

Tuesday, May 18, 2021
6:00PM
Zoom

We would like to respectfully acknowledge that our University and our Students' Union are located on Treaty 6 Territory. We are grateful to be on Cree, Dene, Saulteaux, Métis, Blackfoot, and Nakota Sioux territory; specifically the ancestral space of the Papaschase Cree. These Nations are our family, friends, faculty, staff, students, and peers. As members of the University of Alberta Students' Union we honour the nation-to-nation treaty relationship. We aspire for our learning, research, teaching, and governance to acknowledge and work towards the decolonization of Indigenous knowledges and traditions.

LATE ADDITIONS (SC-2021-02)

- | | |
|-------------|---|
| 2021-02/1 | <u>SPEAKERS BUSINESS</u> |
| 2021-02/2 | <u>CONSENT AGENDA</u> |
| 2021-02/3 | <u>PRESENTATIONS</u> |
| 2021-02/3a | LEY MOVES TO present on the Alberta 2030 Post-Secondary Review Recommendations.

See SC-2021-02.10&12 |
| 2021-02/4 | <u>EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT</u> |
| 2021-02/5 | <u>BOARD AND COMMITTEE REPORT</u> |
| 2021-02/6 | <u>OPEN FORUM</u> |
| 2021-02/7 | <u>QUESTION PERIOD</u> |
| 2021-02/8 | <u>BOARD AND COMMITTEE BUSINESS</u> |
| 2021-02/8a | DIXON MOVES TO appoint 3 members of Council and one member of the executive to the Sustainability Committee. |
| 2021-02/9 | See SC-2021-02.11 |
| 2021-02/9a | <u>GENERAL ORDERS</u> |
| 2021-02/10 | <u>INFORMATION ITEMS</u> |
| 2021-02/10e | Council Submissions |

See SC-2021-02.10-11

2021-02/10f AB2030 Presentation Slides

See SC-2021-02.12

2021-22 - Council Submissions

UASU Students' Council Agenda Submission

This form is intended to be used by members of Students' Council to submit items for Council meetings.

Council Meeting Date	Tuesday, May 18, 2021
Mover	LEY
Email	rowan.ley@su.ualberta.ca
Action Requested	Presentation

Presentation

Motion LEY moves to present on the Alberta 2030 Post-Secondary Review Recommendations

Abstract

The Alberta 2030 post-secondary review, recently announced by the Alberta government, suggests several major changes to Alberta's universities which will affect students at U of A. This presentation is meant to inform Council on those changes.

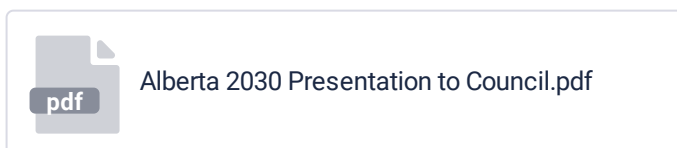
Alignment with the Strategic Plan

N/A

Next Steps

N/A

Attachments



2021-22 - Council Submissions

UASU Students' Council Agenda Submission

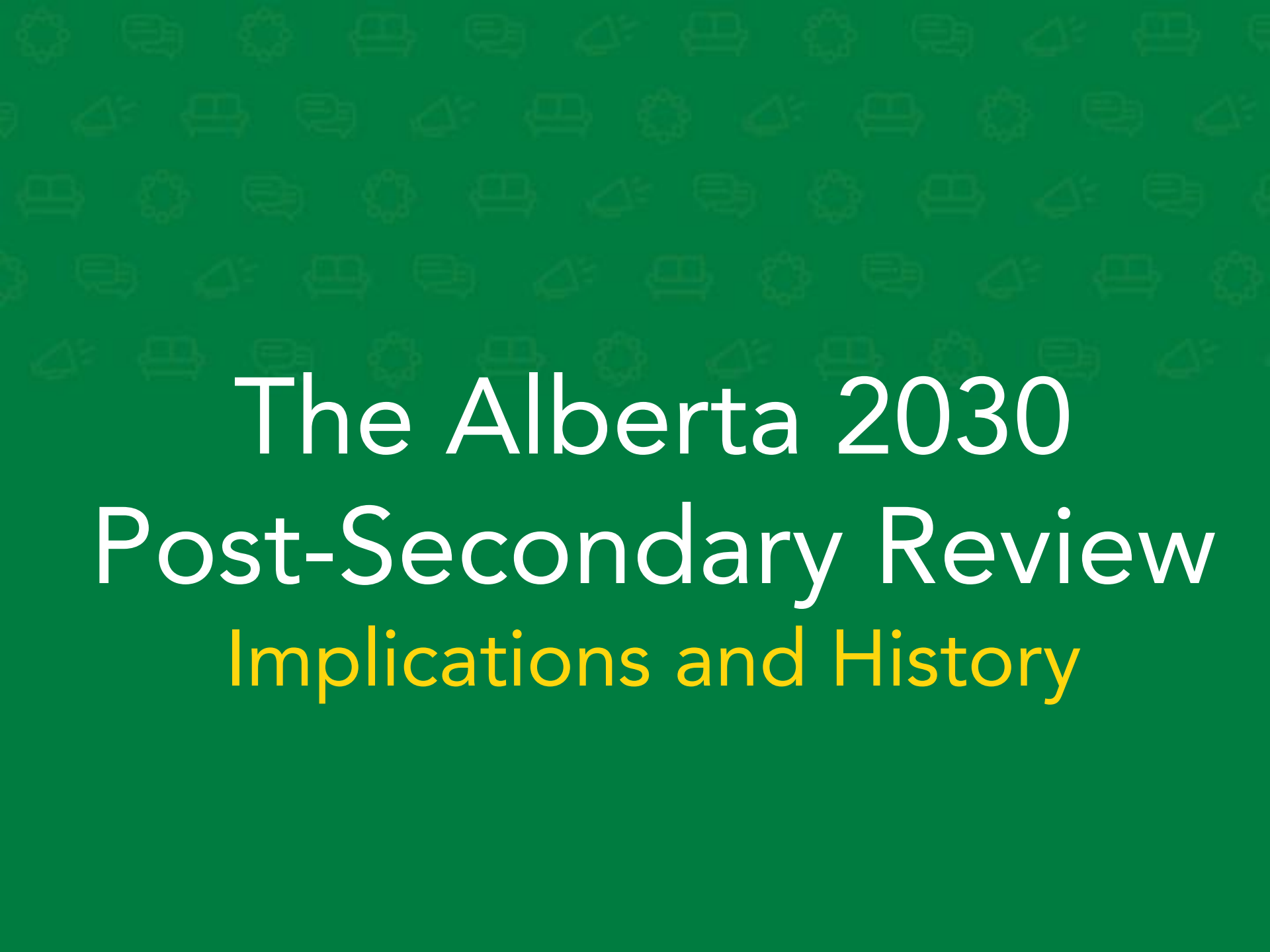
Council Meeting Date	Tuesday, May 18, 2021
Mover	DIXON
Email	talia.dixon@su.ualberta.ca
Action Requested	Approval

