

## ABOUT THE SU

As of 2017 the University of Calgary's Students' Union (SU) is in its 75<sup>th</sup> year. The SU advocates on behalf of all undergraduate students at the University of Calgary. The Students' Legislative Council (SLC), the SU's governing body, is made up of five executives - the president and four vice presidents - and 19 faculty representatives, elected annually to represent students' interests. The SU's operations are supported by a professional team of staff and hundreds of student staff and volunteers. The SU runs several businesses including MacEwan Conference and Event Centre and the Den & Black Lounger. All proceeds from these student-owned ventures are reinvested directly into SU programs, services, events, and advocacy to benefit students and the campus.

## BACKGROUND

In March 1986, students at the University of Calgary voted to establish a student levy to sponsor a refugee student in pursuit of a university degree. The fund, which is administered by the Refugee Student Board (RSB), has sponsored 35 students to date and now sponsors two students each year, providing more than \$56,000 in funding per student throughout their four years of academic study. WUSC, the World University Service of Canada, works with a network of post-secondary institutions, private-sector partners, and volunteers to provide education, employment, and empowerment opportunities that improve the lives of millions of disadvantaged youth around the world. WUSC and the SU work together to ensure that the Refugee Student Program remains successful.

The Student Refugee Program enables individual refugees to pursue their education and a better life in an environment free of violence or fear.

The SU assists students by providing advise and with the some of the following expenses:

- Travel costs including flights and immigration fees
- Meals
- Rent
- Non-tuition school fees

## PARTNERS

This program would not be successful without the generous support of the University of Calgary who every year pays the cost of admission fees, tuition, textbook, and accommodation for the incoming first year students, approximately \$16,000 per student.

## STUDENTS

Each year, the SU Refugee Student Board reviews and evaluates student dossiers on criteria including: academic achievement, score on TOEFL (Test of English as a Foreign Language), existing support system in Canada, intended program of study, student interests, and student need.

To date, students have come to the University of Calgary from refugee camps from the following countries:

- Kenya
- Rwanda
- Malawi
- Sudan
- South Africa
- Thailand.

