

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

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

Hey Everyone!

I apologize for the delay in getting this out to all of you. The last couple of weeks have been quite busy and I also convoked yesterday which took up almost the entire day. Most of the work I've done in the last couple of weeks relates to my initial goals. Although the goals that I have may change over the course of the next few weeks, it was important to start some initial work on them to get the ball rolling. As per usual, please ask questions if you have any. Also, PotSU = President of the SU

### ***Programming***

#### **Week of Welcome**

The Week of Welcome Facilitator Team is meeting again later today to finalize a list of three themes to send to the Marketing Department for mock-ups. As soon as a theme has been selected, I will let you know. For now however, I will keep any potential themes shrouded in mystery!

### ***Services***

#### **Health and Dental Plan**

The interviews for the Health and Dental Plan Committee went quite well.

Congratulations to Wen Yu Liang, Finbarr Timbers, and Sameena Sherman! The three individuals will be working closely with the VP OpsFi and myself during the upcoming year.

Additionally, the VP OpsFi, the PotSU, and I will be headed to Montreal on Wednesday for a conference organized by the plan administrator Studentcare. The stakeholder meeting will be full of opportunities for the three of us to connect with representatives from other schools and to build a better relationship with Studentcare.

#### **Student Group Services**

The VP OpsFi, the PotSU, and I met with the SGS Manager, Kelin Flanagan to talk about the SGS Granting Process, which will be going online for the next granting session. I am

very excited about this, as it will allow the VPOpsFi and I to go through applications thoroughly before meeting with the remainder of the Granting Committee.

### **Services Proposal**

Much of my time this week has also been spent working on a proposal to the Senior Manager Student Services Jane Lee and the Assistant Manager Student Services Johanna Comartin. This has included the writing of the proposal but also several meetings with different services staff and Jane and Johanna as well to get a better understanding of the scope of the services. This proposal includes a number of different ideas, which will be reviewed by the two of them for feedback.

### **SFAIC**

The VPOpsFi and I had a chance to do the first round of Access Fund Selection this morning. When individuals apply for the Access Fund, members of GAC have a chance to approve, modify, or deny their requests based on a number of different factors including but not limited to need, academic standing, and documentation.

### **Campus Food Bank**

The Campus Food Bank held their Mac n' Cheese Cook-Off earlier this afternoon. For only \$1.50, you could get a huge mound of Macaroni and Cheese, with additional toppings for \$2. I hope some of you that were on campus had the opportunity to grab some grub and support the food bank!

### ***Advocacy***

### **Residence**

The PotSU and I had a chance to sit down with the Director of Ancillary Services, Doug Dawson, to talk about the future of the Residence Halls Association within RBAC. From our conversation, it is likely that the RHA will be used as a resource for the SU and the GSA, which is almost exactly the same role they had previously. We also had a chance to present him with two letters, one from myself, the other from the RHA President. I also had a chance to sit down with the Director of Residence Life, Dima Utgoff. We discussed a number of different residence related topics and are planning on going on a tour of several residences to get a better understanding of differed maintenance needs across the board.

### **PAW Centre**

The VP OpsFi, the PotSU, and I had a chance to meet with a couple of executives from the Powerlifting Association. I believe that the PotSU has covered this in his report so I'll refer you to that.

### **International Students**

On Wednesday, the VPA and I once again met with Doug Weir, this time to talk about Education Abroad. The International Internship Manager, Sherilyn Tompetter, also came to the meeting.

### ***Other***

Council retreat was last weekend. I had a great time with the other executives and councilors that were able to attend. It was a great chance for me to get to know some people better but also to have meaningful discussions with councilors. One very interesting and hopefully informative session was an Executive Roundtable, where councilors had the chance to talk to each executive about their portfolio as well as their goals for the upcoming year. This was also an opportunity for councilors to share grievances with executives. If any of you would like to meet, let me know!

The SU General Manager, Marc Dumouchel, gave a number of different services and business representatives, as well as SU Staff, a brief presentation regarding the upcoming renovation project. It was a great first step in the process and I am really looking forward to this project! #subrenos

### ***Takeaways***

- Volunteer for Week of Welcome
- Get feedback about the Teaching/Community Kitchen
- Meet with me if you are interested in the portfolio or just to chat

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).

Saadiq Sumar  
780-690-4765