

Candidate Statement

Planning Council for Open Learning (PCOL) – Student Representative

Mitchell Lane

Hi everyone, my name is Mitchell Lane. I am running to be the student representative on the Planning Council for Open Learning for the September 2026 to August 2027 term.

I am currently completing my MBA through TRU Open Learning while working full time in marketing in Victoria, British Columbia. Like many Open Learning students, I am balancing school with work and life, so I understand how important it is that courses are clear, support is easy to access, and communication is consistent.

I care about Open Learning because it creates access and flexibility for students across British Columbia and beyond. I am interested in PCOL because I believe student feedback should play a bigger role in shaping decisions. When something feels confusing or slow, it is usually not because people do not care. It is because systems can be improved. I want to bring practical student input to the table and support improvements that make a real difference.

If elected, my focus will be on:

- Clear and consistent communication. Students should know what to expect, where to go for help, and what changes are coming without having to dig for answers.
- A smoother student experience. Better clarity around processes such as advising, course expectations, and timelines so students can plan their lives around school.
- Course consistency and quality. A reliable experience across courses and programs, especially in how materials are organized and how expectations are communicated.

In both my work and my studies, I am used to working with different groups, listening to feedback, and turning it into clear next steps. My main strength is that I communicate in a straightforward way and follow through.

I would be honoured to represent Open Learning students on PCOL. Thank you for your consideration.