

**Date:** 04/04/2023**To:** Students' Union Council**Re:** President 2022/23 Report #24

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### **CASA Annual General Meeting**

Vice President Fotang and I attended the CASA AGM in Halifax, Nova Scotia, as we wrapped up our year of federal advocacy. One exciting development out of the AGM is that the UASU put in and won the bid to host CASA AGM 2024, which will be an amazing opportunity to host schools from across the country on our campus and showcase Perks to other schools and garner their interest in it.

### **Tuition Protest**

On March 24, our campus community rallied together to protest against the 5.5% and 6.5% proposed increases to domestic and international tuition, respectively. Hundreds of students, faculty, and staff showed up to support our efforts and stand in solidarity with students impacted by increases in tuition. I would like to thank the GSA, AASUA, NASA, Halt the Hike, the Campus Food Bank, APIRG, and so many others for all of their support in organizing, creating materials, sharing statistics, and rallying their constituencies to unify the campus community behind this goal. While the increases did pass, it was not without strong opposition and not without delivering on some key areas that students have been asking about for months. Here are the wins we were able to achieve thanks to our advocacy efforts and the support of the campus community.

- Eliminating the \$40 Installment Fee, saving students \$1 Million annually.
- Up to \$200K in financial support to help the Campus Food Bank build an outdoor food pantry and a commitment to have it done by the end of the 2023 calendar year.
- The creation of a working group to review the moderate standard of living calculation, process improvements for accessing institutional financial aid, and improvements to transparency and promotion of funding available.

### **GFC Committee on Governance and Procedural Oversight (GPO)**

Over this term, I have represented undergraduate students on GFC Exec GPO, a committee tasked with reviewing the GFC Terms of Reference and Composition. There have been several discussions about how we look at the composition of GFC, but my primary focus has been on maintaining the student voice and voting proportion we have on GFC. In 1971, the statutory members of GFC decided not to give any one constituency a voting majority on GFC, and as we approach the end of this work, GFC will need to reaffirm this decision again.

## MNIF Joint Oversight Committee

As we approach the end of the year, VP Fogue, VP Villosa, and I have been working with the university to develop a new MNIF agreement since the last one was drafted in 2016. Our focus will be on developing a better reporting structure to give us better insight into how MNIF money is being used for future student leaders.

Another update is that while we continue to find a solution to MyCreds, the University has committed to giving students free verification of enrolment in the form of a paper copy. Students will need to request this from the University and pick it up at the Student Service Center or can have it delivered by courier if they can't come to campus (courier fees may apply). Will have more information to share soon. While we are not satisfied with this solution, it will give students a free alternative until we can get MyCreds delivered for free too.

## UASU President Transition

I have been working very closely with President-Elect Fotang to make sure he is prepared to take office on May 1, 2023.

## Updates

- The university is currently in the process of hiring a new Dean of Students.

Cheers,



**Abner Monteiro (he/him)**

President

University of Alberta Students' Union