

June 2, 2015

**To:** Students' Council

**Re:** Report to Students' Council

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Hello Council!

I hope everyone is enjoying this fantastic weather! I for one am a fan of hot days and stormy nights! I am excited to see you all again at Council next week, and here is my report in the meantime!

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### **Studentcare Conference**

Last week, Vivian and I attended the Stakeholder Orientation for Studentcare, our student Health and Dental Plan provider. A lot of information was crammed into two days, so we were always moving and learned a lot!

Specific to my portfolio, I was very interested in seeing prescription drug trends over the past five years. Health coverage is an ever-changing field, and this information is useful in determining how to structure the plan year after year. We were able to increase coverage for no extra cost this year because of an overall decrease in claims for 2014-15, but with extra available coverage we will likely increase our claims for 2015-16, and will have to address that at the end of the year when we get recommendations for the 2016-17 plan. Studentcare informed us that this rise and fall cycle is common in health coverage, which is why we have a small reserve put aside every year to cover any unannounced increase in coverage for the following year.

We also had some great sessions on patient privacy, brand identity, and the increasing importance of addressing mental health concerns and psychological disorders in student populations. I am hopeful that Vivian and I can take what we've learned at this conference and apply it to our work in the coming year.

### **Free Condom Dispenser in SUB**

The Students' Union has been working with the Students' International Health Association (SIHA) on installing a free condom dispenser on the main floor of SUB. They have been given a generous grant through APIRG, and are supplying the machine and condoms, and taking care of regular maintenance. We have agreed to provide the location and installation, and let them know if the unit becomes damaged or if supplies are running low.

This dispenser will act as a pilot project for potential future units across campus. The goal of the project is two-fold: to increase awareness of sexual health and education among students, and to destigmatize condoms themselves by offering them at no cost in a semi-public space. This dispenser will be installed in August, and will be operational for the beginning of the Fall term.



## **2-900 Renovations**

The renovations to the Students' Union Executive and Administrative offices in 2-900 SUB are well underway! Friday, May 29 marks the beginning of the third of a five-phase renovation designed to modernize the space, as well as provide extra office space for our increasing number of staff.

If you need to visit any of us in our offices, feel free to swing by, as the space is open during renovations! Just ask the front desk receptionist where to find us, because everyone will be moving around during the construction. We hope to have the offices and waiting area completed by mid-July.

## **Protective Services Advisory Committee**

Vivian and I sit on the Protective Services Advisory Committee, which gives recommendations to Protective Services and serves as a check-in meeting for community safety groups on and around campus. The bi-annual meeting was last held in May, and there were a few things of note to report. After a hiring period, UAPS has selected Kevin Galvin to be their new Director. Mr. Galvin has spent many years with Edmonton Police Services, and hopes to bring some fresh ideas to the department. As well, the latest crime statistics for 2014 were available. They have seen a marked increase in theft on campus, specifically bicycles and personal computers. Most other crime is holding relatively steady, with an increase to breaking and entering specific to offices on campus.

Full crime statistics reports can be found here:

[https://drive.google.com/a/uAlberta.ca/folderview?id=0B22xrgKRSAAPeWfKQ1c3VGQxdVU&usp=drive\\_web](https://drive.google.com/a/uAlberta.ca/folderview?id=0B22xrgKRSAAPeWfKQ1c3VGQxdVU&usp=drive_web)

## **Groceries in SUBmart**

I am looking into having groceries in SUBmart for the Fall term. While I work on a proposal outlining how this would look specifically, I welcome suggestions from Council on what kinds of items they would like to see offered.

## **Safe and Inclusive Spaces**

A small team, myself included, will be working on first principles for a Students' Union policy on safe spaces for students. This policy will hopefully include physical safety, as well as inclusive and welcoming spaces for all students, including accessible washrooms. All of you will get to discuss this proposed policy once it arrives at Council, but if anyone has a special interest in helping create first principles, please let me know!

## **Edmonton Pride Parade**

The Students' Union is confirmed as having a spot at the 2015 Edmonton Pride Parade! It is being held on June 6 at 11:00am down Whyte Avenue, and if any Councillor wants to walk with the SU in the parade, please let me know! It's supposed to be 22°C that day!



UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA  
**STUDENTS'  
UNION**

*Office of the* VICE PRESIDENT (OPERATIONS & FINANCE)

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**On a Personal Note**

I finally saw Avengers: Age of Ultron, and it was everything I wanted and more ☺

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Thanks for reading through, and have a wonderful week!

Cody Bondarchuk