

**Date:** 01/06/2021

**To:** Students' Union Council

**Re:** Vice President Operations & Finance 2021/22 Report #3

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Dear Council,

Hello again! Happy to be seeing everyone. I cannot believe we are at the end of May; time is passing by quickly. I hope you have all taken some time to go outside, enjoy the sun, and soak in some Vitamin D. I, for one, have been on many, many walks while I listen to the Michelle Obama Podcast. Does anyone have any podcast recommendations??

These past two weeks have been busy as we move further along into our roles. I took over the Executive Instagram last week, which was exciting! The purpose of these takeovers is to ensure that we are communicating and being transparent with students. As well as giving a “behind the scenes” look into being an Executive. Each Executive will have a chance to take over the Instagram page and take you along their day; stay tuned.

I have now met with all the core managers and have begun to draft out and plan some of my projects for this year, like Aboriginal Awareness Week, recognizing Black History Month at the UASU, and implementing the bulk foods section in SUBmart. Things are still relatively preliminary but I will keep you updated as we move through the year.

### **Business and Operations Update**

SUB will remain open during the remaining spring and summer months with its current operating hours. The Daily Grind and SUBmart will operate as per usual and are ready to serve our campus community. SUBprint is operating only through pick-up orders at the moment. Deweys, unfortunately, will remain closed during the spring and summer months but will open back up in the Fall. RATT will also remain closed until the Fall, where it will then be available as a space that student groups can book for events. Although we are in the early stages, and with the recent announcement from the government, we are in the process of ramping up our operations to ensure that we are ready when students return to campus. This will be especially important as we approach August and the beginning of September.

### **UPass Update**

Along with other student leaders, I have a seat on the UPass Working Committee and the UPass Administration Committee. As you know, the UPass successfully passed at the referendum this past

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March, and so, it was renewed. After hard advocacy from last year's Executive, the UPass will cost University of Alberta undergraduate students \$180 per semester for the years 2021-2025. The negotiated agreement will see no fee increase for the entire 4-year contract. Now, we are in the process of finalizing and signing the agreement. We are also transitioning over to SmartFare. Although still in the beginning stages, we have started to have conversations regarding SmartFare and SmartCard distribution. I hope to have further updates on SmartFare soon.

## **StudentCare Stakeholder Conference**

VP Dixon and I attended the StudentCare Stakeholder Conference this week. We were asked to give a Land Acknowledgement at the beginning of the conference. The conference is held to bring together student leaders from across the country to learn from industry experts, provide feedback on Studentcare's innovations, and contribute to the development of student healthcare. We attended a series of incredible talks and presentations that focused on the health and wellness of students. It was also a great opportunity to meet and network with other student leaders.

## **Sustainability Projects**

### **Menstrual Hygiene Day**

The Period Poverty initiative has been a major priority for VP Dixon and I. We have continued to work out our plan for the year. Specifically, we have focused on bringing awareness and providing education to this initiative by celebrating Menstrual Hygiene Day on May 28th! You may have seen our post about Menstrual Hygiene Day on the UASU Instagram page. VP Dixon and I were interviewed by CBC this week about our plans to expand the Period Poverty Initiative and the ways in which, as a campus, we can move towards menstrual equity. The interview aired Friday morning!

### **SCF Green Fund**

We have recently hired a Funding and Awards specialist who I have been closely working with to oversee the SCF Green Fund distribution. This way, we can ensure that we have a consistent process for the allocation and distribution of the fund moving forward.

## **Noteworthy Meetings**

### **GFC Facilities Development Committee**

This committee reviews and recommends general space and functional programs, the design and use of facilities, and policies related to facilities and planning. In our last meeting, we discussed the DentPharm project and approved the building programming.

### **World University Services Canada (WUSC)**

I had a meeting with WUSC last week to discuss the Refugee Board and their plans for the year. WUSC is a dedicated fee unit, which will be going to referendum this year, through which an international student is sponsored through financial aid to study at Campus Saint Jean or at North Campus.

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### **Gateway Student Journalism Society (GSJS) Board**

I attended my first GSJS meeting this week. We appointed members to various committees and discussed the committee's plans for the year.

Lastly, I would like to remind you all that EDIT applications are still [live](#). I encourage you all to apply and spread the word. Applications close June 15th.

As always, if you have any questions, or you just want to chat, don't hesitate to reach out. We are here to support you in any way we can.

All the best,



Emily

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