

October 13th, 2015

To: University of Alberta Students' Union Students' Council 2015-2016

From: Navneet Khinda, POTSU 2015-2016

Re: Report to Students' Council (for October 13th, 2015)

Dear Council,

As I write this report, the news of a “non-criminal death” on the U of A campus has been confirmed – the third within about a year’s time. This is incredibly devastating and at the moment I am at a loss for words. Our campus has lost yet another valued peer and friend.

Last two weeks:

1. **Alumni Council meeting**
2. **Met with the President of the Post-Docs Association**
3. **MNIF project updates**
4. **CAUS Meeting**
5. **Lister**
6. **RBAC**

1. At our **Alumni Council Meeting** on September 30th, the VP Advancement gave an update on the U of A’s “Giving Day” campaign, which starts today, to fundraise money related to student mental health programming. We hope they direct some of that to the Peer Support Centre but we have not gotten a firm commitment on that. They also gave an update on their strategic plan.

2. I had a quick meeting with Dr. Ann Revill – she is the President of the post-docs on campus. Interestingly, the post-docs are not mandated to have an association in the *Post-Secondary Learning Act*, so they have very limited power. This is something they want to discuss with the Ministry of Advanced Education.

3. Regarding our **MNIF project**, where we are working with the administration and the graduate students to come to a solution for accountability, there has been some progress. They have presented us with another draft version of the agreement alongside a formula that will be used to calculate increases to the fees. This means that fees wouldn’t increase solely by CPI, but rather by a formula, created by the university, that has a floor and a ceiling to it. This takes into account their other costs such as salaries and benefits. Naturally, we have some concerns with this. Currently I am digesting the proposal and the proposed formula and I will then go ahead in further talks with the administration. Stay tuned for this to come to Council soon.

4. **CAUS Meeting in Calgary** on Friday, Oct 9th. During our day-long meeting, we discussed the following items/issues, among other things:

- Our paper on Student Financial Assistance in Alberta
- Preparations for Fall Lobby Conference and other meetings
- Mental Health Consultations
- Other advocacy asks

- Athabasca University

6. As VP Kwan's report states, we are continuing to work on **Lister advocacy**. As you can imagine, there are a lot of different things to consider when approaching this issue. We are currently in discussions with the Dean of Students Office and I will update you as soon as there are developments.

7. **RBAC** is the Residence Budget Advisory Committee. There are a couple on-going discussions happening here, which will eventually make their way to the Board. Today we discussed the All You Care To Eat (AYCTE) meal plan they wish to implement in Lister (and other residences in the future), rent increases specific to certain residences (for example, an additional monthly charge to students in Residence in Augustana for Wi-Fi), and general comments related to provincial advocacy.

Looking ahead this week

- **Board of Governors meeting** on Friday, October 16th. Two motions that may be of interest to Council:
 - Motion that the Board of Governors, on the recommendation of the Board Finance and Property Committee, approve a capital expenditure of seventy-four million, seven hundred thousand dollars (\$74,700,000) in Canadian funds for a fifth tower at Lister Centre and for East Campus Village – Phase 3.
 - Motion that the Board of Governors, on the recommendation of the Board Finance and Property Committee:
 - A) execute a Borrowing Resolution requesting approval of mortgage financing for the design and construction of the Lister Centre Tower #5 and East Campus Village – Phase 3 project for a total borrowing amount not to exceed seventy-four million, seven hundred thousand dollars (\$74,700,000) in Canadian funds for a term of not more than thirty (30) years at an interest rate of not more than four percent (4.0%); and
 - B) make an application to the Minister of Infrastructure for the required approval of the Lieutenant Governor in Council.

Remember to take care of each other,



Navneet Khinda
President 2015-2016
[University of Alberta Students' Union](#)

780.492.4241 | president@su.ualberta.ca
2-900 Students' Union Building
Twitter: [@UASUPresident](#)
LinkedIn: [navneetkhinda](#)