

March 14th, 2013**To:** Students' Council**Re:** Report to Council

Hey Council,

Before I proceed with my report, I would like to acknowledge that our university and our Students' Union are on Indigenous land. Specifically: Cree, Saulteaux, Metis, Blackfoot, and Nakota Sioux.

They are faculty, staff, students, family, and friends, and they are still here. I acknowledge that we meet on treaty 6 territory. That treaty governs the relationship between first-nations and non-first nations citizens. I am thankful for this opportunity for us to meet on this land today. This statement will be included at the front of my report to council until either the time that my term ends, or Council moves to make a similar statement available for public viewing.

I'm eager to attend the meeting of the Board coming up on the 15th, as I'm sure we'll be discussing the financial peril of our post-secondary education system. I'm extremely concerned what the massive funding shortfall will mean for the University of Alberta – and for students here. It would appear that the University is going to have to take even more drastic action this time. Whether it be cuts to faculty, staff, or enrollment, I'm ready to hold the administration accountable.

As the cuts loom, I'll be pushing for increased consultation as the administration moves forward. It's imperative that the administration do a good job of including the constituents in the dialogues as they move forward with changes to the system. If consultation is inadequate, administration will be sure to hear about it.

On a more positive note, the University of Alberta is launching its inaugural Pride Week. I'm a little confused as to why this didn't happen long ago, but nevertheless, I'm happy to see that

things are moving in the right direction.

The launch of the Pride Week will be on 1pm Friday March 15th at the Timms Centre.

Indira will be speaking there, and perhaps she'll have a chance to explain why it took so long for Pride Week to come to the U of A. For more information you can check out

www.prideweek.ualberta.ca.

In addition, there is another round of Safe Spaces training provided by iSMSS coming up on March 20th. It will be at 9:30-11 AM in 122 Education South. I'll probably be attending, so just let me know if you'd like to come along and I'll RSVP for you.

Other than that, I'm looking forward to seeing you all Tuesday. I hope the stress of papers and midterms isn't too much. Remember to take some time for self-care!

In Solidarity,

Brent Kelly

Undergraduate Board of Governors Representative 2012-2013 | University of Alberta Students' Union

P: (780) 999-8867 | **F:** (780) 492-4643 | **E:** bog@su.ualberta.ca