To Dalhousie Student Union Members and Surrounding Community,

The Dalhousie Student Union Council stands in solidarity with 2SLGBTQ+ Students at Dalhousie and we denounce the decision of Dalhousie University to provide space for the Advance Summit keynote speakers on campus.

The Advance Summit has invited speakers including Laura-Lynn Tyler Thompson, who has consistently touted anti-2SLGBTQ+ rhetoric. Dalhousie University has approved their presence on our campus. This event is scheduled to take place on November 23rd, 2019.

In the last year, Dalhousie added priority 5.2 of their Strategic Plan titled “Diversity and Inclusion Strategy”, to further support a diverse student body in succeeding at university. The ideas that have been expressed by Laura-Lynn Tyler Thompson go beyond hatred and can be seen as an extreme manifestation of bigotry and prejudice. By inviting both 2SLGBTQ+ students to attend Dalhousie, and simultaneously allowing speakers with such harmful rhetoric, the institution has created an opportunity for speakers to delegitimize marginalized student groups and created an unsafe and isolating campus environment. Despite their clear outlines in this policy, Dalhousie has neglected their fiduciary duty to support marginalized students.

As the DSU, we aim to create safer spaces for our student body and are disappointed in Dalhousie’s lack of action at this time. We have asked that Dalhousie University use this as an opportunity to support its students’ needs and cancel this event. We are also asking that Dalhousie review their conference procedures to ensure that they are eliminating the opportunity for speakers to incite hatred or discriminatory treatment on campus. We encourage Dalhousie University to apologize to its student body and acknowledge the harm that this has caused to our campus community.

We hope that all 2SLGBTQ+ students find the support they need, and we are working to ensure these risks do not arise again. We understand the distress this event has brought to the 2SLGBTQ+ community and welcome students to voice their concerns and aim to help students find the support they need. Below are some of the relevant student services on campus and please reach out to the Dalhousie Student Union if you require further support.
Campus Supports

**Dalhousie Student Health and Wellness:**
Phone: 902-494-2171
Booking available online [here](#)
*Same Day counselling available on Studley campus and Walk-in counselling Tuesday 8am-8pm on Sexton Campus.*

**South House Sexual and Gender Resource Centre:**
Phone: 902-494-2432
Email: outreach@southhousehalifax.ca

**DalOUT:**
*SUB Office 280*
Monday 8-9:30am
Wednesday 8-10am
Friday 8-10am
Sunday 12-2pm
Email: dalout@dal.ca

**DSU Sexualized and Gender Based Violence Survivor Support:**
Phone line: 902-425-1066 (12pm-12am)
Survivor Support Manager: Shannon Pringle
Office hours: Monday-Friday 9am-5pm
Office Number: 902-494-1367
Email: survivorsupport@dal.ca

**VPSL Office Hours – Active Listening Support:**
*SUB Office 280*
Email: dsuvpsl@dal.ca

**Peer Support Workers:**
*Wellness room Office*
Monday – Thursday 12pm-2pm
In solidarity,

Aisha Abawajy  
DSU President

Calista Hills  
DSU Vice President (Internal)

Isa Wright  
DSU Vice President (Finance and Operations)

Ruby Coles  
DSU Vice President (Student life)

Hasan Sinan  
DSU Vice President (Academic and External)

Fatima Beydoun  
Board of Governors Representative

Fallen Matthews  
Faculty of Graduate Students Representative

Joshua Yusuf  
Faculty of Health Professions Representative

Bakhmala Khan  
Faculty of Science Representative

Herman Stubeda  
Faculty of Medicine Representative

Shivam Mahajan  
Faculty of Computer Science Representative

Naomi Bird  
Indigenous Students Community Representative

Claudia Castillo-Prentt  
Black Students Community Representative

Murray Lyu (Proxy)  
International Students Community Representative

Hannah Drake  
LGBTQ Students Community Representative

Lenka Wicha  
Faculty of Agriculture Representative

Meghan Faught  
Faculty of Law Representative

Ameir Yahia  
Faculty of Management Representative

Sandra Sunil  
Residence Students Community Representative

Julia Sarty  
Faculty of Engineering Representative

Ryan Callahan  
Faculty of Dentistry Representative