

Date: 6/9/2018

To: Students' Union Council

Re: VPOF 2018/19 Report

Dear Council,

HOLY SMOKES, has the last week been great or what?? I hope you've all been enjoying the first couple of days back in school! The executive team has had a wonderful time welcoming all new students to campus, as well as catching up with returning students. I haven't been to a council meeting in a while, as I had to call in to our last one, thus there are lots of exciting things to update you on.

Active Transportation Advisory Group

Over the summer, I have been working with this group to lay the foundation upon which the city and university can plan to develop bike lanes, as well as policies and education resources in regards to them. The group was created this summer, so we did all the preliminary work of developing terms of reference, principles, goals, etc, with the ultimate objective of creating a report on active transportation on campus and in the surrounding area. Last week, the report was completed, which is very exciting, and I will share it with council later in September. The report includes data, opportunities, and issues regarding the subject, as well as potential paths forward. This has been an interesting committee to work with, as it is a good bridge between the SU's sustainability goal in our strategic plan, as well as the university's plans for the future. We will continue meeting throughout the school year to plan the next steps.

Strategic plans for the bars

One of the biggest issues that the SU faces in regards to the viability of our bars is the lack of continuity. With executive transition every year, it is hard to find a balance between incorporating new student ideas, and maintaining a strong, consistent brand image. In attempts to mitigate this perpetual struggle, I am aiming to write 2 strategic plans for each of the bars. Include in these reports will be an analysis of the brand, the current state, as well as the desired state. We will come up with key performance indicators as well as goals, so that transition is simplified for future VPOFs. This would by no means be set in stone, but instead used as a guiding yet dynamic document, adapting to student trends each year.

SERC is coming!

After a couple weeks of getting all my ducks in a row, the Social and Environmental Recommendations Committee applications are open. I will be sending out a SAL application for it later this week, and all councillors are welcome to apply. If you're on the committee, you will be guiding the Students' Union operations to become as sustainable as possible. This

could take the form of new initiatives or projects, or simply identifying best practices within existing operations. I highly recommend applying if you're passionate about sustainability.

Referendums & office hours

Fall will be almost entirely committed to planning out our campaign for next semester's referendum. I hope my presentation was thought provoking, and if so, please share those thoughts with me. I'd love to hear everything you feel about the different options! Swing by my office hours on Thursday from 4:30-5:30 to chat.

Peace & love,

Emma Ripka

UASU VP Operations and Finance
Emma Ripka