

## STUDENTS' COUNCIL

#### Tuesday, September 10, 2019 6:00PM Council Chambers, University Hall

We would like to respectfully acknowledge that our University and our Students' Union are located on Treaty 6 Territory. We are grateful to be on Cree, Dene, Saulteaux, Métis, Blackfoot, and Nakota Sioux territory; specifically the ancestral space of the Papaschase Cree. These Nations are our family, friends, faculty, staff, students, and peers. As members of the University of Alberta Students' Union we honour the nation-to-nation treaty relationship. We aspire for our learning, research, teaching, and governance to acknowledge and work towards the decolonization of Indigenous knowledges and traditions.

#### ORDER PAPER (SC-2019-09)

2019-09/I SPEAKERS BUSINESS

2019-09/Ia Announcements - The next meeting of Students' Council will take place on **Tuesday**,

September 24, 2019 at 6:00PM in Council Chambers.

2019-09/2 PRESENTATIONS

2019-09/2a *Title:* "Free Expression Presentation"

#### Presenter(s):

• Deputy Provost Wendy Rogers, University of Alberta

**Abstract:** In May 2019, in conjunction with early consultation with General Faculties Council, the university established an Advisory Group on Free Expression, chaired by the Deputy Provost and made up of subject matter experts, members of the GFC Executive Committee, and key administrative portfolios. The group's mandate is to advise on the development of an institutional policy on free expression. In June 2019, the Minister of Advanced Education issued a letter instructing all post-secondary institutions to develop a policy on free expression consistent with the "Chicago Principles" (Report of the Committee on Freedom of Expression). In July, the Minister issued a second letter providing clarification and extending the deadline for adoption to November 15, 2019.

The Advisory Group has developed a draft set of principles on free expression to inform a new university policy. The draft principles are based on an environmental scan, review of other institutions, and the expertise and perspective of the group. Broad consultation will occur in September and October 2019.

**AGARWAL MOVES** to allow Deputy Provost Wendy Rogers to give a consultation presentation on the University of Alberta freedom of expression principles.

See SC-2019-09.10.

2019-09/3	EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT
2019-09/4	BOARD AND COMMITTEE REPORT
2019-09/5	OPEN FORUM
2019-09/6	QUESTION PERIOD
2019-09/7	BOARD AND COMMITTEE BUSINESS
2019-09/7a	<b>TSE MOVES</b> to appoint three (3) members of Students' Council to the Audit Committee.
2019-09/7b	<b>DRAPER MOVES</b> to approve the First Principles of Bill 3; An Update To The Election Bylaws.
	See SC-2019-09.01.
2019-09/7c	<b>DRAPER MOVES</b> to approve the Second Principles of Bill 1, Updates to Bylaw 1500.
	See SC-2019-09.02.
2019-09/7d	<b>DRAPER MOVES</b> to approve the Second Principles of Bill 2, Updates to Bylaw
	2500.
	2500. See SC-2019-09.03.
2019-09/8	
2019-09/8 2019-09/8a	See SC-2019-09.03.
	See SC-2019-09.03.  GENERAL ORDERS  LARSEN MOVES to appoint four (4) members of Students' Council to the PAW
2019-09/8a	See SC-2019-09.03.  GENERAL ORDERS  LARSEN MOVES to appoint four (4) members of Students' Council to the PAW Strategic Operating Committee.  SUNDAY MOVES to recognize Aboriginal Student Council as a Student
2019-09/8a	See SC-2019-09.03.  GENERAL ORDERS  LARSEN MOVES to appoint four (4) members of Students' Council to the PAW Strategic Operating Committee.  SUNDAY MOVES to recognize Aboriginal Student Council as a Student Representative Association under Bylaw 8100.
2019-09/8a 2019-08/8b	See SC-2019-09.03.  GENERAL ORDERS  LARSEN MOVES to appoint four (4) members of Students' Council to the PAW Strategic Operating Committee.  SUNDAY MOVES to recognize Aboriginal Student Council as a Student Representative Association under Bylaw 8100.  See SC-2019-09.04.
2019-09/8a 2019-08/8b 2019-09/8b	See SC-2019-09.03.  GENERAL ORDERS  LARSEN MOVES to appoint four (4) members of Students' Council to the PAW Strategic Operating Committee.  SUNDAY MOVES to recognize Aboriginal Student Council as a Student Representative Association under Bylaw 8100.  See SC-2019-09.04.  BHATNAGAR MOVES to go in camera.

2019-09/9b	Second Principles of Bill 1 - Updates to Bylaw 1500.
	See SC-2019-09.02.
2019-09/9c	Second Principles of Bill 2, Updates to Bylaw 2500.
	See SC-2019-09.03.
2019-09/9c	Aboriginal Students' Council Submission to the Students' Union.
	See SC-2019-09.04.
2019-09/9d	President - Report.
	See SC-2019-09.05.
2019-09/9e	Vice-President (Academic) - Report.
	See SC-2019-09.06.
2019-09/9f	Vice-President (External) - Report.
	See SC-2019-09.07.
2019-09/9g	Vice-President (Operations and Finance) - Report.
	See SC-2019-09.08.
2019-09/9h	Vice-President (Student Life) - Report.
	See SC-2019-09.09.
2019-09/9i	Students' Council Attendance.
	See SC-2019-09.10.
2019-09/9j	Students' Council Motion Tracker.
	See SC-2019-09.11.
2019-09/9k	Executive Committee Motion Tracker.
	See SC-2019-09.12.
2019-09/91	Students' Council, Votes and Proceedings (SC-2019-08) - Tuesday, August 27, 2019.
	See SC-2019-09.13.

2019-09/9I Executive Goals, 2019/2020.

See SC-2019-09.14.

2019-09/9m Climate Action Letter Addressed to the Executive Team.

See SC-2019-09.15.

2019-09/9n "Free Expression" Presentation.

See SC-2019-09.16.

- Bill 3: Updates to Bylaws 2200,2300,2400 first principles
  - 1. The ideals and values of democracy are important for the good governance of the Students' Union
  - 2. The rules governing the elections of an institution should represent the values of said institution
  - 3. The Students' Union values inclusion, accessibility and fairness
  - 4. Bylaw committee consulted with the Chief Resource Officer as well as the General Manager of the Students' Union in regard to updating the election bylaws to best increase ease of understanding, fairness, accessibility, and inclusion.
  - 5. Bylaw committee reviewed these recommendations and has found a number of key changes
    - a. These changes include
      - i. Increased specificity for joke candidates so as to not unduly classify people who are trans as joke candidates
      - ii. A formalized non-random arbitration process in the event of a tie
      - iii. Maintaining consistency of language, process, and terminology between the various election bylaws
      - iv. Giving the Augustana faculty more freedom for the timeframe of their election due to their unique schedule

#### 1 Definitions

- 1. In this Bylaw
  - a. "Board" means Discipline, Interpretation and Enforcement Board;
  - b. "Committee" means Tribune Selection Committee;
  - c. "Council" means the University of Alberta Students' Council;
  - d. "Tribune" means a member of the Board;
  - e. "Executive" means Executive Committee of the Students' Union;
  - f. "General election" shall be the General Election of the Executive Committee and the Undergraduate Board of Governors or the General Election of Faculty Councillors;
  - g. "C.R.O." shall be the Chief Returning Officer of the Students' Union;

#### 2 Mandate

1. The Board is the organ of the Students' Union responsible for the interpretation and enforcement of Students' Union legislation, as well as advising council on the scope and constitutionality of legislation.

## 3 Scope of Cases

- 1. The scope of the Board shall be limited to actions and appeals brought before it that:
  - a. initiate a complaint about a contravention of Students' Union legislation;
  - b. request an interpretation of Students' Union legislation or;
  - appeal rulings made by the Chief Returning Officer during the Students'
     Union's general elections.
- 2. The board can provide expert opinions on the constitutionality or the scope of legislation without the need for a dispute brought to the board

## 4 Standing

- 1. The following have standing to initiate a complaint before the Board about the contravention of Students' Union legislation:
  - a. members of the Students' Union, except Tribunes;
  - b. any Students' Union constituted body, except the Board; or Council.

- 2. The following have standing to request an interpretation of Students' Union legislation from the Board:
  - a. Council,
  - b. members of Council, and
  - c. the Chief Returning Officer of the Students' Union.

### 5 Constitution of Board

- 1. The Board consists of:
  - a. Chief Tribune;
  - b. two Associate Chief Tribunes; and,
  - c. five to eleven additional tribunes.

## 6 Nomination and Ratification of Chief Tribune and Associate Chief Tribunes

1. The Chief Tribune and Associate Chief Tribunes shall be nominated by two-third majority vote of the committee and ratified by a two-third majority vote of Council.

#### 7 Nomination and Ratification of Tribunes

1. The tribunes shall be nominated by a two-third majority vote of the Committee and ratified by a two-third majority vote of Council.

## 8 Time of Nomination and Ratification

1. When possible, appointments to the Board will be made between January and April of each year.

## 9 Composition of the Committee

- 1. The Committee consists of:
  - a. two voting members of the Executive selected by the Executive;
  - b. two voting members of Council selected by Council;
  - c. two tribunes selected by the Board.

## 10 Quorum for Committee

1. Any five of the members of the Committee shall constitute a quorum.

#### 11 Chair of Committee

1. The chair of the Committee shall be elected by and from the Committee.

## 12 Notice to be given of Committee decisions

1. Notice of all appointments made to and chairs elected by the Committee will be reported to Council, the Executive, and the Board.

## 13 Who may be appointed Tribunes

- 1. No tribune may be:
  - a. a voting member of Council,
  - b. a voting member of a committee of Council, or
  - c. an employee of the Students' Union.

#### 14 Tenure of office

 Tribunes hold office as long as they continue to be members of the Students' Union, unless they resign or are removed by a two-third majority vote of the Committee and ratified by a two-third majority vote of Council.

## 15 Registrar

1. The Executive shall make a paid employee available to the Board to act as Registrar.

## 16 Duties of Registrar and filing of appeals

- 1. Under the supervision of the Chief Tribune, the Registrar shall:
  - a. receive and forward to all tribunes all applications to launch actions,
  - b. where a ruling is delivered by the Board, report to Council and the parties the ruling of the Board.

## 17 Applications in writing

1. An application to launch an action or appeal shall be made to the Registrar in writing.

#### 18 Actions limited those founded in rule of law

1. The Board shall grant applications for actions within the Board's scope and order a hearing.

## 19 Time limit on scheduling a hearing

1. The Board shall order a hearing no later than seven days after the Registrar has received a valid application, unless all parties to the application agree to an extension.

## 20 Time limit on appeal

1. Applications appealing a ruling of the Panel of First Instance must be submitted to the Registrar within seven days of the ruling.

### 21 Panel of First Instance

1. Actions shall be heard by a Panel of First Instance consisting of three tribunes, one of whom must be either the Chief Tribune or an Associate Chief Tribune.

## 22 Panel of Appeal

1. Appeals of rulings of the Panel of First Instance shall be heard by a Panel of Appeal consisting of five tribunes, at least one of whom must be either the Chief Tribune or an Associate Chief Tribune.

## 23 No cross over between the Panel of Appeal and Panel of First Instance on any given application

 No tribune who took part in the decision of the Panel of First Instance on an action may sit on the Panel of Appeal or take part in the hearing or adjudication of the application for appeal.

## 24 Replacement of the Chief Tribune or Associate Chief Tribune

1. If neither the Chief Tribune nor any Associate Chief Tribune can hear an action or appeal, they will be replaced for the duration of that action or appeal by other tribunes selected by the Board.

## 25 Exclusive ultimate appellate jurisdiction

1. The Panel of Appeal shall have and exercise exclusive ultimate appellate jurisdiction within the Students' Union, and the ruling of the Panel of Appeal is, in all cases, final and conclusive.

## 26 Administrative Support to be Provided

1. The Chief Tribune will have access to sufficient administrative support to carry out the logistical requirements of the Board.

#### 27 Duties of Chief Tribune

1. The Chief Tribune is responsible for appointing tribunes to panels and scheduling hearings.

#### 28 Duties of Associate Chief Tribune

1. The Associate Chief Tribunes are responsible for fulfilling the duties of the Chief Tribune in his or her absence.

#### 29 General Powers of Enforcement

 If the Board finds that an application for action or application for appeal requires action, the Board may make any order proscribing or prescribing any remedy it considers appropriate and just in the circumstances.

## 30 Effective date of rulings

1. Rulings of the Board shall be effective once registered with the Registrar.

## 31 Tribunes may make rules and orders

- 1. The Board may make general rules and orders:
  - a. for regulating the procedure of and in the Board and the bringing of cases before it, and for the effectual execution and working of this bylaw;
  - for empowering the Registrar to do anything and transact any business as is necessary to fulfill the mandate of the Board.

#### 32 Extent of rules and orders

1. The rules and orders may extend to any matter of procedure or otherwise not provided for by this bylaw, but for which it is found necessary to provide, in order to ensure the proper working of this bylaw and the better attainment of the mandate of the Board.

## 33 Copies to be reported

1. Copies of all rules and orders made under this bylaw shall be provided to the Registrar who shall report the same to Council and the Council Administration Committee.

## 34 Elections

- 1. Where a member is guilty of a serious contravention, the C.R.O. may recommend to the D.I.E. Board that further penalties be brought under Bylaws 2100, 2200, 2300, 2400, & 2500.
- 2. Any member shall be entitled to appeal a ruling of the C.R.O. to the D.I.E. Board.
- 3. All appeals of the C.R.O.'s rulings, with the exception of those arising out of voting and Election results, shall be heard and ruled upon by the D.I.E. Board prior to the announcement and release of the results of the election.
- 4. No appeal shall be considered by the D.I.E. Board unless it is received within twelve (12) working hours of the C.R.O.'s ruling being posted.
- 5. Where a complete appeal is received, the D.I.E. Board shall convene a hearing within twelve (12) working hours of the appeal being submitted.
- 6. The D.I.E. Board shall, at the meetings set out in Section 34, either
  - a. rule on all appeals; or
  - b. order a delay to the Election, Referenda or Plebiscite.
- 7. No appeal shall exist from a ruling of the D.I.E. Board on an appeal of a ruling by the C.R.O.

## **Bylaw 2500**

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A Bylaw Respecting Plebiscites for University Mandatory Non-Instructional Fees

## Contents

- 1 Short Title
- 2 Definitions
- 3 Mandate
- **4 Election Dates**
- **5 Plebiscite Initiation**
- 6 Conduct of the Plebiscite

## 1 Short Title

1. This Bylaw may be referred to as the "Plebiscites for Non-Instructional Fees Bylaw"

## 2 Definitions

- 1. In this bylaw
  - a. "member" shall be anyone who is an undergraduate student currently enrolled in at least one course for credit at the University of Alberta;
  - b. "C.R.O." shall be the Chief Returning Officer of the Students' Union;
  - c. "council" shall be Students' Council;
  - d. "general election" shall be the General Election of the Executive
     Committee and the Undergraduate Board of Governors or the General
     Election of Faculty Councillors;
  - e. "plebiscite" shall be a vote, open to all members, held on a given question but whose result is not legally binding upon the Students' Union;
  - f. "side" shall be any person or group of people who have their registration as a plebiscite or referendum side accepted under this bylaw;
  - g. "side manager" shall be a person registered as part of a plebiscite or referendum side who has been selected by those members of that side to serve as side manager for the purposes of this bylaw;

- h. "University" shall be the University of Alberta; and
- i. "Mandatory Non-Instructional Fee" shall be any undergraduate fee, not including tuition or student instructional support fees, levied and administered by the University of Alberta

### 3 Mandate

- 1. This bylaw shall govern the initiation of the plebiscites for:
  - a. the implementation of new University Mandatory Non-Instructional Fees; or
  - any increase to existing Mandatory Non-Instructional Fees beyond the Alberta Consumer Price Index.
- This bylaw shall not govern Students' Union Dedicated Fee Units, Faculty Association Membership Fees, Faculty Association Fees or Campus Association Transfer Payments.

