

Council Report TLDR

Photo of the Week

*Thunder Clouds Passing over
Edmonton, AB.*



ESA YOUTH ROUNDTABLE

Following the Mayor's state of the city address, I collaborated with the Mayor's office to organize a youth roundtable where youth and students stakeholder groups had the opportunity to share their priorities and vision for Edmonton directly with the Mayor.

ESA AGM

I have been working to plan and organize the Edmonton Student Alliance's annual general meeting taking place on June 2nd, 2022.

APC MEEETING

I was able to attend last week's APC meeting in-person with President Monteiro. I want to commend Councillor Regmi and President Monteiro on how well they articulated international student concerns. I will also extend my compliments to Councillor Singh and all others who emailed APC members. This played an instrumental role in the motion to table being approved.

UPCOMING EVENTS



CASA FOUNDATIONS

I will be attending the CASA Foundations Conference in Ottawa next week from June 3rd-10th.



ESA AGM

The annual general meeting is an opportunity for the different Students' Union and Student Associations in the Edmonton area to meet, share goals as well as elect a new board.



PROJECT PLANNING

As we quickly head into June, my focus will be getting the ball rolling on the numerous projects that are a priority for this year. Councillor involvement on these projects is of huge importance for me and I will provide more information at a later date on possible opportunities for involvement.

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Date: 2022-05-27**To:** Students' Union Council**Re:** Vice President External 2022/23 Report #2

Dear Council,

I hope you are all soaking up the occasional beautiful sun that's been shining this week or at least cozying up and relaxing to the sound of the rain and thunderstorms.

This has been a relatively more quiet week, with not a ton to update you on. The primary highlights are the youth roundtable which I co-organized with the Mayor's Office, planning for the Edmonton Student Alliance's (ESA's) Annual General Meeting and gearing up for the Canadian Alliance of Student Associations annual foundations conference.

Academic Planning Committee (APC)

Firstly, I would like to begin by commending President Monteiro, Councilor Regmi and all other councilors and students who came to show their support at the Academic Planning Committee (APC) meeting last week in regards to proposed tuition increases for international students. I was able to attend this meeting in person where I witnessed Councilor Regmi and President Monteiro passionately spoke about the harm these increases could cause to international students and motioned to table the motion for proposed increases to international student tuition, which passed. This could not have been done without the help of Councilors and students who emailed members of the APC.

Youth Roundtable with Mayor Sohi

Following his State of the City address, the Mayor has been engaging in focused roundtable discussions with various sectors. The goal is to have an active engagement component that allows the Mayor and stakeholders to discuss relevant issues pertaining to Edmonton, as well as find possible alignments with the Mayor's priorities. On May 21st, the Edmonton Student Alliance facilitated a roundtable discussion with other youth and student stakeholder groups. We explored questions like what an Edmonton that encourages youth to build their futures in Edmonton look like? What is limiting youth in Edmonton when it comes to the job market? What challenges are youth facing in Edmonton? And What does Edmonton working towards climate resilience/climate justice look like? I was honored to hear so many perspectives, views and solutions around the table from various groups. More work will be done following this roundtable to ensure these perspectives are reflected in the City's priorities.

Upcoming Events

Canadian Alliance of Student Associations (CASA) Foundation Conference

Next week, President Monteiro and I will be headed to Ottawa for CASA's foundations conference. This conference is where incoming delegates learn more about CASA and begin discussions surrounding our shared priorities and goals for federal advocacy.

Edmonton Student Alliance (ESA) Annual General Meeting

Next week will also be the first single day conference and meeting for the Edmonton Student Alliance (ESA). This group consists of the 8 SU and SAs in the Edmonton region and collectively we advocate to City Council and stakeholders within the Edmonton area on issues and priorities pertaining to post-secondary students. This will be our very first in-person conference in 2 years and it will offer a chance to have discussions around shared goals.

Planning for Upcoming Projects

Time is flying and we are almost headed into June. This means the ball will get rolling on lots of advocacy projects and campaign. Some of the projects we are hoping to accomplish in the external portfolio are:

- Running a Get Out the Vote Campaign to get students to engage and vote in the upcoming Provincial election.
- Promote student entrepreneurs and innovators ideas and projects
- Getting more students involved in Community Leagues
- Making Post-Secondary Education a priority topic for this upcoming election
- Addressing Study Permit processing disparity issues.
- Improving cell reception in underground LRT stations.

As always, I strongly encourage councilor involvement in these projects. You all ran on similar goals and I know you all want to achieve great things during your terms on council. So do not hesitate to reach out to me if you have ways you would like to support or work on these projects please do not hesitate to reach out to me.

Cheers,



Christian Fotang

Vice President External

University of Alberta Students' Union