

Date: 03/01/2019
To: Students' Union Council
Re: VP(X) 2018/19 Report

Dear Council,

I hope you are all relaxed and energized for an exciting 4 last months to wrap up the year! December ended up being much crazier than anticipated, but after a couple weeks of resting in Calgary for Christmas, I feel refreshed and ready to keep going.

1. Updates

- **Meeting with Prime Minister Justin Trudeau:** This was mentioned in my oral report of the last Council meeting before the winter break, but on December 10th I, along with 2 other CASA Director and 1 staff, met with Prime Minister (and Minister of Youth) Justin Trudeau, and Parliamentary Secretary on Youth MP Peter Schiefke. The 40-minute meeting was very productive, as we presented all of [CASA's advocacy asks for this year](#) and heard the PM's thoughts on our ideas. He was overall very receptive and we are hearing that some of our asks are already being acted upon. He also talked about his passion for including youth in important discussions and commended the work that we are doing as CASA members. I cannot stress how important it was for us that we got this meeting, and it really goes to show that CASA is the national student voice that is listened to by government.



- **Presentation to the HoC Committee on Citizenship and Immigration:** On December 11th, I was invited to present to this committee on behalf of CASA where I spoke about the importance of international students when it comes to 21st century immigration. There were several MPs on the committee who we had met with during Advocacy Week, and one MP even talked about how impressed she was with our document.

- **Meeting with Minister Kirsty Duncan:** On December 12th, I, along with CASA staff and a QSU representative, met with the Minister of Science and Sport to discuss our asks. We focused primarily on our research, graduate student and sexual violence asks which were very well received. Minister Duncan is a former professor and is very passionate about seeing students succeed.
- **Tuition regulations unveiled:** On December 17th the Ministry of Advanced Education released details on tuition and fee regulations following the passing of Bill 19 into law. I have attached a report done by EAA Nelson as an information item.
- **UEQ negotiations:** On December 18th I led the CASA negotiating team in our second meeting with the Quebec Students Union in regards to our partnership agreement. Most of the changes have been agreed on and we hope to present a first draft to our respective associations in February.
- **CSJ meetings:** I attended a meeting of several CSJ stakeholders on December 18th to discuss the issues of funding and governance that are troubling the campus.

2. Coming up

- **CASA Mental Health campaign:** From January 30-February 1, I will be running a CASA mental health campaign aimed at collecting stories and support from students to lobby the federal government for greater supports aimed at mental health on campus. Similar to the CAUS tuition campaign that was run in the fall, I always appreciate volunteers and students willing to help collect messages! You can find out more about CASA's mental health asks [here](#).
- **CAUS Counterparts:** The Executive will be in Calgary on January 9-10 for a CAUS counterparts meeting with all other CAUS executives from across Alberta.
- **Antifreeze:** At 11am on January 11th, I am thrilled to help judge an Antifreeze challenge with the other executives!!
- **Going to Lethbridge:** I will be in Lethbridge on January 18th for meetings with the University of Lethbridge Graduate Student Association about CASA.
- **CSJ town hall:** The CSJ town hall has been tentatively booked for January 30th. More details to come!

I am reaching out to Faculty Associations to coordinate office hours now that I have a month with considerably less travel, so I look forward to talking with students across campus about the future of our external advocacy!

Kind regards,



UASU VP (External)

Adam Brown