



16 SEPTEMBER, 2022

# NEWSLETTER

ISSUE III

## GETTING INVOLVED: SMITH IS THE PLACE TO BE!

### WHAT IS COMSOC?

The Smith Commerce Society is Canada’s largest undergraduate business society comprising over 55 conferences and club committees, powered by more than 1,000 student-held positions.

### WHAT IS THE OBJECTIVE OF COMSOC?

- Represent the interests of Commerce students to the various academic administrations within the University, to other student assemblies within Queen’s, and to the community at large
- Provide opportunities for Commerce students to develop a variety of skills through extracurricular involvement, to share their passions and to inspire others.



Participating in extra-curriculars is a fantastic opportunity to connect with classmates, learn something new, push yourself out of your comfort zone and have fun! In this issue, we will expose you to some of the many clubs offered in our Commerce Society, including testimonials from our very own HSL crew. If interested, visit the ComSoc Shop to explore the rest of the clubs, sign up and apply!

***"THE ONLY THINGS YOU'LL REGRET ARE THE THINGS YOU DIDN'T DO..."***

**GET INVOLVED!**

**STAY CONNECTED**



Follow us on our socials for more content and updates on upcoming events you don't want to miss out on! Feel free to message us with any questions you might have.



EXEC TESTIMONIALS 1&2

# Q3C

The Queen’s Commerce Corporate Competition is hosted by the Q3C team in January. It’s an opportunity for second-year students from Canadian Universities to compete in a case competition sponsored by the world’s top management consulting and strategy firms, such as Bain and Accenture. The Q3C executive team remains active year-round by planning workshops and networking opportunities in partnership with top sponsors.



**RHIANNA LIN**  
 COMM '24  
 Mentorship Director

- ♥ Personal highlights:
  - Meeting business students from other universities
  - Hearing about personal experiences from Queen’s Commerce Alumni working at sponsor firms
- 💡 Learnings:
  - How to put together a case presentation in less than 3 hours
  - Collaborating with a large group in a time crunch with added stressors

Smith Commerce Orientation Week is an unforgettable event to welcome first-year students into the Smith Commerce program, celebrate their achievements, and introduce them to lifelong friends! O-week 2022 was the first in-person orientation week in three years! From traditional “I Like Commerce” t-shirts and info sessions to boat cruises and galas, orientation is a first impression of the Commerce family. The exec team’s role is to connect with incoming students and support them in navigating this new and often uncomfortable experience.



**JULIA OROFINO**  
 COMM '25  
 Mentorship Coordinator

- ♥ Personal Highlights:
  - Being a boss is so rewarding in itself; you get the opportunity to meet students in the program you may not have encountered previously!
  - Demonstrate the first impression of Commerce and the people in the program
- 💡 Learnings:
  - Respect Head Boss...
  - Demonstrating leadership and sharing my experience
  - Lead crowds of 25 students on tours, events, and team bonding exercises



EXEC TESTIMONIAL 3



The Queen's Conference on International Business is an annual conference held in mid-January. As the name suggests, the conference centers around the subject of international business. The weekend includes interactive panels, engaging workshops, and collaborative simulations.



- ♥ **Personal highlights:**
- Working with other delegates in the Chubb-sponsored Case Simulation competition
  - Wine tasting with Donald Ziraldo, Canadian winemaker and international businessman
  - Meeting and mingling with other delegates (fun socials each night)

- 💡 **Learnings:**
- Hearing from some really interesting business leaders about how their Canadian corporations are expanding internationally
  - Learning from firm reps about different international work opportunities



**BEN COOKE**  
 COMM '24  
 Mentorship Coordinator

- ♥ **Personal Highlights:**
- There were tons of really cool businesses, stories, and strategies shared at the Women in Entrepreneurship panel
  - Socials every night were a great way to meet QEC execs, competitors, and other attendees
  - Seeing all the cool, cutting-edge tech and - businesses being pitched at the competition

- 💡 **Learnings:**
- Improving my vocal presentation and pitch skills with Will Greenblatt from Outloud Speakers School
  - Learning from speakers like Kosi Stobbs and John Ruffolo



The Queen's Entrepreneurs' Competition is one of North America's best undergraduate pitch/business plan competitions. Undergraduate students from around the world apply to pitch their startup ideas with the chance to win major cash and in-kind prizes. Competitors and attendees alike get to listen to and learn from real entrepreneurs in a bunch of panels and workshops.

