

Date: 25/06/2020

To: Students' Union Council

Re: Vice President Student Life 2020/21 Report #5

Hello council!

I hope all of you are staying healthy and enjoying the most out of summer that you can!

Students' Union and Community Early Learning Centre

I had my first Board meeting of the Students' Union and Community Early Learning centre. It is currently back in operations at a diminished capacity. Later in summer, it will be accepting more children. We also voted to create a lower rate for the summer months to help alleviate some of the burden of childcare. This move will be beneficial to any student who parents and has their children there.

Health and Dental Plan

We are in the final stages of planning the health and dental plan for September. We are just finalizing up the final details. VP Krahn and I have been working hard to prioritize students' needs in the pandemic especially, mental health. We know that students are going to need more support this coming year. This is top of mind for us throughout all our decisions. When the plan is finalized, I will update council with specific details.

Work to End Period Poverty

VP Krahn and I have been working quite diligently on the SU's free menstrual product initiative. We've been trying to decide how we will be approaching stage two of this initiative, originally started by President Bhatnagar. We have decided to reframe this initiative as Ending Period of Poverty. This was mainly decided to help us convey the financial burden that buying menstrual products has on people who menstruate. This initiative will be going on throughout the year and I will keep Council updated.

EDI

As mentioned last council, EDIT has been created. The applications for the student at large positions are now open and will close July 13th. I have contacted 28 student associations/ student groups to help spread the word about the applications, as well as the Faculty Associations (thanks VP Draper) and the Residence Associations. If there is anyone else you would like me to reach out to, please let me know! Beyond that, I'm working on assembling the campus policing policy working group and will hope to have our first meeting by next council.

Exec Instagram

Have y'all seen our tik toks yet? There should theoretically be two #uasuneeed2know videos up by Council Tuesday! VP Draper and I have also taken over the Instagram stories and President Agarwal will be taking you throughout his day this week!!

CORA

I will have another CORA meeting by Tuesday. We will be working on plans for programming in the fall and how to best prepare the student leaders for their new roles. We will also have a better idea about Resident Services will be adjusting their programming for fall and potential places of collaboration.

Book Update!! Last week I read: "Between the World and Me" by Ta-Nehisi Coates (4 ½ stars), "The Night Tiger" by Yangsze Choo (2 stars) and "The Great Believers" by Rebecca Makkai (5 stars). Strong recommendation for "The Great Believers" which is a fiction novel set in Chicago's LGBTQ2S+ community during the AIDS epidemic (A part of history is not taught enough). The novel really helps humanize the devastating effect AIDS had. Next week I'm reading: "Know My Name" by Chanel Miller, "The Stationary Shop" by Marjan Kamali and "There There" by Tommy Orange.

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