

**Date:** 09/06/2022

**To:** Students' Union Council

**Re:** Vice President Operations and Finance 2022/23 Report #9

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Dear Council,

Happy start of Fall semester! I hope you all had a good long weekend, and are ready for your classes to begin. Here's what I've been up to in my busy two weeks:

### **National Day of Truth and Reconciliation**

September 30th is slowly approaching, and the Residential School Memorial Planning Committee has been constantly meeting and working through the ceremony portion of the event. Other than the memorial, in regards to the operations side of things, I've been working on how our businesses can support other Indigenous organizations and run-businnesses. We have a couple of things planned that we hope will support the Orange Shirt Society and the Indian Residential School System Survivors Society, so please keep a look out for those updates in my next report!

### **Period Equity: RO**

Joannie and I also met with the Registrar's Office last week to go over the last few logistical aspects of our new period equity approach strategy. We hope to work with them to accomplish the equity portion of our two-pronged strategy, and hopefully implement it soon with their help!

### **CAUS Counterparts**

The Exec got to go to CAUS Counterparts last weekend and meet with the different SU's around Alberta that are a part of CAUS! I got to learn a lot more about CAUS as an organization and still continue to learn from my counterparts. We got to know more about their upcoming GOTV campaign for the upcoming provincial elections, and got multiple presentations about how we as student leaders can better support our 2SLGBTQ+ and Indigenous communities on our campuses.

### **WOW and NSO**

Last week Week of Welcome finally started!! It was an extremely busy week for us, but I to give a New Student Orientation Tour, help out with Pancake Breakfast, emcee the President's Address, visit all our different student groups at Clubs Fair and meet a bunch of other students! Though WOW isn't over yet, if you're looking to do something in the evening this week check out [uasuevents.ca](https://uasuevents.ca) to see what else we have planned! The first person who sends me one of the events we're doing this week before my report, gets a prize!



### Blake Desjarlais

The Exec also met with Blake Desjarlais, the MP for Edmonton Griesbach. He serves as the Critic for the Treasury Board, Diversity and Inclusion, Youth, Sport and Post-Secondary Education. He is also the Deputy Critic for 2SLGBTQI+ Rights and Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship. We gave him a tour of SUB and talked about the student experience in regards to his portfolio and our asks from him given his roles.

### Arc Studio

During our busy Week of Welcome, I was also able to squeeze a meeting with Arc Studio, the architectural company the UASU is working with in renovating SUB. Our last conversation was focused on the North Entrance and the corridors of the building, specifically how we can improve accessibility, lighting and make it a more welcoming place for students. We're still in the planning stage and I can't wait to see what the final product will look like!



### UofC Social Work

The University of Calgary's Faculty of Social Work and SU has had a decades long agreement that enables their students to pay us fees and utilize our services. Gurleen and I spoke at their orientation this year, and went over some of the services that the SU provides and how they can access them! This has been the first time an Exec actually came to talk to their students, so I'm very happy to have been a part of it!

### Arts Meet and Greet: Student Leadership Panel

I was also given the opportunity to be a part of a Student Leader panel organized by the Organization of Arts Students and Interdisciplinary Studies at their Arts Meet and Greet! I was alongside our very own Councillor Avila on the panel, and we both got to talk about our journeys into student governance, I had a lot of fun answering questions and was super thankful to have been invited!

### TAWOW

We were also fortunate enough to attend the first in person TAWOW in a couple of years! We tabled with Danni, our new FNMI specialist, and got a chance to welcome and meet many first year Indigenous students! It was incredibly rewarding once again being in person and seeing everyone on campus.



If you have any questions about this report or just want to grab some coffee, please don't hesitate to reach out!

Best,



**Julia Villosa**

Vice President Operations and Finance  
University of Alberta Students' Union