



Date: Nov. 16, 2017
To: Students' Council
Re: Report to Students' Council

Hi Council,

October flew by! I've been all around the province for a few things, most of to follow in this report. One that was very interesting and a personal note is that I attended the United Conservative Party leadership announcement in Calgary last weekend. Of note, besides the announcement and Jason Kenney as the new leader is that we now have an official opposition party in Alberta that has no official policy or mandate. We actually will be meeting with this the UCP caucus before they develop their policy, a unique opportunity for students everywhere, and we hope to instill the value of student associations.

In The News

We have been in the news! The executive was quoted on CTV, CBC, and a multitude of news sources across the city. My comments on budget cuts made it onto a few platforms, including [The Gateway](#) and [The Metro](#).

As well, the launch of [The Flame](#) went through on October 31st! I am absolutely thrilled with this University of Alberta Students Union initiative, as I've been a big proponent that we need to redevelop our online presence for some time. I hope to write some more in the future, however, my current favourite articles are [Knowing Your Rights](#) and [The Voice of the Union](#) (featuring myself and Parvin Sedighi)

Grand Council of Indigenous Elders

On October 18th the executive and I attended the Grand Council of Indigenous Elders. A new initiative to bring together indigenous alumni and establish a working group to push the University of Alberta towards reconciliation, it was an amazing reception. A close family friend Elmer Ghostkeeper is one of the leaders of the gathering, and it was amazing to see him there.

Meetings

On October 20th President Banister and I attended a drop-in meeting with Minister Marlin Schmidt. We were largely there to support students from Campus Saint-Jean, who all lived in the Minister's riding, and we were thrilled to see them present their priorities for the campus.

On October 27th VP Paches and I met with Lori Sigurdson for a CFEP grant presentation. They found their big cheque!



On November 1st Josh and I attended a stakeholder meeting with Public Interest Alberta for their Post Secondary Education Taskforce. They have adopted a number of CAUSes priorities into their own and will be fantastic allies from students in PSE.

Open House

On October 21st the entire executive team was at UAlberta Open House. It was a lively day and overall was great to see so many engaged youth coming to the University of Alberta

CAUS Presentations, Check In's, & Advocacy Days

On October 23rd, 24th and 25th I travelled across Alberta with the CAUS interim director Josh Mckeown. We did council presentations to the Student Association of Mount Royal and the University of Lethbridge Students Union, as well as doing check-ins with the University of Calgary Students Union and the Student Association of MacEwan University. The big takeaway is that CAUS will be redeveloping its priorities on mental health and tuition, updates that will be coming early next week. [Check out the Gauntlet](#) for coverage from our visit to UCSU in early October.

CAUS is also undergoing its fall advocacy days from November 5th, 6th, and 7th. Concurrently this year's 2nd Counterpart Conference will be ongoing. We will be meeting with government, the United Conservative Party, Alberta Party, and Alberta Liberal Party caucuses. We expect for it to be

a very unique week, as mentioned before, this is a first in CAUS history that we have a opposition party with no policy.

Thats all folks! Please follow up with questions on Tuesday, as we will be wrapping up advocacy days shortly before our council meeting.

Cheers,



Reed Larsen