## **Short Statement**

Oki! I acknowledge that we are standing on the traditional territory of the Blackfoot people. I pay respect to the Blackfoot people's cultural heritage, beliefs, and relationship to the land.

I am an international student, and I am from the global south, Bangladesh. The main purpose of my study at the University of Lethbridge is to learn and develop myself. I think that GSA is a platform where I can meet and learn from other graduate student leaders. I also believe that GSA will provide me with an opportunity to serve graduate students and student communities at the university.

I wish to serve as an Independent representative on the GSA council. In January 2023, I completed my MA in English at the University of Lethbridge. Previously, I completed a BA (Hons) in English and an MA in English from the University of Rajshahi, Bangladesh. Currently, I am a PhD student in cultural, social, and political thought (CSPT) at the University of Lethbridge. My education will definitely help me fulfill my responsibilities as an Independent representative. I shall dedicate myself to creating a vibrant cultural community so that our students' voices reach the relevant bodies of the university.

A K M Iftekhar Khalid