## 4 Election Dates

 Plebiscites shall be held during the General Election of the Executive and the Undergraduate Board of Governors as per Bylaw 2200.

#### 5 Plebiscite Initiation

- The Executive Committee will inform Students' Council of any proposal to create a new Mandatory Non-Instructional Fee or to increase the cost of any existing Mandatory Non-Instructional Fees beyond the Alberta Consumer Price Index by January 15th in any given year.
- 2. Students' Council will review all proposals from Section 5 (1), and upon appropriate consultation, Students' Council will:
  - a. vote to support or reject the proposal; or
  - b. refer the question to plebiscite.
- 3. Where Students' Council initiates a plebiscite under Section 5(2) b., then the plebiscite in question shall be held on the dates of the next general election, not occurring within thirty (30) days of receipt by the C.R.O of the initiation by Students' Council of the plebiscite in question.
- 4. Upon receipt of a submission meeting the requirements set out in Section 5(3), the C.R.O. shall immediately forward the intent of the question to the Bylaw Committee.
- 5. The Bylaw Committee shall approve within fourteen (14) days from receiving the intent of the question from the C.R.O., a petition question which:

- a. fully reflects the intent submitted;
- b. if carried and acted upon, would not violate any Students' Union bylaws or any federal or provincial law;
- 6. Students' Council shall, at the meeting following the drafting of the petition question by the Bylaw Committee as set out in Section 5(5), approve a question which meets the criteria set out in Section 5(5) unless the question would cause Students' Council to breach its fiduciary responsibility to the Students' Union.

## 6 Conduct of the Plebiscite

- 1. The relevant provisions of Bylaw 2200 including but not limited to the rules, regulations and orders established by the C.R.O. shall govern the conduct of any plebiscite question initiated under this bylaw.
- Bylaws
- Political Policies
- Operating Policies



# Aboriginal Student Council Submission to the Students' Union

2018/2019 Academic Year August 25, 2019



#### MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Tan'si/Hello,

I would like to thank the members of the UASU Students' Council for reviewing the Aboriginal Student Council (hereinafter, "ASC") application for Student Representative Association status. On behalf of ASC, I invite you to closely and thoroughly review our request for Student Representative Association status. For over twenty-five (25) years the ASC has been a collective that supports, represents, and empowers it's community(membership;) the ASC has acted in the capacity of a Student Representative Association. But without proper and thorough acknowledgement for over twenty-five (25) years the ASC and the Aboriginal students of this campus have faced scrutiny, been overlooked, and disrespected. So in the spirit of reconciliation; to rectify the lack of official Aboriginal representation, of autonomic representative authority for Aboriginal students, and of external legitimacy for Advocacy for the ASC we ask Students' Council to remedy this by delegating its representing authority over Aboriginal undergraduate students to the ASC. Thank you all for your time and consideration in reading this submission. If you have any questions, I would direct you to ask Nathan Sunday, our Vice President Finance, who also acts in a separate capacity as Native Studies Councillor.

Hiy hiy/thank you,

Katherine Belcourt, President



#### INTRODUCTION

Originally called the Native Student Club, ASC was established in the 1990s to foster and empower the growing number of Aboriginal students attending the University of Alberta. Since then, ASC has continued to represent and advocate for Aboriginal students. The goal of ASC is to improve the lives and studies of Aboriginal students and foster healthy relationships both inside and outside of the Indigenous community. ASC seeks to create a safe and welcoming space to reaffirm and foster balance in spiritual, mental, physical, and emotional health through the promotion of culture, politics, academics, athletics, and other interpersonal interests.

ASC proudly acts as a facilitator at the University, offering a number of cultural events for both Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal students throughout the year. In addition, ASC plays a strong role in advocating for Aboriginal students to both the University administration and the Students' Union.

As an organization by Aboriginal students, for Aboriginal students, the ASC believes that it is in a position to represent and advocate for Aboriginal students better than the Students' Union. Although strides have been made in terms of Aboriginal inclusion and reconciliation at the Students' Union, the ASC believes that only Aboriginal students can truly understand our community. As it currently stands, the majority of Aboriginal students do not see themselves as reflected in the Students' Union or its leadership.



This is confirmed in the recently released *2018 Undergraduate Survey Report*, which states that there has yet to be a self-identified Aboriginal Students' Union executive since the organization's founding 111 years ago in 1908.<sup>1</sup> It is for this reason we ask Students' Council to see fit to exclusively delegate its representative authority, as given under the *Post Secondary Learning Act*, over Aboriginal undergraduates to the ASC.

#### **REASON FOR SUBMISSION**

Since its inception, the Executive Committee of the ASC has been elected by Aboriginal students at the University of Alberta. As with a majority of political organizations, be they Aboriginal or otherwise, the ASC exercises responsibility and effective governance through the three (3) tenants of modern democracy: popular sovereignty (rule by the people through free and fair elections and other forms of participation), constitutionalism (the use of constitutions to limit government by law), and liberalism (freedom, equality, and dignity of the individual).<sup>2</sup> However, the ASC also maintains elements of traditional governance found within many Aboriginal communities: consensus, culture, the inclusion of Elders, and an emphasis on future generations.

Although not yet recognized as an official representative association, the ASC currently operates on a level unlike that of a student group; the main reason for our request for

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> https://www.su.ualberta.ca/media/uploads/1143/2018UndergradSurveyReport.pdf

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> http://www.civiced.org/pdfs/books/ElementsOfDemocracy/Elements Subsection3.pdf



special status recognition. Recent Supreme Court of Canada and Federal Court of Canada decisions<sup>3</sup> have concluded that urban Aboriginal communities, such as the urban Aboriginal undergraduate community, are political communities akin to Indian reserves. Furthermore, in discussing these court decisions, Dr. Yale D. Belanger states that, "urban Aboriginal political organizations could represent urban Aboriginal interests [...] suggesting further that off-reserve Aboriginal people were a group of self-organized, self-determining, and distinctive communities, analogous to a reserve community."4 Similarly, in its *Truth and Reconciliation Commission Political Policy*, the University of Alberta Students' Union states that, "The U of A Students' Union should adopt Calls to Action from the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's Final Repot [sic] that directly relate to the undergraduate experience at the University of Alberta."<sup>5</sup> Inherent throughout both the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's Final Report and Calls to Action is an explicit adoption of the *United Nations Declaration on the Rights of* Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP). Article 3 of UNDRIP further confirms the right of

Aboriginal Peoples to collectively exercise their rights through their own governments:

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Cordiere v. Canada (Minister of Indian and Northern Affairs), [1999] 2 S.C.R. 203.; Canada (Attorney General) v. Misquadis [2002] FCA 370; Ardoch Algonquin First Nation v. Canada (Attorney General), [2003] FCA 473; & Canada (Attorney General) v. Esquega [2008] FCA 182

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Yale D. Belanger, "The United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and Urban Aboriginal Self-Determination in Canada: A Preliminary Assessment," *Aboriginal Policy Studies* 1, no. 1 (2011): 142.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Truth and Reconciliation Commission Political Policy, fact 3.



"Indigenous peoples have the right to self-determination. By virtue of that right they freely determine their political status and freely pursue their economic, social and cultural development." Such a political status is not binary (i.e., either a member of ASC or the SU); rather, it is generally accepted that individuals and groups have a multiplicity of identities which intersect through many systems.

The ASC is not asking to take over complete membership of Aboriginal students; rather, we are asking to be recognized as a Student Representative Organization in order to achieve some semblance of recognition from external actors and organizations.

Although unfortunate, the ability for the ASC to state, concretely, that its power flows through the Students' Union by way of *government legislation* will legitimize us in the minds of colonial powers and systems.

Aboriginal students at the University of Alberta exercise their self-determination by voting and determining the Executive Committee of the ASC. It is through this act, as well as engagement with Aboriginal students, that the ASC exercises its power to represent Aboriginal students. In short, the ASC, by virtue of its membership and purpose, is a distinct organization representing the Aboriginal undergraduate student population.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> https://www.un.org/esa/socdev/unpfii/documents/DRIPS en.pdf



#### **BYLAW 8100**

According to Students' Union Bylaw 8100, a Student Representative Association, "refer[s] to any association of undergraduate students that represents a definable and enumerable constituency, to which Students' Council exclusively delegates its representative authority." Furthermore, in contextualizing this definition, Bylaw 8100 states that the 3 critical roles of such an Association are to:8

- a) Act as the official representative of its membership on student issues;
- b) Provide services which are beneficial to its membership; and
- c) Foster student engagement and a sense of community within its constituency.

Lastly, Bylaw 8100 provides for a list of criteria which collectively create a recognition test. This recognition test, as seen below, acts as a justification for whether a group can be considered a Student Representative Association or not: 10

- a) The student association represents a definable and enumerable constituency;
- b) The student association has legislation and procedures that are compliant with Students' Union bylaw respecting Student Representative Association and

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Bylaw 8100, section 3(1)(e).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> Bylaw 8100, section 4.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> The criteria set out in Bylaw 8100 is referred to as the 'recognition test' throughout this submission.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> Bylaw 8100, section 8(1).



Student Groups; and

c) The student association is registered and recognized by the Students' Union as a student group.

The following section will go into more detail about the recognition test and how it applies to ASC.

#### **CRITICAL ROLES OF AN SRA**

Acts as the official representative of its membership on student issues.

Since its creation, the ASC has acted in a representative capacity for Aboriginal students at the University of Alberta. Through our history, numbers ASC executives have sat on boards, committees, task forces, etc., with the sole aim of representing Aboriginal students. However, under the *Post-Secondary Learning Act*, the Students' Union has the exclusive, legislative authority over the administration of student affairs at the University.

In order to better meet the needs of students, the Students' Union created a framework for the creation of SRAs via bylaw. According to Discover Governance, "they [SRAs] are important because they understand and can advocate for the more specialized needs of



smaller sections of campus."<sup>11</sup> In the case of ASC, it only makes sense for the Students' Union to recognize us as an SRA, as we are currently already filling the role of one.

Provide services which are beneficial to its membership.

Currently, the ASC provides programming for our members to meet their physical, mental, emotional, and spiritual needs. With the passing of the Dedicated Fee Unit in March 2019, the ASC plans to roll out new programming, such as cultural events, a childcare subsidy, and awards. As Aboriginal students are almost 4 times more likely to be parents of dependent children than non-Aboriginal students, it is self-evident that programming directed towards parents and the childcare subsidy will be beneficial to our members.<sup>12</sup>

Foster student engagement and a sense of community within its constituency.

Through our close association with First Peoples' House, ASC acts to create a culturally-defined and safe Aboriginal community at the University of Alberta. As many Aboriginal students are forced to move away from their homes and family networks to attend University, it is incredibly important to ASC that they feel represented and engaged.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> https://www.su.ualberta.ca/media/uploads/580/BecomingaSRA.pdf

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> https://www.su.ualberta.ca/media/uploads/1143/2018UndergradSurveyReport.pdf



#### RECOGNITION TEST

The student association represents a definable and enumerable constituency.

Since its inception, ASC has been an organization by Aboriginal students, for Aboriginal students. In terms of the statement above, Aboriginal students make up a definable and enumerable constituency by virtue of our explicit inclusion as a distinct legal status in the *Constitution Act, 1982*. Section 35 of the *Constitution Act, 1982* provides constitutional protection to the Aboriginal and treaty rights of Aboriginal Peoples in Canada. Section 35(2) defines Aboriginal Peoples as including, "the Indian, Inuit and Métis peoples of Canada." Although never formally adopting a definition of 'Indigenous,' the United Nations Secretariat of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues provides the following working definition:

Indigenous communities, peoples and nations are those which, having a historical continuity with pre-invasion and pre-colonial societies that developed on their territories [....] They form at present non-dominant sectors of society and are determined to preserve, develop and transmit to future generations their ancestral territories, and their ethnic identity, as the basis of their continued



existence as peoples, in accordance with their own cultural patterns, social institutions and legal systems.<sup>13</sup>

That being said, at a macro-level, Indigenous Peoples make up a definable group within Canada's cultural mosaic. In terms of the University of Alberta - by way of the University of Alberta Calendar 2019-2020 - 'Aboriginal' is defined in relation to section 35.

Although Aboriginal students can apply to the University via the regular admission process, Aboriginal Peoples are also differentiated from the general population by way of a unique admission process. Once more, as stated in the University of Alberta calendar:

To assist the University in achieving this overall goal, Faculties are encouraged to set aside places specifically for Aboriginal applicants, the number being consistent with the available pool, student interests, and available teaching and learning support services.

Faculties such as Law and Medicine and Dentistry have specific places reserved for Aboriginal students, thus making the Aboriginal student population administratively unique from the general student population.

<sup>13</sup> The Concept of Indigenous Peoples: Background Paper Prepared by the Secretariat of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues



Secondly, the University of Alberta keeps track of the number of self-identifying Aboriginal students. Partially, this is done in order to track the progress of commitments made in its institutional strategic plan, "For the Public Good." One such commitment was the creation and implementation of, "an undergraduate and graduate recruitment and retention strategy to attract Indigenous students from across Alberta and Canada."

14 To date, there are over 1,000 self-identifying students studying at the University of Alberta.

For the reasons stated above and more, ASC represents a definable and enumerable constituency: that of Aboriginal students.

The student association has legislation and procedures that are compliant with

Students' Union bylaw respecting Student Representative Associations and Student

Groups

As set out in Bylaw 8100 and 8200, ASC is in compliance with current regulations.

Attached to this submission is a copy of our Constitution, last amended at our August 5, 2019 Annual General Meeting. Moreover, attached to this submission is a copy of our Bylaws, ratified at our August 5, 2019 Annual General Meeting and adopted via Executive Committee Resolution on August 13, 2019. Together, the Constitution,

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup> For the Public Good, page 8.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>15</sup> This number is likely much higher, as it only accounts for *self-identifying* Aboriginal students. There are a number of reasons and factors as to why an Aboriginal person may not self-identify.



Bylaws, and Executive Committee Resolution are the mechanisms by which ASC is governed and which constitute its legislation.

The student association is registered and recognized by the Students' Union as a student group

ASC is a registered student group with Student Group Services and has re-applied for re-registration. On August 6, 2019 ASC received a registration confirmation e-mail from Student Group Services.

#### CONCLUSION

The Executive Committee of ASC would like to thank the UASU Students' Council for reviewing our submission. Moreover, we would like to thank the law firm Shores Jardine for their legal council and for the Students' Union's inclusion of lawyers Paula Hale and Aizlynn Regan. It is the result of the legal analysis they provided that ASC was able to strengthen its proposal.

