Council was doing and the strides that Coast Capital was taking in supporting mental health research and I wanted to be part of that team.

Fun Fact

I love to paint; I'm just not that good at it.

What do you hope to achieve on the Council?

I want to be able to learn more about the different projects youth are working on in the community and help them gain more exposure and the financial assistance they need.

What accomplishment are you most proud of to date?

I hosted a fundraiser for the Fort McMurray fire victims last year and raised over \$19,500. I personally delivered this donation to Fort McMurray and saw the emergency shelters and work being done on the ground to help the fire victims.

Bio

Karanvir graduated from Simon Fraser University with a Bachelor of Arts degree in History, and two certificates, one in Social Sciences and the other in Liberal Arts. As a university graduate who has dealt with student loans, he understands the importance of financial empowerment. Because of this, he has mentored youth with a focus on building financial well-being at an early age.

Karanvir sat on the BC Government Student Aid Appeal Committee, which reviewed student applications for education funding.

While serving as Director and Senator at Simon Fraser University, Karanvir advocated for increased support and resources for youth. In this role, he increased student knowledge of the financial options available to them to help build their financial well-being post-graduation.

In 2014, Karanvir became one of the founding directors of the non-profit organization, Sahara Healthy Minds. 'Sahara', from the Urdu language, translates to 'support'. The organization advocates for children and youth to access support for mental health issues.

Also in 2014, the Surrey Board of Trade awarded Karanvir with the Top 25 Under 25 award and he was also recognized for his community work through the Leader Community Awards

presented by the Surrey Leader.

Outside of Karanvir's volunteer work, he runs a successful food truck business, Taj Express Food Truck, and enjoys photography and kayaking.



Karanvir loves travelling, and feels that experiencing new cultures has helped him grow into the person he is today