Approval

Motion	DIXON MOVES TO appoint 3 members of Council and one member of the executive to the Sustainability Committee
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Abstract

Sustainability Committee Mission Statement: "To bring positive change, sustainable action should not only happen at a grassroots level but at an institutional level as well. Thus, the Students' Council Sustainability Committee (SCSC) exists to respond to the climate crisis with a student perspective. SCSC's aims to make the Students' Union more sustainable, environmentally, socially, and economically by evaluating its current practices and suggesting definitive, practical improvements. These improvements should support the Students' Union as a leader in promoting sustainable practices on campus and in the larger Edmonton community.



The Alberta 2030 Post-Secondary Review Implications and History

History: 1908-2019

- Alberta had an excellent, but very expensive, advanced education system
- Quality and access among the very best in the world
- In 2014, the price of oil fell over 70%, and the provincial budget deficit reached \$12 Billion
- Government continued to support existing spending through borrowing

History: 2019-2020

- When the UCP was elected, they commissioned the [MacKinnon report](#) on Alberta's finances
- Looked only at ways to cut
- Questionable methodology
- Recommended large cuts to universities, tuition increases



2020-21: The Review

- Spring 2020: The Government decides to commission a complete review of the PSE system
 - Governance, funding, partnerships, etc.
- Consultant, McKinsey and Co., hired for \$3.7M
- Broad engagement and consultation



The Review: Consultation

- Dozens of stakeholder submissions
 - Including the [UASU](#) and [CAUS](#)
- Roundtables and Interviews
 - All major student associations invited
- The Guiding Coalition
 - Including me and an ASEC representative
- The government published a [summary of what they heard](#) a couple weeks ago.

The Review: Timeline

- Early 2020: McKinsey selected
- March 2020: Announcement of Review
- July 2020: Guiding coalition chosen
- August-October 2020: Submissions prepared and sent to McKinsey
- October '20-January '21: Guiding coalition, interviews, panel sessions
- May 2020: Recommendations announced

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RESULTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The Review: Recommendations

- The review recommendations were announced by Minister Nicolaides at the start of May.
- The [217-page summary powerpoint](#) has a lot of detail about plans for the system
- Overall assessment: Not terrible and moves in the right direction
 - Not enough money to get best results

Key Recommendations: Sexual Violence

- Sexual Violence Response
 - Creation of a provincial sexual violence prevention committee, similar to Nova Scotia
 - Broad consultation to develop a provincial strategy
- Our take: A win, and basically what we asked for, though not as fast as would be ideal.



Key Recommendations: Tuition

- Increase tuition flexibility
 - Nobody knows what flexible tuition means.
 - “market-based adjustments”
 - “limited programs”
 - “guardrails”
 - Not complete deregulation
 - Opportunities for continued advocacy
- Our take: Not great, but a lot better than it could have been.

Key Recommendations: Student Aid

- Doubling needs-based grants to prevent higher tuition pricing students out (\$40-50 million)
 - Methodology: Estimate of amount in grants required to offset fall in student #
 - Flaws: 2020 is used as a baseline after tax credits cut, participation rate in 2020 is already low, we will still have the least grants in Canada
- Our take: What we asked for, but too little and too late

Key Recommendations: Access for Indigenous Students

- Fund transition programs for Indigenous students, like the TYP at U of A
 - Work to determine \$ needed
- Possible performance metric for indigenous enrolment
- Our take: Depends on the specifics and needs more evaluation



Key Recommendations: Mental Health

- Work to reassess the amount of money provided in the Mental Health Grant, potentially increasing it
- Our take: Probably good, but how good depends a lot on distribution and amount.



Key Recommendations: Governance

- Establishing system-level “advisory councils”, not touching Boards of Governors
- Reducing government power over university boards
- Financial deconsolidation of U of A
- Our take: Generally good, could have been **WAY** worse

Key Recommendations: Internationalization

- Mostly focused on recruitment of international students for financial reasons
- Creating an “Alberta Education Brand”
 - Unclear how this combines with current university branding and recruitment
- Our take: Skeptical about usefulness, but it’s not actively bad





ANY QUESTIONS?