As stated previously, Vice President Sunday will be present at the next UASU Students' Council meeting to provide any further information necessary to ensure the substantiation of this proposal. We look forward to the contingent affirmation of this submission and continuing along the path of our two organization's growing relationship vis-a-vis ARRC and other such engagements.



Thank you,

ASC Executive Committee

Aboriginal Student Council 2-20 North Power Plant University of Alberta Edmonton, AB T6G 2E8 acouncil@ualberta.ca



# Aboriginal Student Council Constitution

Ratified on October 5, 2006 Amended on March 4, 2011 Amended on October 16, 2013 Amended on August 16, 2014 Amended on April 22, 2015 Amended on April 25, 2016 Amended on April 13, 2018 Amended on April 3, 2019 Amended on August 5, 2019

#### 1. Name and Mandate

- 1. The name of the student group shall be Aboriginal Student Council.
- 2. Aboriginal Student Council operates as both a registered student group under the Students' Union and under the umbrella of the Dean of Students. As such, Aboriginal Student Council is subject to University of Alberta policies and procedures. Aboriginal Student Council will also comply with all local, provincial, and federal laws and procedures.
- 3. The Aboriginal Student Council seeks to create a safe and inclusive space for self-identified Indigenous students to re-affirm and foster balance in spiritual, mental, physical, and emotional health through promoting cultural, political, academic, athletic, and interpersonal interests.
- 4. This document is the general constitution of the Aboriginal Student Council, and as such regulates the transaction of business and affairs of the Aboriginal Student Council.

## 2. Definition and Interpretations of the Constitution

- 1. In this Constitution, the following terms are defined as:
  - a. **Annual General Meeting** means the annual general meeting described in Section 9(a) of this Constitution..
  - b. **General Meeting** means the Annual General Meetings, Executive meetings, and a Special Meeting.
  - c. *Member* means a member of the Aboriginal Student Council.
  - d. *In Good Standing* refers to a member that has paid all fees by the deadline and has not resigned or been suspended or expelled.
  - e. **Proxy** means a person authorized to act in the place of another.
  - f. **Aboriginal** means to be any person defined as Aboriginal as defined by the University of Alberta's policy, including those self-identified.
  - g. **Quorum** means the minimum number of Aboriginal Members needed to call an Annual General Meeting or Executive Meeting.
  - h. **Legislation** means the rules, procedures, and laws by which the Aboriginal Student Council is governed and include, in order of importance, the following:
    - i. Aboriginal Student Council Constitution;
    - ii. Aboriginal Student Council Bylaws; and
    - iii. Executive Committee Resolutions.

## 3. Objectives

- 1. The objectives of the Aboriginal Student Council are:
  - a. To create an Aboriginal community within the University of Alberta that supports and maintains continued interest in education;
  - b. To represent the Aboriginal students at the University of Alberta and to promote the significance of education for Aboriginal Peoples;

- c. To provide the support necessary within available resources to enhance the academic potential of Aboriginal Student Council members and to support them in their studies at the University of Alberta;
- d. to create a safe and inclusive space for self-identified Indigenous students to re-affirm and foster balance in spiritual, mental, physical, and emotional health through promoting cultural and interpersonal interests;
- e. to offer extra-curricular activities from time to time to balance academic with social activities for the membership; and
- f. to provide opportunities for political, educational, and/or social engagement on campus (North Campus, South Campus, and Campus St. Jean when possible).

## 4. Membership Categories

- 1. There are four categories of Members:
  - a. Aboriginal Members;
  - b. Non-Aboriginal Members;
  - c. Executive Members;
  - d. Director; and
  - e. Honorary Members.
- 2. **Aboriginal Members** are individuals who must:
  - a. Be a registered student (full- or part-time) at the University of Alberta;
  - b. Be a self-identified Aboriginal student as per Section 5 of this Constitution; and
  - c. Have not withdrawn from the Aboriginal Student Council.
- 3. Non-Aboriginal Members are individuals who must:
  - a. Be a registered student (full- or part-time) at the University of Alberta;
  - b. Be of non-Aboriginal ancestry; and
  - c. Have requested such membership from the Executive Committee.
- 4. **Executive Members** are individual who must:
  - a. Be a member of the Executive Committee; and
  - b. Hold a democratically elected position, as outlined in Section 10 of this Constitution.

#### 5. Directors

- a. Be either an Aboriginal Member or Non-Aboriginal Member of the Aboriginal Student Council.
- b. Granted Director status through a simple majority vote of the Executive Committee
- c. Responsible for a singular activity and under the purview of a member of the Executive Committee
- 6. **Honorary Members** are individuals who:
  - Are granted such membership via special resolution passed by the Executive to recognize the contributions of an individual to the Aboriginal Student Council or its objectives; and
  - b. Honorary Members are not required to pay the Aboriginal Student Council membership fees.

7. Any individual may become a member in the appropriate category by meeting the requirements set out in Section 4 of this Constitution as well as helping to support the Council's objectives. However, Aboriginal Student Council must have 2/3 of its membership consist of undergraduate students.

## 5. Proof of Aboriginal Ancestry

- 1. For the purposes of entrance to the Aboriginal Members category, and to be registered as a candidate in Executive elections pursuant to Section 11 of this Constitution, proof of Aboriginal Ancestry will be accessed in the following ways:
  - a. In accordance with the *Constitution Act, 1982* (Part II, Section 35(2)), an Aboriginal person is an Indian, Inuit, or Métis person of Canada, or a person who is accepted by one of the Aboriginal Peoples of Canada as a member of a community.
  - b. For the purposes of proof of Aboriginal Ancestry, the following will be accepted as evidence:
    - i. Self-declared as Aboriginal with First Peoples' House;
    - ii. Certified status (treaty) card;
    - iii. Certified Métis membership card;
    - iv. Certified copy of a Nunavut Trust Certificate card, roll number or any other proof accepted by Inuit communities;
    - v. Proof that an ancestor's name has been entered:
      - 1. In the Indian Register according to the Indian Act, or
      - 2. On the band list of an individual band, or
      - 3. On the Inuit roll.
    - vi. Evidence of an ancestor who received a land grant or scrip under the Manitoba Act or the Dominion Lands Act;
    - vii. Written confirmation of Aboriginal ancestry from the Department of Indian Affairs;
    - viii. Written confirmation of membership by a band council which has enacted its own band membership code;
    - ix. A Statutory Declaration by an applicant attesting to Aboriginal ancestry, supplemented by letters or documentation supporting the Declaration. Such supplemental documents can include, but are not limited to, the following:
      - 1. From an official of a recognized native organization, or
      - 2. From a relative in an Aboriginal community, or
      - 3. From the applicant describing involvement with Aboriginal issues;
      - 4. From signing the University of Alberta Statutory Declaration, signed by a Commissioner of Oaths.
  - c. Other forms of proof may be considered, with the adjudication of eligibility as decided by the Elections Officer in consultation with the outgoing Executive Committee.

## 6. Membership and Rights & Privileges of Members

- 1. The membership year of the Aboriginal Student Council is September 1 to April 30 of any given year.
- 2. Members, as defined in legislation, are entitled to all services, programming, and opportunities provided by Aboriginal Student Council.
  - a. Certain key funding arrangements are available to all members of the University of Alberta, pursuant to Aboriginal Student Council Bylaws.

## 7. Membership Termination

- 1. All resignations, suspensions, and expulsions are pursuant to Aboriginal Student Council legislation.
- 2. The process of member resignation should occur in the following manner:
  - a. Any member wishing to withdraw from membership may do so upon notice, in writing, to the Executive Committee via its Vice-President Administration. The individual is considered to have ceased being a Member once the notice is received by the Vice-President Administration.
- 3. The process of member suspension should occur in the following manner:
  - a. Any member, upon a simple majority vote of the Executive Committee, may have their membership suspended for any cause which the Aboriginal Student Council may deem reasonable. The Member shall thereafter be entitled to no membership privileges or powers in the Aboriginal Student Council until reinstated by simple majority vote of the Executive Committee.
- 4. The process of member expulsion should occur in the following manner:
  - a. Any member, upon a simple majority vote of the Executive, may be expelled from membership for any cause deemed reasonable by the Aboriginal Student Council.

## 8. Aboriginal Student Council Premises

- 1. Premises of the Aboriginal Student Council shall consist of the Aboriginal Student Council lounge and Aboriginal Student Council office. All contents of the Aboriginal Student Council premises shall be the property of the Aboriginal Student Council.
- 2. The Aboriginal Student Council Lounge shall provide:
  - a. A place for Aboriginal Student Council meetings, events, and general social interactions; and
  - b. Lockers for rent by members. The price for locker rentals shall be set by the Executive Committee via a simple majority vote.
- 3. The Aboriginal Student Council Office shall:
  - a. Be where the day-to-day business and long-term activities of the Aboriginal Student Council occur;
  - b. Only be occupied by members of the Executive Committee; and
  - c. Have office hours for a minimum of one hour per weekday, held and shared equally by all members of the Executive Committee, except when individual

classes/exams are scheduled. Additional office hours shall be set at the discretion of the Aboriginal Student Council Executives.

4. When the University of Alberta is closed, the Aboriginal Student Council premises will concurrently be closed.

## 9. Aboriginal Student Council Meetings

#### 1. The Annual General Meeting:

- a. Shall be held on the Friday of the first week of April of any given year; and
- b. The Executive shall sets the location, date, and time of the meetings.
- c. The Vice-President Administration shall inform the membership of the meeting by publicly posting a notice at the Aboriginal Student Council Premises, and contact the membership by e-mail at least fourteen (14) days prior to the Annual General Meeting.
- d. The Annual General Meeting agenda shall consist of matters involving:
  - i. Adopting the agenda;
  - ii. Adopting the minutes of the last Annual General Meeting;
  - iii. Considering the reports of the Executive Committee, both collectively as a body an each Executive's individual report;
  - iv. Reviewing the financial statements setting out the Aboriginal Student Council's income, disbursements, assets, and liabilities;
  - v. Speeches for the Executive elections; and
  - vi. Considering matters specified in the meeting notice.

#### 2. Special Meetings:

- a. Shall be called through the following mechanisms:
  - i. By a resolution of the entire Executive Committee to that effect; or
  - ii. On the written request of at least two (2) Executive Members. The request must state the reason for the Special Meeting and the motion(s) intended to be submitted at this Special Meeting; or
  - iii. On the written request of at least one-third (1/3) of the full membership. The request must state the reason for the Special Meeting and the motion(s) intended to be submitted at such Special Meeting.
- b. The Vice-President Administration shall inform the membership of the meeting by publicly posting a notice at the Aboriginal Student Council Premises at least fourteen (14) days before the Special Meeting. This notice must state the location, date, time, and agenda of the Special Meeting.
- c. Only the matter(s) set out in the notice for the Special Meeting shall be considered at the Special Meeting.

## 3. Executive Meetings:

- a. Meetings of the Executive Committee shall be held as often as may be required, but at least twice per month and shall be called by a majority of the Executive.
- b. A special meeting may be called on the instructions of any two Executive members provided they request the Executive in writing to call such meeting and state the business to be brought before the meeting.

- c. Meetings of the Executive Committee shall be called with at least three (3) days notice.
- d. Two third (2/3) members of the Executive shall constitute quorum.
- e. Executive Meetings may be held without notice if quorum is reached provided, however, that any business transactions at such meetings shall be ratified at the next regularly called meeting of the Executive; otherwise they shall be null and void.
- f. Each Executive member has one (1) vote. There are no proxy votes.
- g. In the event that a tie vote occurs, the motion in question is defeated.
- h. Meetings of the Executive Committee are open to Members of the Aboriginal Student Council, but only Executive members may vote.
  - i. A majority of Executive members present may ask any other Members, or other persons present, to leave.
  - ii. In camera sessions of the Executive Committee are considered closed meetings.
- i. All Executive members may agree to and sign a written motion. This resolution is as valid as one passed at any meeting of the Executive Committee. It is not necessary to give notice or to call an Executive Committee meeting. The date of the resolution is the date it is passed.
- j. Irregularities or errors during meetings committed in good faith do not invalidate acts done by any meeting of the Executive.
- 4. All Annual General Meetings and Special Meetings are open to the public. A simple majority vote of the Executive Committee may ask any persons who are not members to leave.
- 5. The President shall act as Chair during every Annual General Meeting and Special Meeting. In the absence of the President, any other Executive member may act as interim Chair of the meeting as agreed to by the presiding Executive members.
  - a. The President may delegate their authority to any member of the Executive Committee to act as the Chair of any meeting.
- 6. Quorum for all Annual General Meetings and Special Meeting is ten (10) Aboriginal Members.
  - a. Should there be a failure to reach quorum, the President shall cancel the Annual General Meeting or Special Meeting if quorum is not reached within thirty (30) minutes after the set time. If cancelled, the meeting shall be rescheduled for one (1) week later at the same location and time. If quorum is not reached within thirty (30) minutes after the set time of the second meeting, the meeting will proceed with the Members in attendance.
- 7. Any Member, in good standing, shall have the right to vote at any meeting of the Aboriginal Student Council. Such votes must be made in-person and not by proxy or otherwise.
- 8. The President may adjourn the meeting through a simple majority vote of Members present. .

## 10. Governance of the Aboriginal Student Council

- 1. The Executive Committee is responsible for the governing and managing of the affairs of the Aboriginal Student Council.
- 2. The powers and duties of the Executive Committee include:
  - a. Promoting the objectives of the Aboriginal Student Council;
  - b. Maintaining and protecting Aboriginal Student Council's assets and property;
  - c. Approving the allocation of Aboriginal Student Council funds;
  - d. Paying all expenses for operating and managing the Aboriginal Student Council;
  - e. Financing the operations and approving all contracts for the Aboriginal Student Council;
  - f. Maintaining all accounts and financial records of the Aboriginal Student Council; and
  - g. Making policies, rules, and regulations for operating the Aboriginal Student Council and using its facilities and assets.
- 3. The Executive Committee shall consist of at least 6 members, including:
  - a. One (1) President;
  - b. One (1) Vice-President Finance;
  - c. Two (2) Vice-President Internal/External Relations;
  - d. One (1) Vice President Consultation and Engagement; and
  - e. One (1) Vice-President Administration.
- 4. In addition to those members mentioned in Section 10(c), the Executive Committee shall include the following ex officio members:
  - a. One (1) member of the Students' Union, as appointed by the Students' Union.
  - b. One (1) member of First Peoples' House, as appointed by First Peoples' House.
  - c. Any member ratified through a simple majority vote of the Executive Committee.
- 5. The Executive Committee may choose, through a simple majority vote, to grant voting privileges to members outlined in Section 10(d) of this Constitution.
- 6. To be eligible to serve any Executive position for the Aboriginal Student Council, applicants must be Member, in good standing, that have not opted out of the Dedicated Fee Unit.
- 7. 100% of the Executive Members must be University of Alberta students and maintain a 3/4 undergraduate student proportion.
- 8. The Executive Committee must maintain a 100% Aboriginal Member majority.
  - a. This does not include the ex officio members of the Executive Committee.
- 9. The responsibility for each Executive Member are as follows:

#### a. President

- i. Supervises the affairs of the Executive Committee.
- ii. Chairs all meetings of the Executive Committee and all General Meetings.
- iii. Acts as the primary spokesperson for the Aboriginal Student Council.
- iv. Represents the Aboriginal Student Council on at least ½ of all committees, boards, etc., outside of the Aboriginal Student Council;
- v. Shall inform the Executive Committee of any new information known relating to the Aboriginal Student Council.
- vi. Shall represent Aboriginal Student Council in any business in a respectful manner.

