

STUDENT GOVERNMENT: CANADA & UKRAINE

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Student Government in Canada

- Influence on local, regional, and national governments
- Campus elections are democracy at work but usually on a much more simple scale for people to understand
- SU's show students on campus a miniature view of a country and how it can operate on a very simple scale

Student Government in Canada

- SU's legitimize themselves by having everyone be a member
- They hire full time staff
- Work as a proper non-profit
- Tangible results are shown very easily to members on campus

Student Government in Ukraine

- Progress being made about student government in higher education reform in Ukraine
- Student government in higher education in Ukraine has played a major role in shaping the country
- Incredibly high literacy rate
- High level of young people with university degrees
- Students from Ukraine travel around the world on exchanges and internships to help make their country a better place

Student Government in Ukraine

- Decades of authorities telling students what they could and could not do has changed in the last two decades
- Student Government is one of the first places that young people can be involved and see change on a smaller scale
- Students in Ukraine need to have a majority of their respective campus buy into the idea of a SU if they have not already done so
- This is the first step towards legitimization of the SU

Student Government in Ukraine

- A very important step into making a student government body successful is legitimizing the organization through membership dues
- This creates a real sense of responsibility for members of the SU as they have a campus to report to
- Most importantly, this professionalizes the SU to run like a non-profit organization, not just a group of volunteers

Ukrainian Canadian Student Government

- Different from a standard SU as has a focus on:
 - Culture
 - Politics (national and international)
 - Information sharing
 - Friendship development
 - Relationship development
- Has served as an example to the rest of Canada and the world with how cultural groups can work on a national and international scale
- Legitimized, professional, member of the larger community

Ukrainian Canadian Student Government

- Structure in the world:
 - Ukrainian World Congress (UWC)
 - Ukrainian Canadian Congress (UCC)
 - Ukrainian Canadian Students' Union (SUSK)
 - Ukrainian Students' Organizations (USOs)

Can/Ukr Student Governments

- Critical role to play both on and off campus
- Gets young people interested in politics
- Brings communities together
- Has a stronger voice to both community and government
- Creates a better social atmosphere on campus
- Helps coordinate other organizations and be stronger together