

Date: 2021/07/27

To: Students' Union Council

Re: Vice President External 2021/22 Report #7

Howdy Council!

It's been a very busy last couple of weeks, but I am excited to share some of the tasks that have been done throughout the last two weeks. I hope you have all been keeping busy and staying safe.

CAUS Counterparts



On Thursday, the executive team and I drove down to Lethbridge (Shout out to ULSU for being great hosts!) to attend CAUS Counterparts. This is a two-day conference that provides an opportunity for University Student Association/Union leaders to interact and learn from each other while also receiving an update on the progress of CAUS thus far this summer. Day one of this two day conference saw a presentation from the Department of Advance Education and a presentation/working group on how to advocate for Indigenous

students, led by the President of the Students' Association of Mount Royal University (SAMRU) Spirit River. In the evening, student leaders also got better acquainted with each other through a fun game of disc golf, a new skill I am proud to have learned. The rest of this conference will be spent presenting the priorities of CAUS to membership and learning more about the political landscape of the province. I look forward to bringing more info to you on the outcomes of this conference. Stay tuned!

Notable Meetings

Elan Macdonald

President Ley and I held our first monthly meeting with Elan Macdonald, the Vice-President External of the University. President Ley and I updated Elan on the progress of the planning for the GOTV campaign, Week of Welcome and continued to share our concerns and next steps with respect to Exceptional Tuition Increases (ETI) and our next steps on that file. We also had the opportunity to discuss the province's plan to negotiate for federal funding for \$10/day childcare.

Jared Maltais

I had a meeting with CASA's Government and Stakeholder relations officer Jared Maltais. Jared and I work closely together through our positions on NAC, so I often meet with Jared to discuss broad strategies for the committee or to receive updates on any important news brewing in Ottawa. This week Jared and I met together to discuss strategies on addressing Elections Canada's disappointing decision to cancel the Vote on Campus Program. I asked Jared to put together a short 2-page fact sheet document with an email template that was provided to CASA members to send to their local MPs. We hope that through our outreach, Members of Parliament will be able to apply pressure on Elections Canada to reverse their decision.

SAMU-ESA Mayoral forum planning.

On Tuesday, I met with Myles Dyke, Mathew Yannish and Parvin Sedighi, the President, Vice-President External and staff member of the Students' Association of MacEwan University (SAMU) to begin planning the Mayoral forum the Edmonton Student Alliance is hoping to produce this fall. SAMU has offered to be the host of this forum (Shout out to SAMU). We discussed possible dates, partnerships and fleshed out the scope of this event. I informed them of a possible partnership between the ESA and the City of Edmonton Youth Council (CEYC).

I had reached out to the Vice-Chair of the City of Edmonton Youth Council, Anuj Krishnan to offer a possible partnership between the ESA and CEYC on organizing this forum together. While no formal agreement has been set, Anuj was very receptive to this idea and we are currently trying to schedule a meeting between ESA, SAMU and CEYC to continue discussions on this collaboration. SAMU also expressed partnerships with community leagues and other non-partisan organizations that are dedicated to youth voter education such as Apathy is Boring.

FUN ACTIVITY: First to send a pic of the flag of the city of Lethbridge gets a prize!

Christian Fotang

University of Alberta Students' Union Vice President External
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