

**Date:** 09/28/2022

**To:** Students' Union Council

**Re:** Vice President Operations and Finance 2022/23 Report #11

Dear Council,

Hope you all had a good two weeks! Mine has been incredibly hectic and I will tell you all more about it on Tuesday, so I will give you a short report this week:

### Break The Record

I'd just like to thank everyone who came out for Break The Record! Although we were short, just about 1100 people, I think everyone had such a great time. It was really nice to see a lot of the campus community come together towards a common goal. I'm also proud to be on the winning Green Team!!! I'd like to especially thank our VPSL Joannie for tirelessly working so hard on this project for the past couple of months. So please give her some praise when you see her!



### National Day of Truth and Reconciliation

The Residential School Memorial: Students Healing from Our Past and Building Our Future is currently on display at Main Quad. Thank you to everyone who came out to the ceremony and helped us plant the 10,028 flags for each child lost to the Indian Residential School System. If you get the chance to stop by the Main Quad before October 3rd, I encourage you to read our lawn signs and honor the children taken from their communities. I invite you all to reflect on the importance of National Day of Truth and Reconciliation and what it means to be on the land you live on.



**Julia Villosio, Vice President Operations and Finance**

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The rest of my report will be dedicated to the things you can do for Truth and Reconciliation:



1. Learn about the territory you live on at [Native-Land.ca](https://Native-Land.ca)

2. Learn about Residential Schools to honour the lost children and Survivors, and learn of the lasting impacts on Indigenous peoples.

3. Buy and wear an Orange shirt created by Indigenous artists and associations. SUBMart is selling shirts right from [Orange Shirt Society](https://OrangeShirtSociety.com) and the UofA Bookstore is selling shirts to support First People's House.

4. Learn and inform others about Indigenous advocacy projects on campus, such as The Maskwa House of Learning. Maskwa House will serve as a specialized space for Indigenous students on campus, used for programming and ceremonies. In 2005, the project was

in the works since at least 2005, and was known as the "Gathering Place." In 2015 the UAlberta President David Turpin made the announcement of Maskwa House at his installment ceremony. Now in the present day, since 2016 there have been no further developments to accomplish this goal.

5. Read the [Truth and Reconciliation Report](#) and it's [Call to Actions](#)

6. Follow discussions and learn about Indigenous peoples and culture from Indig-led organizations. Organizations associated with our campus community: First People's House, Indigenous Students' Union, Indigenous Business Students Association, Indigenous Law Students Association

7. Support Indigenous owned businesses. Here are two different resources you can look at with [shopping and dining](#) and this [Indigenous shopping guide](#).

8. Attend an Indigenous-led event on the 30th and show your support. You can find some within Edmonton [here](#).

9. Make a donation to an Indigenous people or organization: Here is a [list](#) of Indigenous organizations you can donate to all across Canada. One organization the SU donates to is the [Indian Residential School Survivors Society \(IRSSS\)](#).

10. Take the time to learn about the history of Indigenous people in Canada. You can sign up for the UAlberta Indigenous Canada Course: [Massive Open Online Course \(MOOC\)](#), or you can read from this [list of 48 books](#) to better understand Residential Schools.

11. Contemplate any personal discomfort resulting from Canada's activities

12. Learn how to properly acknowledge the land we live on

13. Create space for Indigenous people to speak and trust Indigenous leaders

If you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to contact me!

Best,



**Julia Villoso**

Vice President Operations and Finance  
University of Alberta Students' Union