

October 13, 2015

To: Students' Council

Re: Report to Students' Council

Hello Council!

These past two weeks, as every two weeks it seems, have been very busy. I'm finding it difficult to have so many meetings in one day on different topics, and having to switch gears multiple times can be exhausting. But I love what I'm doing, and even though I don't sleep or have friends anymore, it's totally worth it!

Groceries in SUB

On Tuesday morning, groceries will be in SUBmart! I am very happy this project advanced as quickly as it did, and it was thanks to the support of our fantastic staff! Over the summer, the research, data, proposals, supplier lists, and reorganization of the space moved faster than I ever would have thought, but I'm glad it did.

A wide range of affordable groceries on campus is something people have talked about for years, and finally getting to try it out is so exciting. Please tell your friends, and check out the selection on October 13! This has been covered by the Gateway and Metro, and I hope to reach as many students as possible and let them know they can now conveniently shop for produce, dairy, bread, and more on campus beginning next week.

SU Business Portfolio: September

Each month, I will be reporting on the state of each of the SU's food businesses in terms of gross revenue, the difference compared to last year, and the growth or decline in revenue year to year.

September 2015	2015 Revenue (\$)	2014 Revenue (\$)	+/- (\$)	Growth (%)
Daily Grind	64,454.97	61,465.02	+ 2,989.95	5%
Undergrind	14,249.11	4,588.00	+ 9,661.11	211%
RATT	76,847.78	73,063.71	+ 3,784.07	5%
Dewey's	71,341.75	55,393.26	+ 15,948.49	29%
L'Express	82,424.75	83,310.85	- 886.10	-1%
<i>Total</i>	<i>309,318.36</i>	<i>277,820.84</i>	<i>+ 31,497.52</i>	<i>11%</i>

Edmonton Transit Smart Fare Update

Exciting news from the City of Edmonton on smart technology for transit! Some highlights from our meeting last week:

- Provincial GreenTrip funding has been secured, and Smart Fare (a unit in ETS focused on research and development of smart technology) is now fully funded.
- ETS will be hiring an external management firm to manage an RFP for Smart Fare technology in the coming year.
- The RFP will select a firm in early 2016; plan, design, and configure in 2016; implement, test, and deploy their smart technology system in 2017; and have full system implementation in 2018.
- There is talk of the city developing a Civic Smart Card, which is similar to our ONEcard and would include a library card, community services membership, parking pass, and other things rolled into one system.
- The firm will be looking into physical chip cards vs. digital cards on smartphones.
- They will also be looking into how a new smart card would integrate with current university institutions and the future of how the UPass functions
- Universities will be considered a key stakeholder in this project since UPass holders make up a sizable chunk of ETS's ridership.

This is great news for us, as the Students' Union supports smart technology and easier ways for students to access their bus passes. It will still be in development for a while, but the fact that the city and University are both on board (lol) with smart technology and a partnership is a good sign!

ARFPAC

The start up meeting for the Athletics and Recreation Fee Policy Advisory Committee was last week. Both Vivian and I sit on this committee, and it exists to provide direction to the Director of Athletics on how to spend the Athletics and Recreation fee students pay \$41.00 per term for. In this week's Council meeting, you will be hearing a presentation from ARFPAC and you'll have a chance to ask questions.

Crossroads International Event

The Students' Union, in conjunction with Crossroads International, is excited to run a speaker's event in honour of the International Day of the Girl with Cebile Manzini-Henwood, the Director of the Swaziland Action Group Against Abuse (SWAGAA). Cebile will be speaking on female empowerment and education in the developing world, and it will be a great opportunity for people to attend and learn more about this topic. The event is October 27, from 3:30 to 5:00pm in SUB 0-51. RSVP by saying you'll attend the event on the Facebook event page below, and please share it with your friends!

Facebook Event: <https://www.facebook.com/events/1728005664094312/>

Gender Policy

A number of things have been happening around gender since the policy was passed by Students' Council last week, listed below.

- Kwantlen Polytechnic University in Surrey, BC, moved to re-sign their ungendered washrooms, giving more strength to the argument that the University of Alberta should follow suit if they want to remain comparable to other institutions. In Edmonton, NAIT and MacEwan already have appropriate signage for their single-unit washrooms.
- I will be presenting at the Campus Law Review Committee (CLRC), proposing a change to gendered language at the administrative level. This could take a number of different routes, depending on what we want to focus on. I will update once I've presented and received feedback from CLRC on how to proceed.
- The Gateway covered Council passing the policy, the Edmonton Examiner has an article out on washrooms and ungendered spaces, and Metro will have a policy-based article out in the near future (links below). I love all this coverage, as it helps students become more aware of gender minority issues, which isn't always a well-known issue.
- I have a meeting this week with Edmonton-Castle Downs MLA Nicole Goehring, to talk about gender. She is looking into K-12 gender policies for Alberta, and I think we'll be able to collaborate on a consistent gender policy in the province going forward.

Gateway article: <https://thegatewayonline.ca/2015/09/su-unveils-new-gender-policy/>

Examiner article: <http://goo.gl/QTaZ83>

Thanks for reading through, and have a wonderful week!



Cody Bondarchuk