

**Date:** 09/22/2020

**To:** Students' Union Council

**Re:** Vice President Operations & Finance 2020/21 Report #11

---

Dear Council,

Hello again! I hope you are all feeling healthy and well, and that your classes are off to a great start. I am enjoying my Native Studies course. As promised, here is something I learned. I learned about the Nehiyawak creation story, some versions of which can span hours, days, or even a whole year! My very poor summary is that, essentially, it is about how the Sky Woman digs a hole in her island in the sky so big that she falls through, down toward the sea. She is caught up by the geese, and then animals dive into the water to find earth from the ocean floor, which is put on the back of a turtle. The turtle then grows and grows, and becomes home for the Sky Woman and her children. And this is why the land we call "Canada" is called "Turtle Island" by some Indigenous peoples! I know this story is not mine to tell from experience, but I hope you found it interesting.

### **Executive Retreat**

The executives "retreated" to one of our SUB basement rooms last week to discuss academic restructuring, and its many effects that it will have on the Students' Union and our governance structures. President Agarwal will have more updates for Council on our thoughts around this.

### **Myer Horowitz Theatre Planning**

It has been my privilege to attend planning meetings for the Myer Horowitz Theatre renovation. The group that regularly meets consists of myself, Marc (our General Manager), Erin (our Building Planner), several other SU staff, University staff (such as University Architect Ben Louie), and architects at Arc Studios.

We have spent the last two meetings going over the renovation proposals from three years ago, updating them to meet students' evolving needs. We have also compiled a list of deficiencies of the space that we will seek to address, and a list of ways to make the theatre (and the building in general) far more accessible than it is.

As always, if you have any questions about the contents of this report, or simply want to talk, please feel free to reach out! Stay safe and healthy.

All the best,

**Alana Krahn**

University of Alberta Students' Union Vice President (Operations & Finance)