



May 6th, 2016

To: Students' Council

Re: Report to Students' Council

Hey Council!

Welcome to your term as a councilor! Hopefully everyone has had a chance to meet with their committees and get settled into your new position. We've got a big year ahead of us, and if the first couple meetings of council are any indication, we've definitely got the council to face the challenges ahead.

My first report is going to be fairly brief. As I'm writing this, I'm mildly freaking out about leaving to China in less than 24 hours for my study tour, but you know, hopefully I'll manage. Maybe the freaking out is from too much coffee? Either way, let's get this show on the road.

The First Week

Today marks the end of the first week of the job. I'm getting settled in nicely. I've gotten a chance to meet most of the staff in the office, get my space set up and formalize myself with the office's process.

Trip To Calgary

On Thursday the 5th President Rahman, Jon Mastel (Director of Research and Political Affairs) and myself travelled to Calgary to support the U of C Students' Union in their fight for their equivalent of SUB, MacHall. Long story short, the U of C SU has had an agreement with the U of C that they hold 55% ownership and the operating rights of MacHall. The agreement expires on May 6th, today, and the U of C has decided that they feel they have the legal right to take the building. We attended an injunction brought by the U of C SU to keep operations at the status quo, preventing the U of C from taking the building today, until at least a fair trial is completed. They did not reach an agreement on the injunction yesterday, due to time restrictions. The judge ruled that the status quo remain until they can meet again to finalize the injunction. So, in essence, a mini injunction was awarded until the actual injunction can be decided upon. Small victories are still victories! The U of C SU was incredibly appreciative of our support, and we learned a lot about the situation.

The Near Future

Tomorrow I fly out early in the morning for my China Study Tour, the last class of my undergrad! In return on May 18th and will only be reachable by whatsapp or WeChat while gone, thanks to The Great Firewall of China. Unfortunately, I won't be able to make the next council meeting. Wish me luck in China, and let's hope I end up back in Edmonton in one piece.

Enjoy the next few weeks!

- Robyn Paches



UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA

STUDENTS' UNION

OFFICE OF THE
VICE PRESIDENT (OPERATIONS & FINANCE)
