

July 14, 2015

To: Students' Council

Re: Report to Students' Council

Hello Council!

I have to apologize for wishing for warmer weather, because now I feel personally responsible for this mess. Hope you're finding places to chill (haha, that has two meanings).

Grocery Update

Planning for getting groceries into SUB has been wonderful! I met with the manager of SUBmart and their supervisor, and both seem very on-board with the idea. We have closed in on a supplier for groceries, and it looks like produce will be sold as well (I had originally thought it a bit difficult to manage, but I am assured we have things in place to look after fresh food). We will be mapping out specific space for the groceries to go and how to best restructure SUBmart to allow these groceries appropriate shelf space.

We have also extended the hours of SUBmart to be open until 8:00pm (previously it closed at 6:00pm), to give students more time to pick up groceries after classes/work/studying. We have also set a date, October 5, as the launch for this project.

Washroom Research

No updates from the University side, but I was lucky enough to receive some information from our researchers about washroom codes and policies at other institutions. It is fairly inconsistent in terms of policy, but some universities do have plans to provide less gendered spaces going forward, so I hope to get the University of Alberta on board with them, and create our own policies around safe spaces!

Minimum Wage Increase

I have been looking into how our operating budget looks compared to those from other student associations, and the good news is that we have the second-lowest membership fee of all related universities! We also have our fee make up the second-lowest percentage of our total operating budget. I will be doing more research with the Human Resources Manager and General Manager, and hope to have a proposal to Council for December on how to move forward with increased staffing wages (minus the staff affected by the October 1, 2015 change, which will only affect this year's budget).

Campus Sustainability Plan

The Students' Union has been in consultation with the Office of Sustainability on a Campus Sustainability Plan, which is now being considered by the administration! Former Vice President

Hodgson had done the bulk of the consultation work previously, and I will be continuing on with the specific focus of paper usage, both in terms of recycled content and volume of paper used. With that in mind, I do hope you're all reading this as a PDF ☺

Access Fund

Since moving the Access Fund over to the Registrar's Office, things have been going well. Disbursement rates are higher than they have been in the past, and we are looking to increase both the annual and lifetime maximums for students in financial need. The University has been very interested in involving us in that decision, so a proposal from them will be coming to Finance Committee sometime before the summer is over.

UPass Agreement

Vivian and I attend meetings for the Joint UPass Committee with Edmonton Transit, St. Albert Transit, Strathcona Transit, MacEwan, Norquest, and NAIT. Edmonton Transit is distributing a Request for Proposal to data collection firms for research to be done on usage and satisfaction of the UPass. They hope to have a process selected this fall, and begin conducting research in early December on campus.

On a Personal Note

I have been really, really sick for almost a week now, but I feel the end is near!

Thanks for reading through, and have a wonderful week!



Cody Bondarchuk