

May 19, 2015

To: Students' Council

Re: Report to Students' Council

Hello Council!

I am very excited to be writing you my first report of the year! Although there isn't a lot to update you on just yet, I will go over what I've done since assuming the position this month.

I also apologize for not being present at this week's Students' Council meeting. I will be in the air at that time, heading to Montréal for an orientation session and conference for our Health and Dental Plan providers, Studentcare.

Executive Retreat

My fellow executives and I spent April 27 to May 3 with the outgoing team on a transition retreat, and I learned so much about the position and how to start the job off on the right foot. It was a very exciting week, and I definitely benefitted from it and now feel prepared to pick up where Cory left off, and be an effective student representative.

Media Brief: U-Pass & Smart Technology

Last week, I was able to chat with Stephanie Dubois from Metro Edmonton about smart fare technology testing for Edmonton Transit. They are considering implementing smart cards with chips in them over the next five to ten years, and both the Students' Association of MacEwan University and our Students' Union support using students as a test market for this technology, to be integrated with our ONEcards. This is a project I will be working on with Vivian this year, to hopefully get a pilot project implemented in the next few years.

You can read the full story here: <http://metronews.ca/news/edmonton/1360307/students-want-to-be-testers-of-edmonton-transits-smart-fare-technology/>

Edmonton Pride Parade

The Students' Union will once again be participating in Edmonton's Pride Parade on Saturday, June 6. We have spots for 20 representatives from the SU, so please fill out the form below to add your name to the group! The parade is set to start at 11:00am, so please arrive at the starting location (108 Street and Whyte Avenue) by 10:30am.

Sign up to be in the parade here: <http://goo.gl/forms/yVGwQ9LYMb>



One-on-One Manager Meetings

Over the past week, I have been meeting with each of the core managers at the SU to talk about how our departments intersect and what kinds of projects we want to work on this year, as well as to get to know them better. I am a big fan of teamwork and collaboration, so I hope to build good relationships with all of the managers so I have people to brainstorm with before making significant changes.

Business Group Start-Up

The General Manager of the SU has set up a Business Group, to meet biweekly and look into how to expand and manage our businesses. We had our initial meeting last week, where we looked at strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats of each of our businesses, and will be meeting next in June to lay down some more concrete plans on how to move forward.

My Goals

I am working hard at getting the specifics of my goals hammered out. An abridged version of each of the Executive's goals will be presented at GovCamp, but we will be doing a more thorough presentation over the summer to Council. As a sneak peek, my goals fall under five main ideas: food, jobs, awards, communication, and safe spaces.

Finance Committee

Last year's Council transferred the Access Fund to the Registrar's Office, to create a more centralized bursary application process for students. We will be changing our standing orders to reflect this change, where we delegate the authority to disburse funds to them. As well, we will be amending standing orders to reflect the new structure of the SU Awards, which will now be applied for over the summer, adjudicated in the fall, and awarded to students in November.

Applications are now open! Check them out here: <http://su.ualberta.ca/services/awards/apply/>

On a Personal Note

I hope to include this section in every report, to add some lighter news to the information-heavy report.

This week I attended my younger brother's high school graduation! He's the youngest of my siblings, and I'm so excited for what adventures await him! It was a great ceremony, although they played a slow version of "Wake Me Up" three times in a row while the graduands were proceeding to their seats; apparently they had no other music available.

Thanks for reading through, and have a wonderful week!

Cody Bondarchuk