

Date: 02/08/2022

To: Students' Union Council

Re: Vice President Operations & Finance 2021/22 Report #21

Dear Council,

February is Black History Month (BHM). BHM means many different things for different individuals, but for me, BHM is about uplifting the voices that have been silenced all too often. It's about celebrating Black excellence and the qualities that make us unique. We must acknowledge our history - honouring those who have marched, fought, and challenged societal norms and standards.

Being a Black woman in these spaces isn't easy. There have been many times where I've been overlooked, ignored, and silenced. It's disheartening, frustrating, and exhausting to constantly be aware of your environment and code-switch to make those around you feel comfortable. If this is my experience today, what was it like for people like Violet King Henry or Henry Service?

Yet, while we realize the work still to be done, we must celebrate our accomplishments and victories thus far.

BHM Updates:

Our BHM social media campaigns have started to roll out. I've gotten a lot of positive feedback from students, which is always nice to hear. Social media posts will be going up every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday. Keep engaging and sharing those posts.

I met with a representative from the Canadian Association of Black Lawyers (CABL) this week, along with our Director of Fundraising, to discuss the Violet King award and a potential sponsorship. I'll keep you all updated.

Keep an eye out for the Wall of Gold!

Emily Kimani, Vice President Operations and Finance

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2022/23 Budget Principles

Finance committee has approved the 2022/23 budget principles, which we will have some time to discuss during our next Council meeting. Once again, budget principles set out the Students' Union's priorities and values for the budget - this means that these principles determine the amount of money that will be set aside for specific projects, services, initiatives, reserves, etc.

Alberta Student Leadership Summit (ASLS)

The Alberta Student Leadership Summit (ASLS) was held last week. ASLS is a five-day event hosted through our LEAD Centre. This year, there was an incredible lineup of speakers on a host of interesting topics on sustainability, community organizing, leadership fundamentals, and governance. This year, all the execs were involved and were a part of different presentations. Talia and I were part of a panel and discussed our experiences as women in governance - it was the highlight of my week.

If you have any questions about anything in this report, please don't hesitate to reach out. I'm always down to grab a coffee and chat.

All the best,



Emily