

Lara Ahmad – 20

Lara is actively involved in Enactus SFU, a global student-run organization focused on improving the lives of others by addressing the social, environmental and economic needs in the community. One of the programs under the banner of Enactus is the SFU Entrepreneur of the Year (SEY) program, of which Lara is the Co-Program Manager. SEY is a key component of the entrepreneurship community at Simon Fraser University, where the goal is to help existing student entrepreneurs expand their networks and secure resources to further their businesses. Lara's ambition has allowed her to take on multiple roles simultaneously and while attending SFU, double majoring in Business Administration and Psychology.

Amneet Athwal – 18

Amneet Athwal currently serves as the Vice President and Co-Founder of SOAR Philanthropic Society, a registered non-profit organization that started in Surrey. After realizing many students are in need of financial assistance she started up SOAR where she can provide scholarships to graduating high school students and raise awareness of the importance of education. Amneet recently held a fundraiser that brought together 300 people from the community and raised \$5,000 for the organization. From the money raised, Amneet will distribute five \$1,000 scholarships to graduating high school students this year in the categories of Adversity, Sportsmanship, Community Leadership, Visual Arts, and Academics. Amneet is also involved in other organizations in her community such as Youth Transforming Society, National Battle for Change, and I AM.

Aneel Bal – 17

Aneel is Co-Executive Director of the Youth Empowering Surrey (YES) Team, a youth group that encourages youth to be engaged in the community. Through his role in the organization, Aneel is responsible for running meetings, and ensuring that youth are provided with the necessary leadership opportunities to help reach their full potential. Aneel is graduating from grade 12 this month, having maintained a 95% grade average. Outside of school, Aneel was the recipient of the University of Toronto National Book Award, which recognizes well-rounded students throughout Canada. In addition, he is the recipient of over \$80,000 in scholarship awards including the SFU Dean's Academic Excellence Entrance Scholarship and Queen's University President's Scholarship.

Winona Bhatti – 20

Winona Bhatti is involved in various organizations across the community including the Amrit Bhatti Talk Show, a televised show promoting anti-violence across Canada. Along with this initiative, Winona was the founder of HUG Charity Canada (Helping Underprivileged Girls), which is an organization targeted at helping children in third world countries gain an education to break the cycle of poverty. Winona has also been an active member at Enactus SFU; a student led social entrepreneurship organization across the globe. Winona was the program manager of Enactus SFU's longest running program called Banner Bags, which fosters a change in the mindset of our future generation by instilling knowledge about environmental sustainability.

Ashwini Canagaratnam – 17

Throughout high school Ashwini has been committed to giving back to her community through a variety of volunteer roles and special programs. She spends multiple hours every week as a volunteer at Surrey Memorial Hospital, participates in many City of Surrey community events, and has been a member of the Tamil Cultural Society of British Columbia for several years. Recently, Ashwini began volunteering with the Coast Capital Reading Buddies Program, encouraging young children to improve their reading proficiency. Ashwini graduates from high school this month on the President's Honour Roll, and recently placed third in the British Columbia Business Challenge Executive Market.

Elvin Cheung – 23

Elvin is an entrepreneur at heart, having founded or helped in the development of multiple companies, including Beta Collective, WittyCookie, Qover Technologies, and QC Productions Inc. Elvin is currently working on the creation of a co-working space in Surrey, known as Beta Collective Inc., with the goal of bringing a new vibe to the community with tech startups. Beta Collective will be a space for new entrepreneurs to gather in a fresh and dynamic environment, the first of its kind in Surrey.

Samuel Chin – 24

Sam works as the Chief Technology Officer for Kitply Industries, a distributor of hardware and plywood. Sam's expertise and technical aptitude are highly valued by Kitply Industries. His assistance was instrumental in securing a \$70,000 federal grant from the Industrial Research Assistance Program (IRAP) under the Digital Technology Adoption Resources Project (DTAPP) for the implementation of a new Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) system and E-Commerce platform at Kitply Industries. He was also previously the Vice President of Outgoing Exchange at AIESEC KPU, a local chapter of the world's largest student-run non-profit organization providing leadership development and global internships to students.

Kevin Cruz – 21

Kevin Cruz is the CEO and Director of User Experience at SynAesthetix Home Technologies, a tech startup company based out of Simon Fraser University's Surrey campus. SynAesthetix brings personalized scent experiences to homes through customizable scent diffusers and an accompanying mobile application that allows homeowners to create their own sensory ambiances for their homes. Kevin is also the Director of Member Relations at SFU Social Media Network, a student club that aims to educate students on the importance of social media and connects them with opportunities in the social media and public relations space. In Kevin's first year at SFU, he also worked as an event organizer for Beneath One Sky, an SFU Surrey-based non-profit group devoted to addressing the issue of poverty throughout the Lower Mainland.

