

Date: 10/07/2019

To: Students' Union Council

Re: Vice-President External 2019/20 Report #6

Dear Council,

I'll be honest, there is not enough sun and too much rain this summer! Nevertheless, I am looking forward to starting my vacation next week and getting some rest before a crazy August and September.

1. CASA E-Plenary: On July 18th, the Canadian Alliance of Student Associations will host an e-plenary of members. The reason for this is that normally, the summer is when the Policy and Strategy Conference is held, but the federal election has thrown off our schedule. Policy and Strategy will now be held in November in Vancouver, where the membership will confirm committee action plans and the advocacy and research priorities. CASA must hold a plenary in July so the membership can approve the audit results, Board of Director Action Plans, and the Executive Director Hiring Process. The action plans and hiring process have taken much of my time over the last two weeks, as I need to make sure that all Board members have clearly laid out plans for the membership. The hiring process much also include enough membership input and be a thorough process to ensure a successful appointment for CASA.

2. GOTV Coordinator Hiring: Over the course of next week, I will sit in on interviews for the hiring of the federal election GOTV Coordinator with our Director of Research and Advocacy, and External Advocacy Advisor. We have also been informed by Elections Canada that they want us to hire 3-4 part-time "Community Relations Officer - Youth", they will fund their salary and we will supervise them as part of our GOTV efforts. This is a fantastic opportunity for us to have more boots on the ground coordinating the campaign and getting students involved in voting! Much of the branding will remain the same as the provincial campaign last year, however, things will be updated and we will need to rebuild the volunteer base.

3. Executive in-town retreat: On July 8, the Executive team did a day-long, in-town retreat where we discussed organizational direction. We also worked on a 30-60-90 goals structure so that we are all aware of how we are accomplishing our goals in detail.

4. Advocacy meetings: On July 9, President Bhatnagar and I met with former Deputy Premier and current NDP MLA Sarah Hoffman. We discussed the need for stronger mental health supports on campus, the benefits of up-front grants compared to tax credits as a means of affordability, and how the Summer Temporary Employment Program can be modernized to encompass degree-relevant opportunities and be year-long. Overall, a great meeting where we also learned more about how she got into politics after being involved in the Concordia

University Students' Union. Tomorrow (July 11), we will be meeting with NDP MLA Lori Sigurdson.



5. Stampede BBQ: While I am in Calgary for the Stampede, I will attend a BBQ hosted by Minister of Advanced Education Nicholaides along with our External Advocacy Advisor.

6. Vacation: From July 18-26, I will be away on vacation. If you need to chat with me about anything, please reach out before or after I leave!

Cheers,



University of Alberta Students' Union Vice President (External)
Adam Brown