



Irfan “Cherry” Safin



“Ever since I was a child, I have been fascinated with politics, law, and how the government works. So naturally, the opportunity to be a Youth MP was appealing. I felt that youth in New Zealand have never really had much of a voice for themselves. We are not taken seriously simply on the basis of our age. Decisions in Parliament are commonly made to attract voters of a certain generation at the expense of the future of our youth. And issues related to our youth – such as the mental health crisis, economy, queer rights, and climate change – don't get enough attention. I wanted to relay the voice of the people that are often drowned out in all the noise, while simultaneously fulfilling my thirst for knowledge. I stand on the shoulders of my ancestors, and I would like to make the most of the opportunities available to me.”

Selecting MP: Dr Lawrence Xu-Nan

Location: Auckland