Jasmine Garcha – 24

Jasmine is a full-time Mentoring Coordinator with Big Brothers of Greater Vancouver, where she coordinates the YOUCAN Mentoring Program in Surrey. This program pairs high school students with elementary students in a one-on-one friendship based mentoring relationship. Jasmine has also taken leadership roles with a number of different organizations including the Canadian Cancer Society, BC Childhood Cancer Parents Association, Vancouver International Bhangra Celebration Society, and SFU's Club for the Cure. Through these roles, Jasmine has planned fundraising events while communicating with volunteer-driven committees.

Gabby Gill – 20

Gabby is a Co-Founder and the current Vice President of the Kwantlen Marketing Association (KMA), a student organized and governed club that gives real world opportunities to increase interpersonal management, teamwork, and leadership skills. The organization opens up opportunities to students to allow them to do things they may have not had the opportunity to do otherwise. Gabby was awarded the KPU Student Leadership Award for significant contribution to student life at KPU in a leadership volunteer role. He has also worked with Covenant House, a non-profit organization that provides shelter to homeless youth, and has helped raise a large amount of money for the Movember Foundation in an effort to increase awareness of prostate cancer.

Gunraj Gill – 18

Gunraj is the Co-Founder and Managing Director of G&T Solutions, a firm that helps businesses outsource their marketing needs such as designing and building websites, print advertisements, and marketing strategies. Recently, Gunraj was able to reach out to and close a multi-thousand dollar deal with a commercial size client that helped the company transition from working with small businesses to million dollar enterprises. Gunraj brings a varied skillset to G&T Solutions, including business development, client relations, business strategy, and communication, all of which have made him a successful Managing Director.

Hanchao (Henry) Guo – 17

Throughout high school Henry maintained a 4.0 GPA, and was selected as his class Valedictorian. He is also an avid volunteer, working with organizations such as the Surrey Student Advisory Council, the Surrey Food Bank and the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society. Henry is also currently developing a coding and graphic design service alongside a business partner. The service will be known as Mook Interactive and will target those who want to enlist help for both the technical and aesthetic components of digital animations. The programming service will be offered for online games and websites, while the graphic design service will offer products such as posters, logos, and user interfaces.

Raeniel Holgado – 22

Raeniel is part of Enactus SFU, a student-run organization that uses an entrepreneurial approach to solve real problems in the community with measurable impact. Through Enactus, Raeniel is a Program Manager of Count On Me, a financial literacy program that works with at-risk youth to instill basic financial literacy and employability skills necessary to build a better and brighter future. Raeniel has recently spearheaded the integration of the Count on Me curriculum in an alternative program called Growing Together, based at Guildford Park Secondary. The participants of the Growing Together Program are teenage mothers who may lack the support system or role models needed to build a better future.

Anthony Hope – 17

In November 2012, Anthony began a campaign in his school to oust bullying and discrimination in his community. He initially conducted a school climate survey among his peers and sat down with the head of Surrey Safe Schools at the time, to discuss his findings. The Surrey Teachers Association (STA) contacted him shortly after to become part of a delegation in front of the Surrey School Board for a stand-alone policy in response to homophobic and/or transphobic behaviour in schools. In June 2013, Anthony and members of the STA made a plea to the school board to consider a stand-alone policy, which resulted in the creation of a working group, headed by the Surrey Schools Superintendent. Anthony has since co-written, and was fundamentally responsible for, a new regulation affirming the rights and equal treatment of LGBTQ+ students, staff and parents of the Surrey School District.

Urba Khan – 17

Every Summer, Urba and her family participate in local events to raise money for the ShirKhan Association, a foundation focused on raising awareness of Muscular Dystrophy. Urba is passionate about volunteering, and also participates in events for Breast Cancer Awareness and Multiple Sclerosis research. Urba also participates in the "Right to Play" club in her school. She also acts as a City Hall Ambassador, working in recreational activities with children. One day, Urba hopes to have her own non-profit organization that focuses on raising awareness of lesser-known diseases.

Aishah Muhammad – 22

Aishah currently serves as a Student Orientation Captain at Kwantlen Polytechnic University. Through this position, she takes on a mentorship role for new students, welcoming them to the campus, facilitating group interaction, and providing customized information from an experienced student's point of view. Over the past three years, Aishah has accumulated over 150 hours of volunteer time. She also recently led a community project with her co-workers, working with the Salvation Army to provide a food hamper and presents for children of a family in need.

