

February 7<sup>th</sup>, 2012

To: Students' Council

Re: VPX Report to Council

## **Lobby Training**

It's happening! I sent Council an email about it. But to remind you:

On February 11th the Students' Union will be working to help students improve their advocacy efforts. The Students' Union is running a series of advocacy training session to teach interested students about advocacy at the university and externally. The sessions will be held starting at 1pm in CAB 265.

The event will be divided into two sections. The first section is focused on members of faculty associations interested in improving their advocacy efforts. Throughout the day executive members and staff of the Students' Union will provide information on university governance, go through best practices in advocacy and lead discussions on concerns and issues that faculty associations have faced in their advocacy efforts. They will then end off the day with mock scenarios to help practice the lessons learned earlier.

The second section of the advocacy day will be focused on students interested in learning more about external advocacy. Using the example of post-secondary education as their guide, members of the Students' Union and the Council of Alberta University Students will teach participants about lobby. Participants can expect to learn about how the Students' Union currently advocates for students, best practices in personal and organizational lobbying and how interested students can get involved with current lobbying efforts.

Duncan Wojtaszek (Executive Director of CAUS), Amanda Henry (Student Governance Advisor), Justin Williams (Director of Research and Political Affairs), Emerson Csorba, and I will be giving the presentations between the two sections.

## **Meeting with Minister**

On Monday February 6<sup>th</sup> CAUS, ASEC (Alberta Student Executives Council), AGC (Alberta Graduate Council) met with the Minister of Advanced Education and Technology Gregg Weadick. The main purpose of the meeting was regarding Student Financial Assistance. More information about this meeting will be coming out soon.

## **Random Fact**

Today is Minister Gregg Weadick's Birthday!

Cheers,  
Farid