

October 7, 2013

To: Students' Council

Re: Report to Council (for October 8th meeting)

Introduction

Hello Council,

I hope midterms are going well for all of you. It's been a very busy time for me with the Municipal Election in full swing, an upcoming advocacy week in Ottawa, and the return of MLA's to Edmonton with the sitting of the Legislature in a couple weeks.

Municipal Election Campaign:

As many of you well know, the City election is starting to heat up as Election Day draws nearer. Another reminder that you will all be able to vote at the advanced polling station that will be held in the Alumni room in the 17th of October. I would also encourage all of you to try and make the Post Secondary Forum, hosted right after Council in the Robins Centre at Macewan University. Please do all you can to encourage people to vote on the 17th in the Alumni Room. I would ask that you use your positions as Councillors to encourage friends and classmates to vote in the 17th.

CAUS:

The rest of the Exec and I will be in Calgary this upcoming weekend for a CAUS Roundtable. This is yet another opportunity for the entire Executive to discuss relevant issues with people from their own portfolios, and for CAUS to make a more concrete plan moving forward with PSLA submissions. I will report to Council on how the trip went and what was discussed at our next meeting.

Advocacy:

I've had a couple of higher profile meetings over the past few weeks. I had the tremendous opportunity to sit down with both Brian Mason and Danielle Smith prior to the debate that took place. Both agreed with the vast majority of asks, specifically surrounding Instructional Fee's. I am very pleased that the opposition agrees with our stance on these fees.

In addition, I also recently met with NDP MLA Rachel Notley, and Conservative MLA David Dorward. Again, both were very receptive to the asks. Ms. Notley was specifically concerned over the broken PC promise of a \$17 million towards rural and aboriginal bursary funding. Mr. Dorward was very receptive regarding mandatory fees, and also encourages us to keep working towards the revitalization of the Summer Temporary Employment Program.

Finally, on a federal level I met with MP James Rajotte (Chair of the Finance Committee) to discuss CASA's pre budget submission. The submission went over very well with Mr. Rajotte, and he suggested we talk to other members of the finance committee so they may be educated on what we are proposing. Unfortunately most of the Finance Committee members are scattered throughout the country at this time, so we are working with other member schools to get meetings with specific members.

Tom Mulcair, Leader of Her Majesty's Loyal Opposition, was also on campus this past week to make an address and answer questions from the student population. This was apart of an ongoing effort to bring more political discussion to campus. We are currently working with other party affiliated student groups to hopefully bring leaders from different parties to speak soon.

Unfortunately I didn't have the opportunity to have more than a fifteen-minute conversation with Mr. Mulcair, however he has assured me he will sit down with us when CASA is in Ottawa in November.

That's all I have to report at this time. If you have any questions I will not be in Council today, however I will respond to any email questions as soon as I can.

Thank you for your time,



Adam Woods

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