Amar Pangalia – 20

Amar is currently a Program Manager of Count On Me, a program based out of SFU that focuses on instilling today's youth with the tools required to be successful in dealing with personal finances. Count On Me provides lessons in financial goal setting, budgeting, banking and savings, interview preparation, and much more. Amar is responsible for creating the curriculum, running meetings, and building partnerships with various school boards and potential stakeholders.

Luisa Piraquive-Buitrago – 21

Luisa has been a member of The Acting Together-Community University Research Alliance (AT-CURA) since she was 18. The AT-CURA project, led by KPU, identifies evidence-based factors that protect youth from the lures of the dangerous criminal gangs and involvement in violent and criminal life. In this program, Luisa conducts phone interviews with police officers from eight municipalities of the Lower Mainland, and presents the information to the RCMP Assistant Commissioner of the Lower Mainland. As an undergraduate at KPU, Luisa has also extended her classroom learning to research activities, including professional conferences.

Cynthia Su – 21

As a Co-Program Manager of SFU's Entrepreneur of The Year program, Cynthia has built relationships with influential organizations such as BC Innovation Council, HootSuite Media Inc., and Webnames.ca. With her support, the SEY program was able to achieve first place in the 2014 Enactus Canada Regional Exposition. While managing the SEY program, Cynthia simultaneously secured an eight-month co-op position with TELUS, an opportunity that led to the offer of a permanent position.

Karanvir Singh Thiara – 23

Karanvir is the founding director of Sahara – an initiative that advocates for mental health issues amongst youth. Through this organization, he hopes to help youth move past the stigma attached to mental health and provide support and resources so they can grow to their full potential. Karanvir is also a Senator at SFU, and has sat on the advocacy committee at SFU in attempts to create and promote a sense of community for SFU students at the Surrey Campus. He also serves on the Social Policy Advisory Committee for the City of Surrey and the provincial BC Student Aid Committee.

Jacky Tian – 16

Jacky is the Sales Director of Shirts Reborn, a student-run company with over 40 employees and more than \$60,000 in sales since its inception in 2012. The company offers customers the opportunity to create their own apparel design. Jacky is also the Co-Founder of his high school volunteer-initiative LEO Club, and organization that raises money for local charitable organizations through events like community car washes and snack sales. Jacky has also helped develop the Impact Next Door Campaign, which hosts a community toy drive every December.

Ioan (John) Ulici – 24

John is the owner and director of Ulici Tileworks Inc., a company that provides tile installation to mainly new developments throughout Surrey and the Lower Mainland. At 18 years old, John moved to Canada along with his parents and three sisters. He began taking classes and working part-time installing tiles. After realizing he both enjoyed this kind of work and was good at it, John started to slowly build his own company. John now manages a group of subcontractors, suppliers, and employees, and plans to go back to school full-time as well.

Khuong Vu – 23

Khuong serves as the President for the Accounting Society of Kwantlen (ASK), a student-run club that provides Kwantlen students with training and networking opportunities that offer insight and access into the workforce for both co-op placements and full time positions in accounting. Khuong also recently helped launch the "Kwantlen Accounting Gives Back" program, which partners with local non-profits to assist with their fundraising. After completing his BBA in Accounting this Summer, Khuong plans to enroll in the CPA program in the Fall.

Jeff Wu – 17

Jeff Wu is the Co-Founder and Chief of Staff of Canada International Model United Nations (CAIMUN), a registered non-profit organization that promotes political awareness, international relations and the understanding of the United Nations among youth. CAIMUN provides free workshops to local high schools and organizes a large-scale conference every year to simulate the workings of the United Nations. Jeff is also involved with various community organizations in different roles such as founding the Fraser Heights Leo Club, acting as Deputy Premier and Minister of Finance of the Lower Mainland East Youth Parliament, and as Junior President of Pacific Academy. By helping the community he has learned to appreciate Surrey's cultural diversity.

Jill Xu – 17

Jill is the President, Co-Founder, Chair, and Treasurer of the CACTES Association, a student run non-profit organization that strives to inspire individuals to reduce the amount of poverty in developing countries. CACTES stands for Caring About Communities Together to Eliminate Struggles, a depiction of the organizations overall goal. CACTES is involved in many issues, but currently is focusing on providing access to clean water in areas of the world where it is most needed. Jill is currently a student in the International Baccalaureate Program at Semiahmoo Secondary School.