



Canadian Society for Chemistry | *For Our Future*
Société canadienne de chimie | *Pour notre avenir*

2021 CSC Director-at-Large Candidate – Simarpreet Singh

Statement of Interest

I am writing this to express my interest to serve the CSC and its membership as the Director-at-Large. After attending the first CSC conference in 2018 and learning of the organization's mandate and core values over the years, I became more active in the Canadian chemistry community. Since my undergraduate days, I have taken on roles of leadership to advocate for students and promote chemistry. In 2015, I served as the treasurer of University of Manitoba Undergraduate Chemistry Society while helping fundraise and organize the 2016 Western Canadian Undergraduate Chemistry Conference. I also helped organize the 'Advances in Asymmetric Synthesis' symposium for (cancelled) CCCE 2020. Since learning about science policy and advocacy at CCCE 2019, I have been advocating for education and students inside and outside of university. Currently, I represent and advocate for graduate students in the department council. I have also advocated for education and science at all levels of government by meeting with elected officials and appearing as a delegate at committee meetings. As an advocate of EDI and representation, I joined the Canadians Working for Inclusivity in Chemistry (CWIC) network for which I currently serve as the co-president of the UofM chapter. At CWIC, I have helped organize the virtual LOGIC 2020 retreat and am currently the co-chair of the LOGIC 2021 retreat. I believe that my leadership experiences as a current graduate student, a community advocate, a mentor, and an active member of the chemistry community in Canada will bring a new input and perspective to the organization.

Biography

Simarpreet Singh completed his B.Sc. degree in Chemistry at the University of Manitoba and is currently a PhD candidate in the Davis group at University of Manitoba. His research interests are investigations of organocatalytic reaction mechanisms and designing novel catalytic methods for asymmetric synthesis. During his undergraduate studies, he was a co-op research associate at Saskatoon Research and Development Centre of Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada under the supervision of Dr. Janitha Wanasundara. His research has been recognized by the various awards throughout his graduate school career. Currently, He is the co-president of University of Manitoba Working for Inclusivity in Chemical Sciences. He also represents and advocates for graduate students in the department council as the graduate student representative. As a strong advocate for representation and EDI, he actively mentors BIPOC school students. Simarpreet is also very active in his local community promoting and advocating for education accessibility at all levels of government. During the pandemic, he has been mostly focused on collaborating with organizations that are educating the public about COVID-19 in more languages than English and French.