



August 24th, 2015 **To:** University of Alberta Students' Union Students' Council 2015-2016 **From:** Navneet Khinda, POTSU 2015-2016 **Re:** Report to Students' Council (for August 25th, 2015)

Snapshot

- 1. CASA GOTV Conference
- 2. SUDS Conference
- 3. Upcoming residence issues
- 4. Miscellaneous
 - **a.** Governance Review Task Force
 - **b.** Student welcome video for President Turpin
 - c. SUB Art
 - d. Speech writing
 - e. Exec retreat
 - f. Time Capsule
- 5. Looking ahead: Orientation + WoW

CASA – Preparing for Get Out the Vote

Earlier last week, VP Hanwell and I were in Ottawa with the rest of our CASA peers to get ready for our respective GOTV campaigns. The first day was a series of sessions and discussions presented by Apathy is Boring and Day two consisted of learning the various intricate details on how to use Nation Builder properly. We are *ecstatic* about throwing another fantastic campaign together for our beautiful campus!

In the words of VP Hanwell, "untold democratic riches await you". We would absolutely love to have Councillors volunteer to help get out the vote! Some of you may already be walking around and visiting your friends/constituents during Week of Welcome – if you could get them signed up to pledge to vote, that would be fantastic. If you're interested in volunteering, send an email to <u>vp.external@su.ualberta.ca</u>

WE NEED YOU! Honestly, we do. And I know for a fact that for the majority of you, your main goal this year was to engage with your constituents and actually talk to them. This is the perfect excuse to help you do that ©

Student Union Development Summit

Right after CASA, VP Hanwell and I flew into Vancouver to join the rest of our wonderful team just in time for the SUDS conference. It's hosted by the University of British Columbia's Alma Mater Society – their equivalent of a Students' Union. There are a variety of sessions on topics relevant to all portfolios but one of the biggest strengths of this conference is the networking and bonding opportunities. Many of the delegates that attend don't work with us in CAUS or CASA so it allows us to meet and work with a broader array of student leaders.

While both conferences were useful and fun, I won't hesitate in saying that it was a very exhausting week.



Residence concerns

I have spent a large portion of the past few days focusing on some emerging issues in Lister Hall. Due to various university decisions over the past four years, the Lister Hall Students' Association has been suspended for the next two years. VP Kwan and I are working with Lister students and the Dean of Students office to explore potential solutions so that students are not left without representation for those years. Stay tuned for updates if/when the situation evolves.

Throughout the week ...

There are a lot of other things going on simultaneously. I went to the first meeting of VP Rahman's <u>Governance Review Task Force</u> where we set out a timeline for what we want to discuss this year. Super exciting stuff!

I'm also working with the GSA on creating a "<u>welcome video</u>" on behalf of U of A students for President Turpin's Installation Ceremony in November. Making a video, especially a good one, is a long process. Fingers crossed on this one. Related to the arts, we have an <u>internal Art Committee</u> of sorts to figure out what we're going to place on all the blank walls we have now! Hopefully we can get some lovely and unique pieces up soon.

As the entire university community gears up for back-to-school, I'm trying to stay on top of speech writing. Also, be sure to <u>catch some of the events</u> happening. Check out <u>www.uasu.ca/WOW</u> as well as <u>www.athletics.ualberta.ca/schedules</u> for all the upcoming Varsity games. (Hint hint, we should organize and go watch a game together!)

On September 4th, during our <u>Block Party in the new SUB atrium</u>, we will be burying a time capsule. Do you have ideas on what we should put in there to represent students? Please let us know!!!

See you soon!

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