- vii. Shall have signing authority for all cheques made payable by the Aboriginal Student Council and must approve all contracts with the Aboriginal Student Council.
- viii. Shall be responsible for overseeing any directors under their portfolio.
- ix. Shall carry out other duties assigned by the Executive Committee.

#### b. Vice-President Finance

- i. Makes sure all monies paid to the Aboriginal Student Council are deposited in a chartered bank, treasury branch, or trust company chosen by the Executive Committee.
- ii. Has signing authority for any cheques drawn up by the Aboriginal Student Council.
- iii. Makes sure a detailed account of revenues and expenditures is presented to the Executive Committee as requested.
- iv. Shall develop proposal for donations and, as necessary, for other funding purposes for the Aboriginal Student Council.
- v. Ensures that proper documentation are kept for any money transactions.
- vi. Ensures that Aboriginal Student Council's bank account is in good standing.
- vii. Shall be responsible for overseeing any directions under their portfolio.
- viii. Makes sure an final report of the financial position of the Aboriginal Student Council is prepared and presented to the Annual General Meeting.
- ix. Carries out other duties as assigned by the Executive Committee.

#### c. Vice-President Consultation and Engagement

- i. The primary role of the Vice-President Consultation and Engagement is to engage in external advocacy efforts on behalf of the Aboriginal Student Council and its members.
- ii. Shall act as the primary delegate for the Aboriginal Student Council on any policy decisions.
- iii. Will engage with external and internal groups on behalf of Aboriginal Student Council when asked to consult on any relevant issues.
- iv. Will engage with the Aboriginal Student Council membership on issues related to policy and advocacy decisions.
- v. Shall work with the Vice-President Internal/External Relations to engage in partnerships.
- vi. Will advise the Executive Committee on its strategic direction.
- vii. Will act as the main point of contact between the Executive Committee and the Aboriginal Student Council membership on strategic decisions.
- viii. Will ensure consultation and engagement of Aboriginal Student Council membership is completed on any strategic or policy decision of the Executive Committee.
- ix. Will lobby the University of Alberta and other relevant organizations on behalf of the Aboriginal Student Council.

#### d. Vice-President Internal/External Relations

- i. Shall be responsible for initiating and coordinating all Aboriginal Student Council social events and attending these events, as time permits.
- ii. Shall provide a report of all internally-coordinated activities to the Aboriginal Student Council executive meetings.
- iii. Carries out other duties assigned by the Executive.
- iv. Shall be responsible for communicating and initiating relationships with organizations and peoples outside of the Aboriginal Student Council membership.
- v. Shall be the primary contact for members internal to the Aboriginal Student Council and organizations outside the Aboriginal Student Council seeking to co-create or host events in partnership with the Aboriginal Student Council.
- vi. Shall be responsible for overseeing any directors under their portfolio.
- vii. When directed by the Executive Committee, shall attend any external meetings of the Aboriginal Student Council when the Aboriginal Student Council President shall be absent or when two seats are available to the Aboriginal Student Council.
- viii. Shall be the primary delegate for Aboriginal Student Council on its social media accounts.
- ix. Shall forward any reports and new information related to external relations to the Aboriginal Student Council Executive Committee on a regular basis and make these reports to in all biweekly meetings of the Aboriginal Student Council executive meetings.
- x. Shall carry out other duties assigned by the Executive Committee.
- xi. The aforementioned duties will be divided between the two elected Vice-President Internal/External Relations, with such delegation being provided by the Executive Committee.

#### e. VP Administration

- i. Shall assist the Executive Committee with all communications outside the Aboriginal Student Council.
- ii. Shall act as the main administrator of the Aboriginal Student Council e-mail and the Aboriginal Student Council's correspondence.
- iii. Shall monitor incoming e-mails and distribute them to the most relevant Executive member.
- iv. Shall act as minute taker of the Executive Committee.
- v. Responsible for the creation and distribution of the Executive Committee agendas.
- vi. Shall monitor and maintain the Aboriginal Student Council membership roll.

#### 11. Elections

- 1. The Aboriginal Student Council Executives shall be elected in the following manner:
  - a. An Election Officer, and any Deputy Election Officers, shall be appointed by the outgoing Executive Committee by March 1 of any given year.

- i. The Election Officer, and any Deputy Election Officer, shall be prohibited from running in an Executive election.
- b. The Nomination Period shall commence on the Monday of the third week of March at 8:00AM, and conclude on the Friday of the third week of March at 4:00PM.
  - Candidates for Executive positions must be from within the Aboriginal membership category, as outlined in Aboriginal Student Council legislation.
- c. The Nomination Package shall consist of, but is not limited to, the following:
  - i. The signatures of five (5) Aboriginal Members who, collectively, nominate the candidate:
  - ii. Proof of Aboriginal Ancestry, as per Aboriginal Student Council legislation;
  - iii. Personal information, as outlined in Bylaw; and
  - iv. Profile of the Executive Committee.
- d. A mandatory candidate's meeting shall occur following the closing of the Nomination Period and be held on the Monday of the fourth week of March.
  - i. If a candidate is unable to attend this meeting, it is at the discretion of the Election Officer to allow for such an absence or to remove said individual from the list of official candidates.
- e. The Campaign Period shall commence on the Tuesday of the fourth week of March at 8:00AM, and conclude on the Friday of the fourth week of March at 4:00PM.
- f. After the closing of the Campaign Period, the Election Officer shall host a Forum at which each candidate is given an opportunity to present their platform.
  - The Forum shall follow the structure set out in Aboriginal Student Council Bylaws.
- g. The Voting Period shall commence following the closing of the Forum and conclude on the Tuesday of the fifth week of March at 4:00PM.
  - Where there is only one (1) candidate for an Executive position, or two

     (2) candidates in the case of the Vice-President Internal/External
     Relations, balloting will proceed on a yes/no basis. The majority of eligible voters present must vote 'yes' in order for the candidate to be considered elected.
  - ii. The Election Officer shall review the votes cast until the Friday of the first week of April.
- h. The Executive Election results shall be read into the record by the Elections Officer at the Annual General Meeting.
  - i. The Annual General Meeting shall occur on Friday of the first week of April.
  - ii. To be considered elected, a candidate for an Executive Position must receive the highest number of eligible votes for that position. A Tie will result in a secondary election involving only the candidates who are tied. Secondary elections will follow the guidelines and format defined in Aboriginal Student Council legislation.

- iii. The incumbent Executive shall be given five (5) minutes to provide a speech to the general membership.
- i. A mandatory meeting of the outgoing and incoming Executive Committee shall occur on the Monday of the second week of April.
  - This meeting is considered a requirement that must be fulfilled in order for the incoming Executive Members to be ratified onto the Executive Committee.
- j. Should an Executive Member resign or be removed from office prematurely, the Executive Committee may appoint an Aboriginal Member, in good standing, to fill that position.
  - i. Such an appointment shall follow the procedure outlined in Bylaw.

# 12. Term of Office

- 1. Members of the Executive Committee will serve a term of one year, starting May 1 and ending April 30.
- 2. Where member of the Executive Committee resigns before the completion of their term of office, a new appointee, in accordance with legislation, is to complete the remaining term of office of the Executive Member who has resigned.
- 3. Any Executive member, upon a simple majority vote of the Executive Committee, may be removed from office for any cause which the Executive Committee may deem reasonable.
- 4. If any individual Executive Member, without lawful or sufficient excuse, misses three consecutive meetings, that member shall immediately be subject to removal by the Executive Committee. Upon such a decision, the above will occur unless it is of the opinion of the majority of the Executive Committee, by recorded vote, that said individual should remain in their position.

# 13. Financial Management

- 1. The fiscal year of the Aboriginal Student Council is considered to begin on May 1 and conclude on April 30 of any given year.
- 2. The books, accounts, and records of the Vice-President Finance shall be audited by two other members of the Executive Committee. Should the Executive Committee deem necessary, an external accountant may be hired to provide an audit. The audited records will be submitted at the Annual General Meeting.
- 3. The books and records of the Aboriginal Student Council may be inspected by any Member of the Aboriginal Student Council at the Annual General Meeting or at any time upon given written notice. Each Executive member shall at all times have access to such books and records.
- 4. Signing authority over any account of the Aboriginal Student Council will be subject to the following conditions:
  - a. Signing authority over all cheques written by the Aboriginal Student Council is vested in the President and Vice-President Finance positions.

- b. All cheques which drawn upon the monies of the Aboriginal Student Council shall be signed by the two Executive positions which hold signing authority, or one other designated member of the Executive.
- 5. All contracts of the Aboriginal Student Council must be signed by simple majority vote of the Executive Committee.
- 6. All monies received by the Aboriginal Student Council must be deposited in a chartered bank account authorized to receive deposits and to be withdrawn by cheque only.
- 7. All monies distributed by the Aboriginal Student Council must be via cheque, with no other means being accepted.
- 8. Unless authorized by special resolution of the Executive, no Member of the Aboriginal Student Council shall receive any remuneration for their services.
- 9. Members may be reimbursed for approved expenses by cheque, as long as their reimbursement requests are made, with original receipts, within two weeks following the transaction.
- 10. The organization shall carry out its business and dealings void of aspirations of personal monetary gain. Any profits shall be used solely to promote the objectives of the Aboriginal Student Council.

#### 14. Constitutional Amendments

- 1. Amendments to this Constitution may be proposed by all Aboriginal Student Council Aboriginal Members. Voting thereupon will be open to all Aboriginal Members of the group at a Special Meeting.
- 2. Such members entitled to vote must be present, in person, at the general meeting in which notice of the Constitutional amendments have been duly given.
- 3. A special resolution involving Constitutional amendments must be passed by a simple majority vote of Aboriginal members present at the general meeting in which notice of Constitutional amendments were given.
- 4. The fourteen (14) days notice of the Annual General Meeting or Special Meeting must include details of the proposed resolution to amend the Constitution.
- 5. Upon a successful vote regarding Constitutional amendments, the amended Constitution will be considered in full force thereafter.

## 15. Dissolution

- 1. Dissolution of the Aboriginal Student Council may occur in the following ways:
  - a. The Aboriginal Student Council may be dissolved by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote at a Special Meeting convened for such a purpose. In this circumstance, ninety (90) days notice must be given, in writing, to all members.
  - b. Membership to the Aboriginal Student Council drops below ten (10) members.
- 2. Upon dissolution, the Executives will be responsible for ensuring the termination of the bank account and that any remaining financial resources are donated to the Aboriginal Student Services Centre. Any resources or assets will be donated to the Aboriginal Student Services Centre, where appropriate, but will. not be distributed to individual members.



# Aboriginal Student Council Bylaws

Ratified on August 5, 2019



# **TABLE OF CONTEXTS**

BYLAW 100 - A Bylaw Respecting the Executive Committee	2
BYLAW 200 - A Bylaw Respecting Parliamentary Authority	13
BYLAW 300 - A Bylaw Respecting Peacemaking	17
BYLAW 400 - A Bylaw Respecting Internal and External Communication	20
BYLAW 500 - A Bylaw Respecting Finances	24
BYLAW 600 - A Bylaw Respecting Property and Assets	28
BYLAW 700 - A Bylaw Respecting Access to Information	32
BYLAW 800 - A Bylaw Respecting Membership	34
BYLAW 900 - A Bylaw Respecting Elections	37
BYLAW 1000 - A Bylaw Respecting the Strategic Plan	40
BYLAW 1100 - A Bylaw Respecting Dissolution	43



## **BYLAW 100**

A bylaw respecting the Aboriginal Student Council Executive Committee

#### CONTENT

- 1. Definitions
- 2. Composition of the Executive Committee
- 3. Resignation
- 4. Impeachment of Executive Committee members
- 5. Replenishment
- 6. Commencement
- 7. Structure of Meetings
- 8. Executive Committee Meeting Conduct
- 9. Proxies
- 10. Attendance
- 11. Legislation
- 12. Conflict of Interest
- 13. No force or effect

## 1. Definition

- 1. In this bylaw:
  - a. "Aboriginal," in accordance with the *Constitution Act, 1982* (Part II, Section 35), is an Indian, Inuit, or Metis person of Canada, or a person who is accepted by one of the Aboriginal Peoples of Canada as a member of a particular community.
    - i. "Aboriginal," "Indigenous," and "Native" may be used interchangeably.
  - b. "Aboriginal Member" is any member of the Aboriginal Student Council who:
    - i. Is a registered student, regardless of status, at the University of Alberta:
    - ii. Self-identifies as Aboriginal; and



- iii. Have not opted-out of the membership fees.
- c. "Ad Hoc Member" means any member of the Executive Committee except the democratically-elected President and Vice Presidents.
- d. "Director" means any member of the Aboriginal Student Council who, by Executive Committee Resolution, is granted such status by the Executive Committee for the purposes of fulfilling a single, specific activity.
- e. "Executive Committee Resolution" means a record of an Aboriginal Student Council decision made by consensus at a meeting of the Executive Committee duly convened.
- f. "Executive Member" means any member of the Executive Committee expect:
  - i. The Students' Union Representative,
  - ii. The Assistant Dean, First Nations, Métis, and Inuit Students, and
  - ii. The First Peoples' House Representative
- g. "First Nation(s)" will be used whenever possible to describe an Indian under the *Indian Act*, except when describing legal status.
  - i. "First Nation(s)" will be used to describe both status and non-status Indians, as well as Indian reserves and urban communities.
- h. "Legislation" means any of the following:
  - i. Aboriginal Student Council Constitution,
  - ii. Aboriginal Student Council Bylaws, and
  - iii. Executive Committee Resolutions.
- i. "Non-Aboriginal Member" is any member of the Aboriginal Student Council who:
  - i. Is of non-Aboriginal ancestry
- j. "Presiding Officer" is an official of the Executive Committee who presides over the Executive Committee and is charged with maintaining order and decorum during meetings and interpreting the Aboriginal Student Council's rules, practices, and precedents.
  - Unless otherwise specified by the Executive Committee, the President shall be the de facto Presiding Officer of the Executive Committee.
- k. "Students' Union" means the University of Alberta Students' Union, the official student association of University of Alberta undergraduates; mandated under the *Post-Secondary Learning Act*
- I. "University of Alberta" means the Governors of the University of Alberta and used to describe:
  - i. The General Faculties Council;
  - ii. The university administration; and
  - iii. The Board of Governors.



# 2. Objectives of the Executive Committee

- 1. The objectives of the Executive Committee are as follows:
  - a. To create a safe and inclusive space for self-identified Aboriginal students to re-affirm and foster balance in spiritual, mental, physical, and emotional health:
  - b. To foster an engaged and respectful community of Aboriginal peoples and allies.
  - c. To create open dialogue between Aboriginal and Non-Aboriginal Peoples; and
  - d. To follow the spirit and intent of the Constitution, as well as honouring our history and the next seven (7) generations.

