

**Prepared by:** Saadiq Sumar, Vice President (Student Life)

**To:** Students' Council 2012/13

Hey Everyone!

The last few days have been extremely busy and stressful since we have announced that we are going to Judicial Review. Antifreeze was also quite busy in the first week back and I'm still trying to recover from the lack of sleep and time. Finally, the UofC, UofL, and UofA Executive Teams all met in Calgary for a roundtable. I found this meeting to be especially beneficial, as the VPSLs from the three schools and a couple of others were discussing important issues from Mental Health to International Students to First Nations, Metis, and Inuit student issues.

### ***Programming***

#### **Campus Musical**

The musical is now steadily moving forward. Rehearsals have been going well and everything is coming together quite quickly. We are hoping to get the license quite soon, as we have submitted the paperwork.

The Director has been meeting with the SU Technicians quite regularly and the technical side of the show is moving ahead slowly. The Production Team also met yesterday to talk about costumes, props, and other important issues relating to the musical.

I'm hoping that we can start to advertise the show soon and start looking into sponsorship. I'm getting extremely excited about the show!

#### **Antifreeze**

Antifreeze wrapped up a week ago, with Team Keiver Independent Feat. Regan Wing and Guests coming in 3<sup>rd</sup>, the Reindicks coming in 2<sup>nd</sup>, and the Narwhals coming in 1<sup>st</sup>. Although these three teams ended up at the top of the scoreboard, it is my belief that every student who participated won, as people came together as a team and there was some great camaraderie between the various teams. Thank you to everyone who participated and to the Programming and Venues Staff and volunteers who made the event possible.

Also, I think I'm the first VPSL in recent memory to successfully Nartoss on my first try...or be dressed as the Yeti.

## **Services**

### **U-Pass**

The motion for the referendum question has passed through council and will be put on the ballot. We have also received what we hope to be is the final draft of the Spring/Summer contract. This should be finalized in the last week of January. At our last meeting, we discussed potentially reducing the replacement cost. As I stated at the last meeting of Students' Council, please give me any feedback you may have on my proposal. I will hopefully be sending something to the other student associations so that we can discuss a proposal and bring it to the advisory committee. Remember to tell your constituents that the Winter U-Pass Sticker is now available and that they can pick it up. Also, for those students who are thinking about taking Spring or Summer courses, they can pick up their U-Pass as soon as they register for classes, meaning that students registered in Summer courses can pick up their U-Pass before exams are over in April.

### **Gender Based Violence Prevention Project**

The GBVPP has had a number of events this past week. If you'd like to learn more about their events, visit [www.su.ualberta.ca/gbvpp](http://www.su.ualberta.ca/gbvpp).

### **Pet Therapy**

The SU and the Dean of Students Office hosted the first of many Pet Therapy Sessions in the last few days. I thoroughly enjoyed it and I believe the VPA also stopped by and had a good time. I am looking forward to working with the new Associate Dean of Students, Dr. Robin Everall, on this project throughout the semester and bringing this program to areas all over campus! I'll keep council posted on the dates and times.

### **Health and Dental Plan**

The PotSU and I met with representatives from the University Health Center and Kristin from studentcare to discuss what has changed in terms of prescription drugs, the supply that is given to students as well as the drugs that are no longer available to students. Kristin has assured us that she will get more information on the formulary changes.

### **PAW Centre Teaching Kitchen**

The PotSU, the GM, and I with representatives from the GSA toured a few of the NAIT Teaching Kitchen Labs to get a better idea of what the PAW Centre Teaching/Community Kitchen would look like. We have a lot of work left to do, but I was quite excited to see what possibilities there are.

### **Safewalk**

The Director of Safewalk, Evan Worman, and I had a short discussion about the future of Safewalk and some long-term planning for the service. It was great to get an update from Evan and to talk about what Safewalk could become in the next few years.

### **Transportation Demand Management**

A group of University administrators and student representatives met to discuss a survey that would be coming out soon to determine more ways to continue to reduce

congestion around campus. It was out of this survey in 2007 that the idea of the U-Pass came about.

## ***Advocacy***

### **Municipal Property Taxes**

The VPX and I have been working quite steadily on this front. We met with the Residence Halls Association Executives yesterday and will be meeting with the RHA Council in the upcoming weeks. We will be hopefully finalizing the memorandum with the university within the next month or so and hopefully it'll be signed and ready to submit to government officials by the end of our terms.

### **Athletics**

The PotSU and I attended the last game of the Pandas New Years Classic, where the Pandas played against the team from Japan, Konoya. Both teams were undefeated upto the last game and the games between the two teams were quite exciting, with one girl from the Japanese team serving with what can only be described as a tomahawk serve.

Be sure to check out what the upcoming schedule is at [www.bears.ualberta.ca](http://www.bears.ualberta.ca).

If you have any other questions, please ask during council, stop by the office in SUB, or send me an email at [vp.studentlife@su.ualberta.ca](mailto:vp.studentlife@su.ualberta.ca).

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