



## **2026 EYA AGM: BOARD CANDIDATE BIOS**



**Ella Cheah (she/her)**

**Director At Large**

Ella is a Singaporean-Malaysian settler who was born and raised on the unceded, traditional territories of the xʷməθkʷəy̓əm (Musqueam), Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish), səłilwətaʔt (Tsleil-Waututh), and kwikʷəłəm (Kwkwetlem) First Nations. She cares deeply about building more inclusive systems that centre wellbeing and is drawn to work that uplifts and empowers young

changemakers. Ella is a recent graduate of the UBC Sauder School of Business, and currently works as a Grants Coordinator at Finance Engage Sustain (FES), where she supports youth climate activists through resource development and grants administration. Outside of work, Ella finds joy in cycling, a good cup of matcha, and meaningful conversations with friends.



**Richard Richardson (any pronouns)**

**Director At Large**

Richard is an indigiqueer Sgajuuga.ahl Haida registered with Old Massett Village Council and Nlaka'pamux with connections to Spuzzum First Nation but had the privilege of growing up on Sto:lo territory – they now live on the unceded territories of the xʷməθkʷəy̓əm, Skwxwú7mesh, and səłilwətaʔt nations with their partners Justin and Vance. Richard holds a Bachelors of

Kinesiology from UBC and currently works at the First Nations Health Authority as the Team Lead of First Nations Recruitment and Retention. When Richard isn't watching reality TV, they find time to work on their jewelry and formline art practice.



**Environmental  
Youth Alliance**



**Sofía Rodríguez (she/her)**

**Director At Large**

Sofía is of Indigenous Chinantec (México) and Lebanese ancestry. Sofia grew up between the Philippines, the UAE, and Mexico, before arriving as an uninvited guest on xʷməθkʷəy̓əm, Skwxwú7mesh, and səliłwətaʔ territory in 2017 to study Applied Animal Biology at UBC. Witnessing her communities carry out a collective responsibility to the land and to each other

showed her the interconnectedness of people's struggles everywhere. Currently, she works in Mental Health and Substance Use at VCH and in her free time she runs a learning garden and seed library with her partner, and enjoys sewing and reading.