# 3. Composition of the Executive Committee

- 1. The Executive Committee of Aboriginal Student Council is composed of:
  - a. President;
  - b. Vice President Finance;
  - c. Vice President Administration;
  - d. Vice President Internal/External Relations;
  - e. Vice President Consultation and Engagement;
  - f. One (1) representative of the University of Alberta Students' Union;
  - g. Executive Director of First Peoples' House; and
  - h. Assistant Dean First Nations, Metis, and Inuit.
- 2. Elected members of the Executive Committee must self-identify as Aboriginal.
- 3. Elected members of the Executive Committee, as well as the representative of the Stunts' Union, must have paid the membership fee.
- 4. The Executive Committee must maintain a ¾ undergraduate majority amongst its elected members.
- 5. The Presiding Officer is a secondary title and must be bestowed on a pre-existing member of the Executive Committee.

# 4. Resignation

Page **4** of **45** 



- 1. A member of the Executive Committee may resign from their position by submission of a letter of resignation to the Executive Committee.
  - a. Unless otherwise specified in the letter of resignation, the resignation will be effective two (2) weeks upon receipt of the letter.
- 2. Upon resignation from the Executive Committee, the previous member will undertake an exit interview.
- 3. Upon resignation of a member of the Executive Committee, said member shall continue to be a member of Aboriginal Student Council pursuant to Bylaw 800.
  - a. Should the member seek to resign their general membership to the Aboriginal Student Council, they must undergo the general membership resignation process outlined in Bylaw 800.
- 4. Upon request, resigned members may request a job reference from the Executive Committee.
  - a. Such a reference must not be influenced by the resignation of the requesting individual.

# **5. Impeachment of Executive Committee Members**

- 1. There shall be two (2) distinct procedures of impeachment. The first is admonition of misconduct but no other action being taken, and the second procedure is impeachment and removal from elected office.
- 2. Any member, upon resolution of the Executive Committee, may be removed from office for any cause which the Executive Committee may deem reasonable.
  - a. In such a case, a motion to impeach will require two (2) readings at two (2) separate meetings of the Executive Committee.
  - b. Such a motion to impeach shall require a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote to pass.
- If a member of the Executive Committee fails to fulfill the duties of their position, any general member may petition for their impeachment. The accusing member is responsible for presenting evidence and the petition to the Aboriginal Student Council membership.
  - a. In such a case, a motion to impeach will require one (1) reading at a Special Meeting.
  - b. Such a motion to impeach shall require fifty percent (50%) plus one (1) vote of the Aboriginal Student Council membership to pass.

# 6. Replenishment

Page **5** of **45** 



- 1. Should a member of the Executive Committee resign or be removed from office during the year, the Executive Committee may fill the vacancy with any Aboriginal Member in good standing who meets the eligibility requirements.
  - a. Whenever possible, vacant elected positions on the Executive Committee will be filled by way of a by-election.
- 2. In the event of a vacancy in elected positions, the vacancy shall be filled in the following manner:
  - a. Should a vacancy occur during the period of May 1 to September 1, the Executive Committee shall appoint an individual to the position on an interim basis until a by-election can be called.
    - i. Said individual must be an Aboriginal Member in good standing.
  - b. Should a vacancy occur after September 1, the Executive Committee shall appoint an individual to the position for the remainder of the term.
    - i. Said individual must be an Aboriginal Member in good standing.
- 3. In the event of a vacancy in the Students' Union representative role, the Executive Committee shall inform the Students' Union of said vacancy. It is the role of the Students' Union to select its new representative and forward their name to the Executive Committee for ratification.

#### 7. Commencement

- 1. The Order of Business for the commencement meeting of the Executive Committee shall be:
  - a. Call to Order:
  - b. Introduction;
    - i. Prayer/Smudge, and
    - ii. Member introductions.
  - c. Selection of Presiding Officer;
  - d. Approval of meeting schedule;
  - e. Approval of Bylaws; and
  - f. Adjournment.
- 2. The first meeting of the Executive Committee shall be held no later than one (1) month after its election, on a day, hour, and place to be stated in a notice given to each member of the Executive Committee, and meetings shall thereafter be held on such days and at times as may be necessary for the business of the Executive Committee or the affairs of Aboriginal Student Council.
  - a. At minimum, the Executive Committee shall meet once per month.



- 3. At the commencement meeting, the Executive Committee shall select the Presiding Officer.
  - a. By default and unless decided otherwise, the President shall act as the Presiding Officer of the Executive Committee.

# **8. Executive Committee Meetings**

- 1. The Order of Business for the Executive Committee shall be:
  - a. Call to Order;
  - b. Introduction:
    - i. Prayer/Smudge,
    - ii. Approval of Agenda, and
    - iii. Approval of Minutes.
  - c. Presentations;
  - d. Executive Reports;
    - i. President,
    - ii. Vice President Finance,
    - iii. Vice President Administration.
    - iv. Vice President Internal/External Relations, and
    - v. Vice President Consultation & Engagement.
  - e. Old Business:
  - f. New Business;
  - g. Discussion; and
  - h. Adjournment.
- 2. Quorum for the Executive Committee shall be 2/3 of sitting members.
  - a. Directors appointed under the provisions of the Constitution do not count towards quorum of the Executive Committee.
- 3. Upon a quorum being present, the Presiding Officer shall take the chair and call the meeting to order.
  - a. If no quorum is present within thirty (30) minutes after the time appointed for the meeting, the Vice President Administration shall call the role and take the names of the members then present and the Executive Committee shall stand adjourned until the next meeting.
- 4. For the purposes of voting, each voting member of the Executive Committee shall have one (1) vote.
  - a. Any Aboriginal Student Council Member, in good standing, shall have the right to vote at any Executive Committee meeting.
    - i. Such votes must be made in-person and not by proxy or otherwise.



- 5. The following members of the Executive Committee are not entitled to move, second, or vote on motions of the Aboriginal Student Council, unless given voting rights via simple majority vote of the Executive Committee:
  - a. Representative of the University of Alberta Students' Union;
  - b. Executive Director of First Peoples' House; and
  - c. Assistant Dean First Nations, Metis and Inuit.
- 6. Whenever possible, Executive Committee meetings shall be conducted in accordance with consensus-based decision making
- 7. Unless not addressing a motion, Executive Committee Resolution, or discussion would be detrimental to the Aboriginal Student Council, time limits on debate shall never be imposed.
- 8. Any member of the Executive Committee are entitled to motion to move in camera.
  - a. Such a motion is undebatable and must be voted on as soon as made.
- 9. The following principles govern in camera meetings:
  - a. Only members of the Executive Committee shall be permitted to sit in on an in camera meeting;
  - b. Anything covered in an in camera meeting shall remain confidential;
  - c. Minutes will be taken when in camera, but stored separately from the public minutes; and
  - d. All Executive Committee Resolutions and motions made in camera shall be made public.
- 10. Executive Committee Resolutions or motions made in camera shall be read into the official record.
  - a. If the Resolution or motion contains confidential information, that portion will not be read into the record until the confidentiality provisions are lifted

# 9. Executive Committee Meeting Conduct

- 1. The Presiding Officer shall maintain decorum at meetings of the Executive Committee.
- 2. Members of the Executive Committee must be recognized by the Presiding Officer before speaking.
- 3. Discussion at the Executive Committee shall be conducted in accordance with the circle and in the following manner:
  - a. The member who brought forward the discussion item will introduce said item;



- From the introducing member, the discussion shall continue in clockwise fashion until each member present has been given an opportunity to speak;
- c. After a single rotation, members shall be given the opportunity to ask and answer questions regarding the discussion at hand; and
- d. This shall continue, in a clockwise fashion, until the discussion item has been resolved.
- 4. Debate regarding Executive Committee Resolutions and motion shall be conducted in the same manner as set out in section 8(2) of this Bylaw.
- 5. A member of the Aboriginal Student Council shall not harass another member either during or outside of an Executive Committee meeting.
  - a. Harassment shall be defined within the context of the University of Alberta Discrimination, Harassment and Duty to Accommodate Policy and include conduct or comment, either one-time or represented, that:
    - i. Is demeaning, intimidating, threatening, or abusive;
    - ii. Is not trivial or fleeting in nature;
    - iii. Causes offence and should have reasonably been expected to offend;
    - iv. Serve no legitimate purpose;
    - v. Undermines authority or respect; and/or
    - vi. Creates an intimidating, hostile, or offensive environment.
- 6. Any conflicts which arise between members of the Executive Committee shall be dealt with in accordance with Bylaw 300.

#### 10. Proxies

- 1. Elected members of the Executive Committee shall not be entitled to send a proxy in their stead to an Executive Committee meeting.
  - a. When an elected member of the Executive Committee sends a proxy in their stead to an Executive Committee meeting, said proxy shall not be entitled to vote on motions or Executive Committee Resolutions.
  - b. Said proxy shall not be admitted into in camera sessions of the Executive Committee.
- 2. Unelected members of the Executive Committee shall be entitled to send a proxy to Executive Committee meetings in their stead.
  - a. Such a proxy must be a member of, and represent, the organization or constituency of the unelected Executive Committee member.
  - b. Said proxy shall be entitled to vote on motion but not Executive Committee Resolutions.



- c. Said proxy shall not be admitted into in camera sessions of the Executive Committee.
- 3. Members of the Executive Committee shall be entitled to submit written feedback on agenda items and have their written submission included in the record.
  - a. Such a written submission must be supplied to either the Presiding Officer or the official Aboriginal Student Council e-mail no later than twenty-four (24) hours before the scheduled start of the meeting.
  - b. In lieu of their absence, any member of the Executive Committee who supplies a written submission shall be considered present for the purposes of attendance and count towards quorum.

#### 11. Attendance

- 1. No member of the Executive Committee may be absent for three (3) consecutive meetings without being authorized to do so by the President, with the consent of the majority of the Executive Committee.
  - a. Both the Executive Director of First Peoples' House and the Assistant Dean First Nations, Metis, and Inuit are exempt from this provision.

# 12. Legislation

- 1. The Aboriginal Student Council Constitution:
  - a. Is the premiere piece of legislation pertaining to the Aboriginal Student Council;
  - b. The body of fundamental principles according to which Aboriginal Student Council is acknowledged to be governed;
  - c. May only be amended by a simple majority vote of Aboriginal Members at an Annual General Meeting; and
  - d. Does not expire.
- 2. Aboriginal Student Council Bylaws:
  - a. Are directives perpetually requiring and/or prohibiting action on the part of the Aboriginal Student Council;
  - b. Are adopted, amended, or rescinded by simple majority vote of the Executive Committee; and
  - c. Do not expire, but shall be reintroduced at the commencement meeting of the Executive Committee.
- 3. Executive Committee Resolutions:



- a. Are required to initiate, authorize, and/or approve important motions and transactions of the Executive Committee; and
- b. Act as a formal, written record of a decision made by a majority of members at an Executive Committee meeting duly convened.

## 13. Conflicts

- 1. In this bylaw, 'conflict of interest,' 'conflict of commitment,' and 'institutional conflict' shall adhere to the definition found in the University of Alberta, "Conflict Policy Conflict of Interest and Commitment and Institutional Conflict."
  - a. "Conflict of interest" shall be deemed as a situation in which there is or may be perceived to be a divergence between the private financial benefit or financial interest or personal benefit of a person, family member, or an outside party, and that person's obligation to the Aboriginal Student Council, as such that an impartial observer might reasonably question whether related actions to be taken or decisions made by the person would be influenced by consideration of the person's own interests.
  - b. "Conflict of Commitment" shall be a situation whereby the external or personal activities, undertaking or relationships of a person are so demanding or organized in such a manner or are otherwise such that they may interfere with the person's obligations to the Aboriginal Student Council or to others or institutions that are separate from the Aboriginal Student Council but to whom the person owns an obligation because of their relationship with the Aboriginal Student Council.
  - c. "Institutional Conflict" shall be a situation in which the Aboriginal Student Council has an existing relationship with a party with which the Aboriginal Student Council proposes to enter into an activity such as an impartial observer might reasonably whether the existing relationship might reasonably question decisions of the Aboriginal Student Council with respect to the activity.
- 2. No member shall use their position on the Aboriginal Student Council to further personal or business interests.
- 3. If a member of the Executive Committee has a conflict of interest and votes on a motion or Executive Committee Resolution:
  - They must report that immediately to both the President and Presiding Officer; and
  - b. If unreported, the conflicting member may be subjected to removal from their position on the Executive Committee.



- c. Is party to any contract or agreement with the Aboriginal Student Council, accepting contracts or ag
- 4. On any decision, motion, or Executive Committee Resolution of the Executive Committee, a member of the Executive Committee must abstain if there is a real or perceived conflict which may arise from their vote.

## 14. No Force or Effect

1. Any decision of the Aboriginal Student Council that is in conflict with federal or provincial statute, common law, or traditional law and/or practices is of no force or effect.



## **BYLAW 200**

A bylaw respecting the parliamentary authority

#### CONTENT

- 1. Definitions
- 2. Parliamentary Authority
- 3. Executive Committee Resolution
- 4. Executive Committee Motions
- 5. No Force or Effect

#### 1. Definition

- 1. In this bylaw:
  - a. "Aboriginal," in accordance with the *Constitution Act, 1982* (Part II, Section 35), is an Indian, Inuit, or Metis person of Canada, or a person who is accepted by one of the Aboriginal Peoples of Canada as a member of a particular community.
    - i. "Aboriginal," "Indigenous," and "Native" may be used interchangeably.
  - b. "Aboriginal Member" is any member of the Aboriginal Student Council who:
    - i. Is a registered student, regardless of status, at the University of Alberta;
    - ii. Self-identifies as Aboriginal; and
    - iii. Have not opted-out of the membership fees.
  - c. "Confidence" means that the majority of the general membership continues to have faith in the governing Executive Committee.
  - d. "Democratically-elected" means any member of the Executive Committee that is elected to their position by the general membership of the Aboriginal Student Council.



- e. "Executive Committee Resolution" means a record of an Aboriginal Student Council decision made by consensus at a meeting of the Executive Committee duly convened.
- f. "Parliamentary authority" means the authority given to the Executive Committee by the Aboriginal Student Council membership through Executive elections.

# 2. Parliamentary Authority

- 1. The powers and authority of the Executive Committee are firmly vested in the general membership of Aboriginal Student Council.
  - a. The legitimacy of the Executive Committee is realized through the holding of elections.
- 2. The Executive Committee is ultimately accountable to the members of Aboriginal Student Council.
- 3. The Executive Committee's ultimate loyalty is to the Aboriginal Student Council and its members. This loyalty supersedes:
  - a. Loyalty to any advocacy or special interest groups, and membership on external boards or committees;
  - b. Loyalty to the University of Alberta or the University of Alberta Students' Union; and
  - c. The personal interest of any Executive member acting as an individual on Aboriginal Student Council.
- 4. Except as explicitly set forth in the Constitution, no member shall attempt to exercise authority over Aboriginal Student Council. Therefore:
  - a. The Executive Committee must speak with one voice and one of its primary responsibilities is to govern as one;
  - Executive Members have no authority to interact with the media or other entities on behalf of the Aboriginal Student Council without prior discussion and consent of the Executive Committee; and
  - c. The President is considered the first among equals, which means the office of President holds no exclusive decision-making powers, except in emergencies.
    - i. In such cases of emergency, the President will report to the Executive Committee as soon as possible following their decision.
- 5. The democratically-elected members of the Executive Committee hold the privilege of conducting the day-to-day business of Aboriginal Student Council, including managing its finances, enacting bylaws and policies, and advocating on behalf of the general membership of Aboriginal Student Council.



