

May 21st, 2013

To: University of Alberta Students' Council 2013/2014

Re: Report of the Student Life Portfolio

Hello Council,

First, let me say that I am overjoyed to be working with you over the coming year. I look forward to getting to know each of you more in the next few weeks. The Vice President Student Life portfolio can be a lot of fun, so please let me know if you want to get more involved with it!

Below, I have listed some of the things that I have worked on over the past two weeks. I look forward to any questions you may have.

I. Programming

Athletics

In hopes to promote athletics and campus spirit, I have met with Stan Marples, the GM of the Golden Bears Hockey Team and Jennifer Wanke, our Senior Manager of Programming and Venues to discuss possible opportunities for collaboration. Although there may not be room in the Week of Welcome to fit in another party, all stakeholders are interested in finding other times to throw tailgate parties – second week of September, end of September and beginning of January are all possibilities. I'm happy to see that both P&V and Athletics are equally excited!

Week of Welcome

WoW facilitators have already had a team bonding barbeque and two meetings. They have efficiently cut down a list of roughly 100 themes to merely 10, and will be meeting repeatedly to shorten the list further. The volunteers are getting along well, and current possible themes include #YOLO, Big City Lights, Saturday Morning Cartoons, Beach Party, etc:

Sponsorship Manager

We currently have a posting up for a new job opening. We are hiring a Sponsorship Manager (full-time position), who will be responsible for bringing in funds to the SU. This year, external funding will be necessary for Break The Record. The posting will be up until next Friday (May 24th, 2013).

II. Services

Peer Support Centre

I have been considering adding an outreach component to the Peer Support Centre. Conversations have been started with the David Manuntag, the creator of Unitea (unitea.org), who is interested in creating a more sustainable system for his project. Meetings have been scheduled with both Services staff and David. I will keep you updated!

III. Advocacy

I have been spending an hour or two a day learning about Residence history, structure and issues. A meeting is set for May 21 to meet with the new RHA president Patrick Cortez to communicate strategic collaboration as we both sit on similar committees dealing with residence issues.

IV. Other

Health and Dental Plan

The contracts have been signed with Student Care and applications for the Health and Dental Plan Committee will open by mid June.

Check Yourself

Weekly meetings have been scheduled to participate in strategies to improve promotions of safe drinking habits. Check Yourself is a short survey that acts as a brief intervention tool for participants to self-assess their drinking habits.

Cheers,

William Lau