

Date: 2021/11/26

To: Students' Union Council

Re: Vice President External 2021/22 Report #16

Dear Council,

I hope all is well with everyone. The day's are getting colder, the roads icy and more slippery, and the nights are becoming longer. I hope that despite the gloomy weather, the spirit of the holidays and the time spent with friends and family have been able to make your days a little brighter and warmer. .

Advocacy Meeting with Minister Issik

Last Wednesday, Rachel Timmermans (CAUS chair and VP External of SAMRU), Holly Kletke (President of ULSU), and I met with the Associate Minister of the Status of Women, Whitney Issik. Our primary focus for this meeting was to discuss the role the GoA can play in addressing campus sexual violence (CSV). This was a very productive meeting with my fellow student leaders and I stressing the importance of creating a provincial framework that all PSIs in the province must follow. We also shared the need for more specific funding for training campus staff and the involvement of other Ministries such as: Labour, Health and Finance can play in addressing this topic. I shared how proper sexual violence prevention resources as well as well funded resources for victims can help improve retention rates for survivors. The Minister said she believed that it was essential that we address CSV by addressing the culture and believed that any sort of framework or policy would have to address these cultural problems. They also expressed the belief that emphasis on supporting community organizations that provide training and support services that students could utilize seemed a more effective route than just general funding to Universities that wouldn't have any accountability measures that such money was being spent properly.

Minister Issik committed to continuing to be a champion on this topic within the caucus and the government. She also said she would be working closely with the Ministry of Advanced Education to roll out a survey that will be given to all PSIs to get a better understanding of CSV in Alberta's post-secondaries.

We were glad to see that this issue was also later brought up in the chamber's of the legislature during question period in an exchange between Minister Issik and MLA Irwin.

From Camrose with Love (A UASU-ASA Day long meeting)

Early last Friday, the rest of the execs and I embarked on a trip to Camrose to visit Augustana campus and finally meet the Augustana Students' Association team in person. This was a fantastic day trip and President Robel was a great host. The day began with a tour of the campus, followed by lunch with the current executive team at ASA where we discussed their current priorities and pressing issues facing students in Augustana and where we as execs can lend support. We wrapped up our day with a meeting with faculty administrators, James Smith (General Manager) and Randal Nickel (Executive Director Student Life). Randall and James also explained their roles and outlined their priorities. Most importantly they provided us with further context of the situations raised to us by Robel and the other ASA execs and what limitations they are working with and where we can

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assist. We closed off the trip with some delicious supper and attended the Augustana Viking Basketball team who were triumphant over the NAIT Oaks. (Hoorah!)

Shout out to Councillors

I would like to thank and give a massive shout out to Councillors Villosio, Vaughn and Morris for their efforts and projects they accomplished this past weekend. Firstly to Councillor Morris who planned and organized Transgender Day of Remembrance this past Saturday. As well as. Councillor Villosio, Vaughn and the rest of the execs and volunteers from ASC and CAC who planned and brought to life the Residential School Memorial event on Sunday.

Despite the cold weather, you each provided the opportunity for our campus community to come out and be informed about very important issues. I know you did not create such events in search of praise, nevertheless, your dedication should be commended. Lastly, thank you to all those who were able to make it out and come show your support and volunteer your time to help set up.

On a more personal note. I am proud to announce that our Futsal team, G.F.C were crowned the champions of our Division!!

Yours Externally,



University of Alberta Students' Union Vice President External
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