- a. Decisions of the Executive Committee shall not supplant decision made by the general membership of Aboriginal Student Council.
- b. In exercising its authority, the Executive Committee must make all decisions in good faith.
- 6. The powers of the Executive Committee are formally vested in the democratically-elected President and Vice-Presidents; but effectively exercised by the Executive Committee as a whole.
- 7. The President and Vice-Presidents must enjoy the confidence of the Aboriginal Student Council membership to remain in office.
- 8. In exercising its authority, major decisions made on behalf of the Aboriginal Student Council shall be made by way of an Executive Committee Resolution.
  - a. Executive Committee Resolutions shall be publically available and remain accessible to the general membership of Aboriginal Student Council.

### 3. Executive Committee Resolution

- 1. In order to be considered valid, an Executive Committee Resolution must include:
  - a. A clear statement indicating that the Resolution was passed at a duly convened meeting of the Executive Committee and the date of said meeting:
  - b. A statement of the number of Executive Committee members constituting a quorum and the signatures of its elected members; and
  - c. A clear indication of whether funds are required, the exact amount requested and a clear statement of the specific purpose(s) of the proposed expenditures.
- 2. Business of the Executive Committee requiring the completion of an Executive Committee Resolution include:
  - a. Approval of interim and annual budget;
  - b. The allocation of more than \$100.00 for a specific item;
  - c. Permits and contracts:
  - d. Involving external actors or organizations; and
  - e. Any item of business to which the Executive Committee deem to be of increased importance.
- 3. The procedure for adopting an Executive Committee Resolution at a duly convened meeting is:
  - a. A member(s) of the Executive Committee presents a resolution at a meeting.
  - b. Executive Committee members move and second the resolution.



- c. The Presiding Officer allows for discussion of the resolution, giving equal time to those for and against it.
- d. The Executive Committee passes the resolution by consensus.
  - Only in extreme circumstances will the Executive Committee Resolution be considered passed by majority vote.
- 4. The Executive Committee may amend or rescind an Executive Committee Resolution following the same process for its adoption.
- 5. Executive Committee Resolutions made by a previous Executive Committee regarding the allocation of funding cannot be changed retroactively by the next Executive Committee.
- 6. Executive Committee Resolutions regarding the allocation of funds cannot be made outside of the Executive Committee's elected year.

#### 4. Executive Committee Motions

- Motions of the Executive Committee are decisions made at a duly convened meeting that do not require the completion of an Executive Committee Resolution.
- 2. Motions of the Executive Committee are trivial in nature and are of decreased importance compared to Executive Committee Resolution.
- 3. Motions of the Executive Committee can include, but are not limited to, the following:
  - a. Internal decisions of the Executive Committee that do not influence Aboriginal Student Council as a whole, such as:
    - i. Approval of agendas and minutes;
    - ii. Approval of a meeting schedule;
    - iii. Calling a meeting to order and adjourning a meeting;
    - iv. Approval of Executive Member vacation; and
    - v. Scheduling and coordination.
  - b. Approving the allocation of less than \$100.00;
  - Any item of business to which the Executive Committee deem to be of decreased importance when compared to an Executive Committee Resolution.

## 5. No Force or Effect

Page **16** of **45** 



2. Any decision of the Aboriginal Student Council that is in conflict with federal or provincial statute, common law, or traditional law and/or practices is of no force or effect.



## **BYLAW 300**

A bylaw respecting peacemaking

#### CONTENT

- 1. Definitions
- 2. Principles of Peacemaking
- 3. Peacemaking Framework
- 4. No Force or Effect

#### 1. Definition

- 1. In this bylaw:
  - a. "Respect" means to show consideration for others; to avoid behaviour that is perceived as harmful, degrading, insulting, or injurious to others and includes:
    - i. Respect for the ASC environment;
    - ii. Respect for others' personal privacy;
    - iii. Respect for others' physical space and belongings; and
    - iv. Respect for different viewpoints, philosophies, religion, gender, lifestyle, ethnic origin, physical ability, and beliefs.
  - b. "Peacemaking" means the process by which two or more parties engaged in a disagreement, dispute, or debate and agree to resolving it.
    - i. Unless stated otherwise, this definition includes both Western and Indigenous/traditional forms of peacekeeping.

# 2. Principles of Peacemaking

- 1. Regardless of the method chosen, the following principles must be considered in any peacemaking initiative:
  - a. Address the conflict early, before it becomes more complex;
  - b. Separate the person from the problem;



- c. Use your discretion when deciding who to tell about the conflict. Not everyone needs to know;
- d. Focus on interests rather than your position;
- e. Avoid blaming others, each individual is responsible for their own behaviour:
- f. Listen actively; genuinely try to understand the other person's perspective;
- g. Validate what the other person is communicating to you;
- h. Work on letting go of resentment;
- i. Keep open lines of communication; and
- j. Focus on the future.
- 2. This bylaw shall only govern those situations which would not be better investigated by formal University of Alberta processes including, but not limited to, the following:
  - a. Code of Student Behaviour violations;
  - b. Provincial and/or federal statute violations; and
  - c. University of Alberta Students' Union bylaw violations.
- 3. Any such mediation under this bylaw must remain consistent with the Constitution and the principles set out in the confict-of-interest bylaw.

# 3. Peacemaking Framework

- 1. When a conflict arises between members of the Aboriginal Student Council, said members have the right to access and undergo peacemaking.
- 2. Aside and including this Framework, members of the Aboriginal Student Council shall have the right to request traditional resolution practices.
- 3. Discussions at any stage of the process are considered confidential and shall not be discussed outside of the peacemaking process.
- 4. The following individuals are suggested third-parties that, when needed, can act as an independent mediator:
  - a. Elder/Traditional Knowledge Keeper;
  - b. Director, First Peoples' House;
  - c. Assistant Dean, First Nations, Metis and Inuit students; and/or
  - d. Any other mediator to which both involved parties have agreed to.
- 5. There are three (3) mechanisms which make up the Aboriginal Student Council Peacemaking Framework:
  - a. Informal Mechanism;
  - b. Semi-Formal Mechanisms; and
  - c. Formal Mechanism.



- 6. The Informal Mechanism is the first step in the peacemaking process and involves the individual(s) meeting with those they are perceived to be in conflict with.
  - a. The informal mechanism includes the individuals coming together without a third part in an attempt to deal with their conflict.
  - b. At this stage, the affected individual may inform the second party that their conduct is unwelcoming and not acceptable.
  - c. A proposed format to address conflict at the informal stage is as follows:
    - i. The behaviour, actions, and/or circumstances to which the conflict has arisen;
    - ii. The date that it happened;
    - iii. How the conflict has made each individual feel; and
    - iv. What can be done to resolve the conflict.
- 7. If the informal mechanism did not result in a change in behaviour or if the relationship of the individuals involved is predicated on a power imbalance (i.e., Vice President(s) and President), the semi-formal peacemaking mechanism shall be triggered.
  - a. The semi-formal mechanism involves the individuals associated in the dispute, as well as a third-party acting as a mediator.
    - i. Any third-party must be approved of by all members involved in a dispute prior to such a party acting as the mediator.
- 8. If the semi-formal mechanism did not result in a change in behaviour or an extinguishment of the conflict, the interested individuals may proceed to the formal mechanism.
  - a. At this stage, an approved third-party shall conduct a review and investigation of the situation and produce a report to the Executive Committee.
  - b. Initiating the formal mechanism shall result in control of the situation being governed by the Executive Committee by way of third-party review.
  - c. Such a third-party investigation, and any recommendations therein, shall be considered binding on the Executive Committee.

## 4. No Force or Effect

 Any decision of the Aboriginal Student Council that is in conflict with federal or provincial statute, common law, or traditional law and/or practices is of no force or effect.



## **BYLAW 400**

A bylaw respecting internal and external communications

#### CONTENT

- 1. Definitions
- 2. Internal Communication
- 3. External Communication
- 4. Social Media
- 5. No Force or Effect

#### 1. Definition

- 1. In this bylaw:
  - a. "Internal Communications" means any form of communication within and between members of the Executive Committee, as well as communication within and between members of the Executive Committee and the general membership of Aboriginal Student Council.
  - b. "External Communications" means any form of communication outside of the Executive Committee or general membership.
  - c. "General membership" means Aboriginal Student Council members, pursuant to the Constitution, in one of the following categories:
    - Aboriginal Member;
    - ii. Non-Aboriginal Member;
    - iii. Executive Member: or
    - iv. Honorary Member.

## 2. Internal Communication

1. The Aboriginal Student Council shall design and implement effective internal communication processes that will enhance the Executive Committee's productivity and effectiveness through the application of two (2) principles:



- a. Ongoing communication whereby the Executive Committee and the general membership are regularly given opportunities to engage with one another and to contribute to the achievement of the Aboriginal Student Council's mandate, objectives, advocacy, and/or projects; and
- b. Face-to-face communication as a preferred method whereby the Executive Committee communicate with one another.
- 2. Members of the Executive Committee shall respond to discussion taking place online within twenty-four (24) hours of the discussion commencing.
  - a. If a member of the Executive Committee is unable to respond to online discussions within the twenty-four (24) hour timeline, said member shall report their absence to the Executive Committee prior.
- 3. Online Motions shall be conducted within a forty-eight (48) hour timeframe and in the following manner:
  - a. The motion shall be moved via an online messenger application. After this, a period of twenty-four (24) hours shall commence in which discussion of the motion will occur.
  - b. After the twenty-four (24) hour discussion phase, the mover shall email members of the Executive Committee with the motion. After the e-mailed motion is sent, members of the Executive Committee have twenty-four (24) hours to reply with their vote.
  - c. After the twenty-four (24) hour voting phase, the Vice President Administration shall tally the e-mail votes and report the result to the Executive Committee.
    - i. If the result of the motion is made unanimously, the Vice President Administration shall add the motion to the record.
    - ii. If the result of the motion is not made unanimously and is not of an urgent nature, the motion shall be added to the next Executive Committee agenda for discussion.
- 4. The Vice President Administration shall share external communications with members of the Executive Committee in whatever manner it sees fit.
  - a. By default and unless otherwise decided by the Executive Committee, the Vice President Administration shall share information via an online group messenger application or e-mail.
- 5. The Executive Committee shall send out, at minimum, a newsletter in any format it sees fit to the general membership once a trimester.

## 3. External Communication



- 1. Communications sent to the official Aboriginal Student Council e-mail shall be read and replied to within forty-eight (48) hours of their receipt.
- Any communication made on behalf of the Executive Committee shall be done with the full acknowledgement of the Executive Committee and made with one voice.
- 3. The President is the main focal point for media communications and is the main spokesperson of the Aboriginal Student Council.
  - a. In any discussions with media, the President must enjoy the confidence of the Executive Committee to engage with outside media.

#### 4. Social Media

- 1. The principal overseer and administrator of official Aboriginal Student Council social media shall be the Vice President(s) Internal/External Engagement.
  - a. Each elected member of the Executive Committee shall be made administrators to the ASC Facebook Page.
- 2. Comments made to posts on any official Aboriginal Student Council social media account shall be posted without permission from the Executive Committee.
  - a. In the event that a comment(s) is overtly inappropriate or offensive, the Executive Committee may exercise its discretion and remove said comment(s).
- 3. Posts made to any official Aboriginal Student Council social media account shall be made by members of the Executive Committee or approved third parties.
  - a. Posts made on any official Aboriginal Student Council social media account shall be reviewed weekly by the Executive Committee.
  - b. If any post(s) made to an official Aboriginal Student Council social media account contravenes the guidelines set forth herein, the Executive Committee shall contact the poster to ensure compliance with said guidelines.
- 4. Posts made on any official Aboriginal Student Council social media account shall adhere to the following guidelines:
  - a. Must not violate the terms of service or any other rules set out by the relevant social media platform;
  - b. Not include the promotion of anti-Aboriginal content; and
  - c. Not include any content with goes against the stated purpose of the Aboriginal Student Council.
- 5. Posts made on any official Aboriginal Student Council social media account must not contain:



- a. Personal attacks or vulgar, abusive, offensive, oppressive, threatening, or harassing images and/or language;
- b. Comments, language, or sentiments that encourage, stimulate, or perpetuate discrimination based on race, creed, age, religion, Aboriginality, gender identity, sexual orientation, marital status, national origin, socioeconomic status, and/or physical and mental disability;
- c. Material that infringes on individual or communal intellectual property rights; and
- d. Information that infringes on an individual or collectives' reasonable expectation of privacy, as set out in the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (FOIP).

#### 5. No Force or Effect

 Any decision of the Aboriginal Student Council that is in conflict with federal or provincial statute, common law, or traditional law and/or practices is of no force or effect.



## **BYLAW 500**

A bylaw respecting finances of the Aboriginal Student Council

#### CONTENT

- 1. Definitions
- 2. Fiscal Year
- 3. Financial Management
- 4. Reserves
- Budget
- 6. No Force or Effect

#### 1. Definition

- 1. In this bylaw:
  - a. "Award Reserve" is money kept purely for the purpose of providing Aboriginal Student Council awards.
  - b. "Childcare Subsidy Reserve" is money kept purely for the purpose of subsidizing the costs of childcare of members of the Aboriginal Student Council.
  - c. "Community Reserve" is money kept purely for the purpose of providing individual and groups with grants.
  - d. "Cultural Reserve" is money kept purely for the purpose of providing members of the Aboriginal Student Council and the community at large with cultural supports, events, and programming.
  - e. "Education Reserve" is money kept purely for the purpose of educating the community at large on Aboriginal historic and contemporary realities, cultures, and nations.
  - f. "Financial records" means any of the following financial documents of the Aboriginal Student Council:
    - i. Projected budget;
    - ii. Up to date comparison budget;
    - iii. Bookkeeping journal(s);



- iv. Bank statements;
- v. Cheque stubs;
- vi. Receipts;
  Completed cheque request and honorarium forms; and
- vii. Special contracts or agreements.
- g. "General Reserve" is money set aside not for a particular purpose, but for the general financial strengthening of the Aboriginal Student Council.
- h. "Operational Reserve" is money kept purely for the purpose of enhancing the facilities managed and maintained by the Aboriginal Student Council, as well as the costs associated with the Executive Committee.
- "Quarterly" means the heraldic quarters by which the Executive Committee is organized and is divided as follows:
  - i. Quarter One (1) April 1 to June 30;
  - ii. Quarter Two (2) July 1 to September 30;
  - iii. Quarter Three (3) October 1 to December 31; and
  - iv. Quarter Four (4) January 1 to March 31.

## 2. Fiscal Year

1. The fiscal year of the Aboriginal Student Council is considered to begin on May 1 and conclude on April 30 of any given year.

