

Date: 06/08/2020

To: Students' Union Council

Re: Vice President Student Life 2020/21 Report #8

Hello council!

I hope all of you are staying healthy and are enjoying your summer so far! It has been a busy two weeks getting ready for fall!

Health and Dental Plan

As I shared in the last meeting, we shared what the fall Health and Dental Plan will look like for this year. As a reminder we will be offering two plans this year: comprehensive and basic. The comprehensive plan is \$315 and the basic plan is \$240, reflected in coverage differences between the two plans. We will be offering Empower Me for both tiers of the plans. This is a mental health and wellness service that connects students to counsellors that offer sessions in person, by telephone, by video-counselling, or by e-counselling. To access Empower Me, you can call their phone number to set up initial appointments. The operators are also trained counsellors to help students in crisis. Empower Me is available any time of day, confidential, multilingual, culturally sensitive, gender inclusive and faith inclusive. More communication will be released leading up to September.

Work to End Period Poverty

VP Krahn and I have worked on our first plan for our mission and vision statement. We are also exploring a possible partnership with Athletics and Recreation to offer period products in other areas of the University. We are proceeding with the expansion of this project cautiously to ensure that the growth is sustainable

EDI

EDIT had our first meeting this week. It was to get to know each other and our motivations for joining this committee. We also agreed to meet every two weeks. On a different EDI note, the Campus Policing Policy group has met. We have begun to develop a framework for our work. I am arranging various meetings for the committee including with UAPS.

Residence

As I mentioned last week, the residence part of my portfolio has been quite busy. Residence St. Jean will be closed in the fall. All those residents will be living on a floor in Ihouse. ARSFJ will have reps on that floor and collect fees. There will also be French speaking RAs and they are working to ensure there are other bilingual staff. We will continue to advocate for these students throughout the year.

WOW and Orientation

We filmed a video for Orientation as an exec team. I am really excited to see how this video turns out! It was really fun and we finally took some pictures as an executive. Also the Yourientation Podcast came out on Spotify. Stay tuned for a future episode featuring Joel and I.

Book Club with Myself Update:

Last week I read: “Americanah” by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie (5 stars), “I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings” by Maya Angelou (5 stars) and “If I Never Met You” by Mhairi McFarlane (4 stars). Strong recommendation for all three of these! Next week I’m reading: “The Lord of the Rings Two Towers” by J.R.R Tolkein, “The Five” by Hallie Rubenhold and “A Burning” by Megha Majumdar.

Feel free to message me if you want to meet up to discuss anything! I’m always free to listen!

Cheers,

Katie Kidd

University of Alberta Students’ Union Vice President Student Life