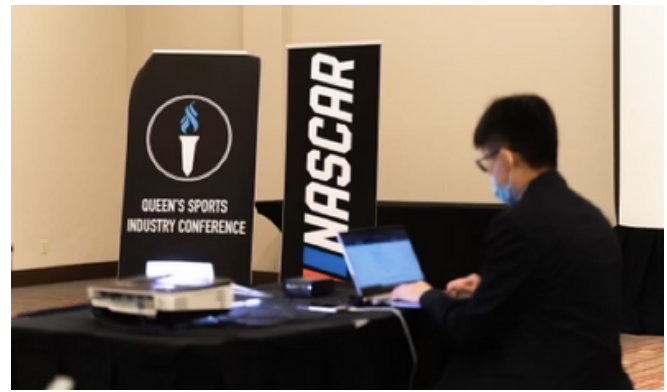


EXEC TESTIMONIAL 4

QUEEN'S  
SPORTS  
INDUSTRY  
CONFERENCE



The QSIC conference is a two-day event the club's executive runs annually where delegates are immersed in a weekend of learning and fun activities. When I attended the conference last year, key events included a fantasy draft simulation, a case competition, and listening to speakers and panellists from different areas of the industry. The event also includes dinners at local restaurants and nightly excursions such as bowling.



- ♥ Personal highlights:
- Got to present a case competition to judge panel of NASCAR executives
  - Learned more about career opportunities in the sports industry
- 💡 Learnings:
- The significant importance of data and analytics for anything sports related
  - The rise of legal sports gambling across US states and professional sports teams forming partnerships with gambling platforms.



**PHILIP RUSS**  
COMM '24  
*Mentorship Coordinator*

- ♥ Personal Highlights:
- Developed my passion for certain domains of consulting through panelists advice and stories
  - Well structured event
- 💡 Learnings:
- Learned a lot about EDII
  - Importance of leveraging the ability to connect with panelists both live and after the conference



In their second annual case competition, Smith Black Business Association (SBBA) partnered with the National Society of Black Engineers (NSBE) to deliver a weekend including an in-depth case competition as well as events hosted with partner firms such as BCG to receive advice on how to succeed in a case competition, their experiences entering the corporate workforce, and more. It is another example of the many case competitions COMSOC clubs offer and has an important focus on diversity and inclusion of people of all races, cultures, and backgrounds entering the corporate world!



## EXEC TESTIMONIAL 5



Executives on Queen's Retail Forum present Retail Day, a unique opportunity to interact with business professionals from leading retailers. You may learn more about the possibilities for careers in the retail sector. Even though this event was completely virtual the year I went, I thought it was still a meaningful experience that made me more receptive to the idea of working in retail.


 Personal highlights:


- Opportunity to win fun prizes and awards
- Socializing with peers who share a similar passion

 Learnings:


- The wide range of occupations available in the retail business.
- Consumers are demanding more sustainable fashion from companies today more than ever.



**GEETHA AHIMSADASAN**  
COMM '25  
Mentorship Coordinator

 Personal Highlights:

- Getting your questions answered by respected legal professionals
- Hearing the testimonials/opinions of lawyers

 Learnings:

- There are a variety of positions that are offered to those interested in business and law.
- The importance of having a legal background while working in business



Industry Week is a great way to learn about how the law interacts with a variety of different industries, including entertainment, sports, technology, and the environment. It was an amazing opportunity to hear from professionals in a few specialties of law. They spoke about their day-to-day activities as lawyers and answered questions from attendees. Despite not pursuing law, I think this event was a great way to gauge if an intersection of law and business is where you wish to work in the future.



## EXEC TESTIMONIAL 6



Attending QCEI was a highlight of my second semester in first year. The conference weekend was filled with panels, workshops, speakers, and night events. You're given the opportunity to learn from industry professionals that work for some of the coolest companies like Spotify and Scene. I recommend this conference to anyone interested in movies, music, art, and entertainment. As many topics discussed at the conference are not taught in class.



## CASSANDRA HARVEY

COMM '23  
HSL Co-Chair



## Personal highlights:

- Scene simulation where we were placed in teams and asked to handle the business side of creating a movie
- Night events like the banquet



## Learnings:

- What it means to be in a business role in the entertainment industry
- Networking with industry professionals in a meaningful manner

## WHAT TO DO NEXT

APPLY 

- Visit [comsoc.ca](https://comsoc.ca) to see all available positions
- Once you've decided on which club(s) to apply to, work on your application and book an interview time
- Visit the Career Advancement Center in Goodes to get interview tips and practice

## GOOD LUCK COMM '26!