# 3. Financial Management

- 1. The President and Vice President Finance are the chief signing authorities on all Aboriginal Student Council bank accounts.
- 2. The financial records of the Vice-President Finance shall be audited by two (2) other members of the Executive Committee annually.
  - Should the Executive Committee deem necessary, an external professional accountant may be hired to provide an audit.
  - b. The result of any such audit shall be submitted at an Annual General Meeting.
- 3. The Vice President Finance shall present financial statements to the Executive Committee monthly.
  - Financial statements made to the Executive Committee shall also be readily available to the general membership of Aboriginal Student Council.



- 4. The financial records of the Aboriginal Student Council may be inspected by any Member upon written notice to the Executive Committee.
- 5. Each member of the Executive Committee shall have access to Aboriginal Student Council financial records.
- 6. Financial records shall be kept in a secure location for six (6) years before being shredded.
- All monies received by the Aboriginal Student Council must be deposited in a chartered bank account authorized to receive deposits and to be withdrawn by cheque only.
- 8. All monies distributed by the Aboriginal Student Council shall only be made via cheque.
- 9. The Vice President Finance shall make deposits regularly or when an amount greater than \$500.00 has accumulated in the cash box.
- 10. Unless otherwise specified in writing from the Executive Committee, no individual shall receive any remuneration for their services.
- 11. Members of the Aboriginal Student Council may be reimbursed for approved expenses by cheque, so long as their reimbursement request is made, with original receipts, within two (2) weeks following the transaction.
- 12. The Aboriginal Student Council shall carry out its business and dealings void of aspirations of personal monetary gain.

# 4. Budget

- 1. The budget of the Aboriginal Student Council shall be organized quarterly
- 2. It is the role of the Vice President Finance to produce and disseminate quarterly financial reports to the Aboriginal Student Council.

## 5. Reserves

- 1. Aboriginal Student Council reserves include:
  - a. Award Reserve;
  - b. Childcare Subsidy Reserve;
  - c. Cultural Reserve;
  - d. Education Reserve;
  - e. General Reserve:
  - f. Operational Reserve; and
  - g. Community Reserve.



- 2. A budgeted reserve not spent in its entirety shall have its budgeted monies available in future year(s) for related purchases as originally deemed.
  - a. Reserve funds carried over shall be accurately and openly presented to the general membership of the Aboriginal Student Council.
- 3. With the exception of the General Reserve, transferring monies between reserves is prohibited.
- 4. At the discretion of the Vice President Finance, up to five (5) per cent of funds from other reserves may be re-distributed into the General Reserve.
  - a. The Awards Reserve and Childcare Subsidy Reserve shall remain unmolested and monies from either reserve shall not be re-allocated to the General Reserve.

## 6. No Force or Effect

 Any decision of the Aboriginal Student Council that is in conflict with federal or provincial statute, common law, or traditional law and/or practices is of no force or effect.



## **BYLAW 600**

A bylaw respecting Aboriginal Student Council Buildings and Spaces

#### CONTENT

- 1. Definitions
- 2. Current Property
- 3. Building and Space Standards
- 4. Maintenance
- 5. Accessibility
- 6. Keys
- 7. Locker Protocol
- 8. No Force or Effect

# 1. Definition

#### 1. In this bylaw:

- a. "Exterior and interior accessibility elements" could include, but is not limited to, the following: ground and floor surfaces, ramps, stairs, guards and handrails, overhanging and protruding objects, rest areas, tactile walking surface indicators, drinking fountains, public telephone, seating, work surfaces, and accessibility during construction.
- b. "Key holder" means any individual instrusted with a key to any Aboriginal Student Council property.
- c. "Property" means any physical location owned, in whole or in part, or operated by the Aboriginal Student Council.



- d. "Quarterly" means the heraldic quarters by which the Executive Committee is organized and is divided as follows:
  - i. Quarter One (1) April 1 to June 30;
  - ii. Quarter Two (2) July 1 to September 30;
  - iii. Quarter Three (3) October 1 to December 31; and
  - iv. Quarter Four (4) January 1 to March 31.

# 2. Current Property

- 1. Currently, property owned and/or operated by the Aboriginal Student Council include:
  - a. ASC Lounge; and
  - b. ASC lockers.

# 3. Building and Space Standards

- 1. Aboriginal Student Council buildings and spaces shall fulfil the following functions:
  - a. Act as safe spaces where people at the University of Alberta can connect;
  - b. Provide shelter during weather events or while waiting for transportation;
  - c. Act as a study space;
  - d. Provide a place for people to eat; and
  - e. Act as a hub for Aboriginal Peoples at the University of Alberta to converse and connect to their culture.
- 2. Any individual, regardless of membership, who contravenes section 3(1) of this Bylaw or the stated purpose of the Aboriginal Student Council may be banished from the premises at the discretion of the Executive Committee.
- 3. Alcohol and illicit substances of any kind within any spaces of the Aboriginal Student Council are not permitted.

### 4. Maintenance

- 1. Aboriginal Student Council shall ensure that the following property standards are followed:
  - Cleanliness of space comparable to other locations at the University of Alberta:



- b. Pest control;
- c. Access to washroom/water facilities;
- d. Doors, passageways, and exit maintenance so as to be free from hazardous conditions and obstructions: and
- e. Locker maintenance so as to ensure ease of access.
- 2. In order to adhere to the property standards outlined in section 2(1) of this Bylaw, the Aboriginal Student Council shall maintain a quarterly cleaning schedule.

# 5. Accessibility

- 1. The public operating hours of the ASC Lounge shall be weekdays between 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM.
  - a. Hours of operation during the spring/summer trimester shall be determined by the Executive Committee.
- 2. The Executive Committee shall ensure that the current standards of accessibility to Aboriginal Student Council property be maintained.
- 3. The Executive Committee shall ensure that access is maintained to exterior and interior accessibility elements at all Aboriginal Student Council Property.
- 4. In the event that exterior or interior accessibility elements become unavailable, for any reason, the Executive Committee shall strive to ensure that such elements become available for use as soon as possible.

# 6. Keys

- 1. All members of the Executive Committee shall be entitled and issued one (1) set of keys for the ASC Lounge.
- All key holders shall adhere to and complete a signed and dated Key Holder Agreement.
- 3. Any lost, stolen, or compromised keys must be immediately reported to the Executive Committee.
- 4. In the case of keys being lost, stolen, compromised, or not being returned at the end of term, and wherein this loss constitutes a security problem:
  - a. The area corresponding to the key shall be re-keyed; and
  - b. The individual responsible for the safety of the key shall be charged for the re-keying.

#### 7. Locker Protocol



- 1. Aboriginal Members shall be given priority in renting a locker from the Aboriginal Student Council.
- 2. All locker rentals shall adhere to the signed and dated Locker Rental Agreement made between the Executive Committee and the renter.
- 3. Lockers maintained by Aboriginal Student Council shall not store any of the following:
  - a. Combustible, flammable, or hazardous materials or substances;
  - Food or any other items that may have an objectionable odour due to degradation;
  - Items that would result in a violation of any municipal, provincial, or federal law or regulations applicable to the Landlord and the Building by the University of Alberta; and/or
  - d. Item that the Executive Committee has determined to be unsuitable for storage.
- 4. Any Locker Rental Agreement may be terminated by the Executive Committee upon any of the following events:
  - a. The failure of the renter to pay the Executive Committee any rental charge due for the Locker:
  - b. The failure of the renter to pay the Executive Committee any other charge billed to the renter:
  - c. A decision by the Executive to use the space occupied by the storage units for another purpose;
  - d. The revocation of membership to the renter; and/or
  - e. Before the end of an Annual Rental Period, if the Executive Committee gives written notice to the renter at least thirty (30) days before the end of the Annual Rental Period that it is terminating the renter's Locker Rental Agreement.

#### 8. No Force or Effect

 Any decision of the Aboriginal Student Council that is in conflict with federal or provincial statute, common law, or traditional law and/or practices is of no force or effect.



### **BYLAW 700**

A bylaw respecting access to information

#### CONTENT

- 1. Definitions
- 2. Classification
- 3. Contracts and Agreements
- 4. Access to Information
- 5. Request for Information
- 6. No Force or Effect

#### 1. Definition

- 1. In this bylaw:
  - a. "Internal Communications" means any form of communication within and between members of the Executive Committee.

### 2. Classification

- 1. Although not designated as such, every Aboriginal Student Council document or record is confidential if:
  - a. It includes personal information;
  - b. Includes the minutes or otherwise reveals the proceedings of any in camera portion of a meeting of the Aboriginal Student Council and/or Executive Committee; and/or



c. If divulged, has the possibility of compromising the legal position of the Aboriginal Student Council.

# 3. Contracts and Agreements

- 1. Any strictly confidential contract or agreement shall be approved by the Executive Committee in advance of being signed by the President.
- Any such agreement designated as strictly confidential shall be made on a balance of probability as to whether or not such information contained therein is of such a nature as to warrant the limitation of Aboriginal Student Council members' right to access information.

#### 4. Access to Information

- 1. Any information made confidential shall be available to any member of the Executive Committee or any member of the Aboriginal Student Council upon approval of the Executive Committee.
  - a. The elected members of the Executive Committee have the right to restrict the access of ex officio members to confidential information.

# **5. Requests for Information**

- 1. Any member of the Aboriginal Student Council wanting to gain access to information shall submit, in writing, a request to the Executive Committee.
- 2. Upon receipt of a request for information, the Executive Committee shall respond to the member's request within five (5) business days.
  - a. In citing this bylaw, the Executive Committee may deny any request for information.
- 3. Upon the approval for a request for information, the requesting member shall be given the opportunity to review said information within twenty-four (24) hours.
  - a. Such a review shall be undertaken via a hard copy provided by the Executive Committee and within the ASC Lounge.

#### 6. No Force or Effect



 Any decision of the Aboriginal Student Council that is in conflict with federal or provincial statute, common law, or traditional law and/or practices is of no force or effect.

# **BYLAW 800**

A bylaw respecting membership

#### CONTENT

- 1. Definitions
- 2. Membership Rights and Responsibilities
- 3. Meeting Attendance
- 4. Resignation
- 5. No Force or Effect

#### 1. Definition

- 1. In this bylaw:
  - a. "Membership" refers collectively to Aboriginal Members and Non-Aboriginal Members.
    - Should any delliniation be made between the two membership types, such delineation will be made apparent by using 'Aboriginal Member(s)' and 'Non-Aboriginal Member(s)', respectively.

# 2. Membership Rights & Responsibilities

- 1. Members have the right to the following:
  - a. Access to Aboriginal Student Council property, including the ASC Lounge;
  - b. Receive notice of, attend, speak at, and vote at public meetings of the Aboriginal Student Council;



- c. Access programs, services, and programming of general application provided by Aboriginal Student Council;
- d. Make a proposal to make, amend, or repeal a bylaw to the Executive Committee
- e. Make a proposal to amend the Constitution at an Annual General Meeting;
- f. Access to information regarding Executive Committee meeting agendas and minutes; and
- g. Meet with members of the Executive Committee.
- 2. Members have the following responsibilities;
  - a. Ensure that Aboriginal Student Council property, including the ASC Lounge, is clean after use;
  - b. To follow the terms and conditions of any programs and/or services offered by the Aboriginal Student Council to which they are receiving; and
  - c. To remove members of the Executive Committee if their conduct is unbecoming of the general goals and objectives of the Aboriginal Student Council.
- 3. In addition to the stated rights, Aboriginal Members shall have the right to run in a duly convened executive election of the Aboriginal Student Council.
- 4. The Executive Committee has the right to restrict any offerings of the Aboriginal Student Council to a specific membership category.
  - a. Such restrictions cannot contradict the Constitution; and
  - b. Any such restriction shall be made via Executive Committee Resolution.

# 3. Meeting Attendance

- Members of the Aboriginal Student Council are entitled to attend any meetings of the Executive Committee, with the exception of any portions that occur in camera.
- 2. The Executive Committee may allow any person access to the in camera portions of any meetings via motion.
- 3. No person having access to confidential or strictly confidential documents or records, or to in camera sessions of the Executive Committee shall disclose the content of any such document, record, or session to any person not otherwise privy to that information.
- 4. No member of the Aboriginal Student Council shall have access to confidential information until a non-disclosure agreement is entered into with the Executive Committee.



# 4. Resignation

- 5. Unless otherwise stated in the Constitution or Bylaws, a member will cease to be a member of the Aboriginal Student Council if:
  - a. The member dies;
  - b. The member resigned;
  - c. The member is expelled or their membership is terminated in accordance with the Constitution and Bylaws;
  - d. The member's term of membership expires;
  - e. In terms of Aboriginal membership, the member has lied about their Aboriginal status; and/or
  - f. The member's conduct flagrantly contradicts the stated mission and values of the Aboriginal Student Council.
- 6. A member of the Aboriginal Student Council may resign by submission of a letter of resignation to the Executive Committee.
  - a. Unless otherwise specified, the resignation from the Aboriginal Student Council membership shall be considered immediate upon submission and receipt of the letter of resignation.
- 7. Upon resignation, said past member shall be removed from any Aboriginal Student Council distribution list.
- 8. Previous members shall have the opportunity to apply for readmission to the Aboriginal Student Council membership.

#### 5. No Force or Effect

 Any decision of the Aboriginal Student Council that is in conflict with federal or provincial statute, common law, or traditional law and/or practices is of no force or effect.



### **BYLAW 900**

A bylaw respecting Aboriginal Student Council elections

#### CONTENT

- 1. Definitions
- 2. Executive Committee Election Dates
- 3. Election Officer
- 4. Election Process
- 5. No Force or Effect

#### 1. Definition

- 1. In this bylaw:
  - a. "Internal Communications" means any form of communication within and between members of the Executive Committee.

#### 2. Executive Committee Election Dates

1. The election shall be held annually and before May 1 of any given year.

#### 3. Election Officer

- 1. An Election Officer shall be appointed by the outgoing Executive Committee at least two (2) weeks prior to the calling of an election.
  - a. Executive members running for re-election shall not take part in the appointing of the Election Officer.
- 2. The Election Officer is prohibited from running for an elected position on the Executive Committee.
- 3. The Election Officer is responsible for the following:



- a. Ensuring a fair and transparent election process;
- b. Receiving and confirm nominations;
- c. Ensuring nominees are Aboriginal Members of the Aboriginal Student Council;
- d. Moderating any election debates;
- e. Overseeing voting procedures and regulations are followed; and
- f. Any other duties assigned to them by the Executive Committee that pertain to the running of an election.
- 4. Upon the successful completion of an election, the Executive Committee may provide an honorarium to the Election Officer of no more than \$100.00.

### 4. Election Process

- 1. The elected members of the Executive Committee shall be democraticallyelected in the following manner:
  - a. After the calling of an election, Aboriginal Members of the Aboriginal Student Council interested in running shall be nominated, in writing, by five (5) Aboriginal Student Council members.
  - b. The Election Officer shall confirm that the person nominated accepts the nomination and verify that the nomination is supported by five (5) members.
  - c. The Election Officer shall confirm that all individuals who have been nominated or self-nominated are Aboriginal Members.
  - d. Nominations to the Executive Committee shall close twenty-four (24) hours before the posted start time of the Annual General Meeting. The Election Officer shall submit an official list of candidates to the Aboriginal Student Council membership thereafter.
  - e. All candidates for elected positions on the Executive Committee shall be given five (5) minutes to speak at the Annual General Meeting.
  - f. After speeches, balloting for the election shall occur at the Annual General Meeting.
  - g. Upon completion of the voting, the Election Officer shall tally the votes and announce the successful candidates.
- 2. To be considered elected, a candidate must receive the highest number of votes for that position.
  - a. A tie vote shall result in a secondary election involving only the candidates who are tied.



