

**Nina Micanovic**

Psychology Department – Teaching Assistant

My name is Nina and I'm running for the position of Co-Chief Steward (1). I'm a second-year Ph.D. student in Clinical Psychology. In the past, I have done other academic service, namely, sitting on various departmental committees. This year, (2022-2023), I joined, the local as my Department Steward (Psychology), and for the first time in my time at Queen's, felt that I was part of something that had the power to make a difference.

As a Steward, I've been involved in various organization efforts within my department. I am particularly proud of helping to organize a demonstration to raise our departmental funding minimum. The demonstration occurred at a meeting where the faculty and student representatives voted to raise funding from a \$22,000 minimum to a \$24,000 minimum. I've also worked to make PSAC more visible in our department, and to have PSAC and our departmental student council be more united. Lastly, I've supported our members in bringing up TA/RA/TF related issues and resolved them within the department.

As Co-Chief Steward, one of my goals would be to have PSAC 901 be more visible at the departmental level. One way of accomplishing this would be to make orientation more comprehensive and united across departments. In my time as a Steward, I've seen that knowledge of workplace rights has been a barrier to fair and equitable treatment in the workplace. Knowledge of rights starts from the bottom up. In addition, I would work to empower Stewards to organize both within their departments, and in collaboration with other departments. There is a lot of change, both inside and outside the local, that can occur at the departmental level, and Stewards play a key role in identifying issues and mobilizing around them. If I am selected to serve in this role, I look forward to working with both my Co-Chief Steward and the other executive to ensure fair and equitable treatment of our members in the workplace, and to work to organize and empower members in and outside of the workplace.