# 5. No Force or Effect

1. Any decision of the Aboriginal Student Council that is in conflict with federal or provincial statute, common law, or traditional law and/or practices is of no force or effect.



### **BYLAW 1000**

A bylaw respecting the Aboriginal Student Council Strategic Plan

#### CONTENT

- 1. Definitions
- 2. Purpose
- 3. Obligations
- 4. Strategic Plan
- 5. Executive Plan
- 6. No Force or Effect

#### 1. Definition

- 1. In this bylaw:
  - a. "Executive Plan" means the plan outlining the specific objectives and supporting actions meant to be achieved by the Executive Committee over the course of its term.
  - b. "Quarterly" means the heraldic quarters by which the Executive Committee is organized and is divided as follows:
    - i. Quarter One (1) April 1 to June 30;
    - ii. Quarter Two (2) July 1 to September 30;
    - iii. Quarter Three (3) October 1 to December 31; and
    - iv. Quarter Four (4) January 1 to March 31.
  - c. "Strategic plan" means the master plan for the Aboriginal Student Council addressing the overall organizational objectives of the Executive Committee and Aboriginal Student Council as a whole"

d.

# 2. Purpose

1. The purpose of the Strategic Plan is to:



- a. Provide a framework under which the Aboriginal Student Council may pursue its long, medium, and short-term objectives;
- b. Establish the Aboriginal Student Council as a credible and legitimate organization, both within the Western and Indigenous sense;
- Harmonize the Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal ways-of-knowing and being to create a successful environment as establish the Aboriginal Student Council as a safe space; and
- d. Provide a framework by which the Aboriginal Student Council membership can evaluate the Executive Committee.

# 3. Obligations

- 1. The Executive Committee has the following obligations in relation to the strategic plan:
  - a. To engage and include Aboriginal Members throughout the entire strategic plan creation process;
  - b. To ground the strategic plan in Aboriginal values and ways-of-knowing and being; and
  - c. Work with Elders and traditional knowledge keepers to help steer the direction of the strategic plan.
- 2. The Executive Committee has the following obligations in relation to its executive plan:
  - a. To ensure that the executive plan aligns with the promises made during an election;
  - b. To ensure the executive plan aligns with the strategic plan; and
  - c. To publicly disseminate the executive plan after its completion.

# 4. Strategic Plan

- 1. The Strategic Plan shall be comprised of:
  - a. A territory acknowledgement
  - b. A mission statement
  - c. A vision statement:
  - d. A statement of values by which the Aboriginal Student Council shall conduct itself:
  - e. Indicators of success which support the achievement of the vision statement: and



f. Goals that align and work to support the vision statement.

### 4. Executive Plan

- 1. Each Executive Plan shall be comprised of:
  - a. A territory acknowledgement;
  - b. A mission statement which supports the Strategic Plan;
  - Executive objectives which support the success indicators and goals of the Strategic Plan;
  - d. An action plan by which the Executive Committee proposes to meet its objectives; and
  - e. Indicators of success.
- 2. Each Executive Plan shall be in harmony with the Strategic Plan and cannot contravene it in any way.
- 3. The Executive Committee shall produce its Executive Plan to the Aboriginal Student Council membership prior to the start of the Fall Term of any given year.
- 4. The Aboriginal Student Council membership shall be updated on the Executive Committee's progress, as it relates to the Executive Plan, quarterly.

#### 5. No Force or Effect

 Any decision of the Aboriginal Student Council that is in conflict with federal or provincial statute, common law, or traditional law and/or practices is of no force or effect.



### **BYLAW 1100**

A bylaw respecting Aboriginal Student Council dissolution

#### CONTENT

- 1. Definitions
- 2. Process
- 3. Dissolution
- 4. No Force or Effect

#### 1. Definition

- 1. In this bylaw:
  - a. "Dissolution" means the process by which Aboriginal Student Council ceases to exist as an organization.

#### 2. Process

- 1. Dissolution of the Aboriginal Student Council shall occur in the following ways:
  - a. The Aboriginal Student Council may be dissolved by a two-thirds  $(\frac{2}{3})$  majority vote at a Special Meeting duly convened for such a purpose
    - In this circumstance, ninety (90 days) notice must be given to all members.
  - b. Membership to the Aboriginal Student Council drops below ten (10).
- 2. Dissolution of the Aboriginal Student Council shall not occur in circumstances where the member requesting dissolution will personally benefit.

#### 3. Dissolution



- 1. Upon dissolution, the Executive Committee is responsible for ensuring the termination of any Aboriginal Student Council bank account and that the remaining financial resources are donated to First Peoples' House.
- 2. Any resources or assets shall be donated to First Peoples' House.
- 3. Resources or assets shall not be distributed to individual members of the Aboriginal Student Council.
- 4. Any contracts or agreement, if all parties are agreeable, shall replace Aboriginal Student Council with First Peoples' House.

### 4. No Force or Effect

2. Any decision of the Aboriginal Student Council that is in conflict with federal or provincial statute, common law, or traditional law and/or practices is of no force or effect.



President

Date: Sept 3rd 2019

**To**: Students' Union Council **Re**: President 2019/20 Report #9

Dear Council,

I am so excited that students are back on campus, I miss the vibrancy of campus that students bring! It's a little bittersweet that this is my last Week of Welcome, but I've been trying to really enjoy it and take some time to absorb everything. Read ahead for my update!

#### 1. Executive Committee

- We're all taking some time enjoy to Week of Welcome so we've been just running around campus taking it all in!
- We've gone on one in-town retreat with just the Executives and doing another half-day retreat next Monday with staff.
- We've had a busy summer and we've been really working hard to achieve our goals. Our goals document is just with marketing now, but I've attached the non-marketed version below. A lot of updates to the goals are in other Executive reports, but one that I will touch on is the free menstrual product initiative. It is up and running at all InfoLinks and a few FA offices but it is a slight soft launch.
- The Be Book Smart Fair is happening September 13th, so save the date and right after on September 14th is RezFest! For more information, please talk to VP Agarwal or VP Larsen!

#### 2. Internal University

- The Executive Team all participated in Residence Move-In across campus. We moved in around 4500 residents!
- We had our introduction meeting with President Turpin where we each talked about our goals and the release of the Mackinnon Report. More information on this is to come.
- The Board of Governors has had a lot of changes as Governor Ley updated at the last meeting, and we are heading into our retreat this week. Thursday night we will be meeting with the Minister of Advanced Education, and be talking about the future of the PSE. Friday we have a day-long strategic retreat with a range of topics.

#### 3. External Advocacy

#### - Canadian Alliance of Student Associations

- We've had a lot of conversations with CASA about the launch of the Member Sponsorship Program (MSP) which is a program aiming to bring Indigenous students into the advocacy work of CASA. When we have more inforation we will share with Council, specifically Councillor Sunday and the President of the Aboriginal Students' Council Katherine Belcourt.
- VP Brown and I have had a few advocacy meetings! Over the past few weeks, we've met with MLA Rakhi Pancholi, Associate Minister Dale Nally and MLA Rod Loyola.



#### 4. Internal Students' Union

- Internally the UASU has been slapping. Truly though, this has been such an amazing summer for UASU. Here is a list of some amazing projects that have either launched or are in the process of launching.
  - Renovation to Daily Grind, SUB Photo, Deweys and SUB Mart.
  - Updates to menus at Deweys and RATT.
  - A complete overhaul of the UASU Handbook.
  - Soft-launching of the "This is Your UASU" branding.
  - Stride is hosting an MLA Mixer, with a panel focuses on gender equity issues September 16th, so keep your eyes peeled.
  - UASU social media has been seeing a lot of consolidation and they very kindly have been taking care of the UASU Students' Council page.
  - We've launched a beta of a student engagement app called UASU Perks! Check it out at <a href="mailto:perks.uasu.ca">perks.uasu.ca</a> and do some sick surveys, and win ever sicker stuff.

#### 5. External Campus Community

- I'll be attending the Truth and Consequences in Publishing Mental Health Panel with the University on Sept. 10th.

Thank you for reading my report and I look forward to any questions you may have either via email or during question period. My office hours will be by appointment, so please feel free to send me an email.

Cheers,

University of Alberta Students' Union President

Kanksha

Akanksha Bhatnagar



OFFICE OF THE Vice President Academic

Date: 09/10/2019

To: Students' Union Council

Re: Vice President Academic 2019/20 Report #8

Dear Council,

It has been incredible to see the energy on campus over the past week for WOW. Always a great time of the year when new and returning students fill campus with energy, curiosity in the pursuit of knowledge! I am in full swing with university governance committees which is taking a lot of my time. The past few weeks have been quite intense as well gearing up for September, and here are some updates.

#### 1. Be Book Smart Fair

On September 13th, 2019 from 10 a.m. -2 p.m., we will be hosting an interactive Be Book Smart Fair in the Students' Union Building Atrium, where students and faculty will be able to interact with affordability in the classroom. I am very excited to see this happen, and thankful for the support from so many helpful individuals across the university. Please advertise this event to everyone you know!

#### 2. Open Education Podcast

As you may already be aware, here at the University of Alberta, students can be expected to spend \$1750 per year on academic materials which are one of the largest expenses after tuition, rent and food. I was given the opportunity to record a podcast regarding student perspectives on Open Educational Resources (OERs) through the centre for teaching and learning (CTL). When this is released, I hope you will all have a chance to listen to it and learn more about open education and the implications for both students and professors.

#### 3. COFA Collective (Joint Board Meeting)

I chaired the Council of Faculty Associations (COFA) joint board meeting where we had executives from many FAs present for many important discussions. There was a presentation on GFC vacancies and how FAs can encourage students to run in the by-election. Vice President External, Adam Brown presented on Voluntary Student Unionism (VSU) and the implications on the SU and by extension FAs.

#### 4. FA Mixers

There are Faculty Mixers occuring in the next few weeks with FAs, Councillors to meet and greet and make strong connections for a strong year ahead. One piece of feedback that I received was a weak connection between SU Councillors and their Faculty Association. I hope that you are all able to make it to these mixers, and consult more frequently with your respective FA. If you have questions about how to do this, or any related governance inquiries, please feel free to talk to me, or reach out to Discover Governance (governance@su.ualberta.ca).





#### 5. Free Expression Advisory Committee

The Free Expression Advisory Committee has been meeting quite frequently in the past few weeks due to the mandated deadline from the Government of Alberta, and we have made some great progress. At the September 10th, 2019 council meeting there will be a consultation meeting regarding the draft principles. I am excited about seeing this to fruition, and hope to move towards policies or principles on this as a Students' Union.

#### 6. Minister Carr Announcement - International Exchange Funding

I attended the official announcement by the Honorable Jim Carr, Minister of International Trade Diversification regarding the \$148 million investment into the international education strategy. This is a huge win for students to gain invaluable experiential learning opportunities. In the words of the Minister, "this new strategy will benefit the economy by giving students and youth the opportunity to study abroad, gain valuable international experience and develop the skills they need to compete and win in the changing global market." I am excited to see how this will pan out over the next few years.

#### 7. GFC Seats - By-Election

There are many seats still vacant on GFC and I would encourage you all to pass the word on about the October by-election so that students are represented at the university governance level. For a list of all the vacancies by Faculty, please click <a href="here">here</a> and check out pages 4 and 5. It is important to have the student voice on GFC and the many subcommittees. If you are reading this, please come tell me that Oscar Peterson is the best - the first one to do so will get a prize!

The first principles for the Political Policy Scholarships and Bursaries were passed at the last council meeting, and I am excited to share some of the new changes in the resolutions for an increase in needs based awards.

As always, please feel free to reach out to me if you want to chat about anything! I'm always down for a coffee or any chat!

Cheers,

University of Alberta Students' Union Vice President Academic **Joel Agarwal** 

OFFICE OF THE Vice-President (External)

Date: 09/10/2019

To: Students' Union Council

Re: Vice-President External 2019/20 Report #8

#### Dear Council,

One month can sum up the last month in this position for me: busy. Whether it was bouncing around provinces, preparing to get out those votes, welcoming new students to residence, meeting with politicians, or furthering CASA work, let's just say I am happy there are beer gardens now.

**1. CAUS Counterparts:** All of the Executive teams from the Council of Alberta University Students' members gathered in Lethbridge for 2 days of collaboration, discussion and professional development. We discussed how to manage the mental health, life and workload balance as an Executive, which was very useful to the delegates, myself included. It turns out that even though I have been in the position for over a year, managing a work-life balance is not something I have mastered. We also discussed free expression, budgets, governance and advocacy strategies. Overall a great time meeting other executives beyond the Presidents and VP Externals that I normally work with.

- **2. Advocacy Meetings:** President Bhatnagar and I met with the following politicians:
  - MLA David Shepard: We talked about issues such as open education resources, deferred maintenance and Campus Saint-Jean, reallocating tax credits into up-front grants, and the need for consistent, per-student mental health funding.
  - MP Matt Jeneroux: We discussed the need for a sexual violence prevention standard (instead of a framework), student employment opportunities, and combining study and co-op permits for international students.
  - Federal Minister Jim Carr: I attended the announcement the Minister made on campus surrounding the government of Canada's International Education Strategy. This includes greater support for students to go abroad that may not be otherwise able to do so. I also met Paul Davidson, the President of Universities Canada.
  - MLA Rakhi Pancholi: One of the new MLAs for the NDP, she was very attentive to our needs surrounding mental health access and affordability in particular.
  - Provincial Associate Minister Dale Nally: We met with MLA Nally and he was receptive to issues such as mental health, deferred maintenance and affordability. He also spoke at President's Address during Orientation day.
  - MLA David Eggen: We were visited by Mr. Eggen on September 5th where we toured him around the clubs fair and beer gardens and discussed the different ways the SU is promoting our value to students.



# **Vice-President (External)**

- **3. GOTV Launch:** On September 4th, CASA formally launched our Get Out The Vote campaign to great national attention. I have been doing media interviews across the country, including a feature on CTV News Channel. 36 student associations are participating across the country, and I am very excited to see the number of pledges we get! Christian Ford is the UASU GOTV Coordinator and has been doing a fantastic job.
- **4. GOTV Conferences:** I attended 3 of CASA's 4 Get Out The Vote training conferences. In Calgary, staff, executives and volunteers from UASU were trained in social media usage, pledge engagement and more. There was also a great amount of brainstorming on creative ways to engage students, so keep an eye out! In Ottawa, I worked with CASA's central members and observers on their preparation, and did the same thing in Montreal with members of the Quebec Student Union.
- **5. SUDS:** The Executive attended the Student Union Development Summit, hosted by the Alma Mater Society of UBC. It was a great opportunity to promote CASA's federal advocacy work, and I also attended a number of professional development sessions around public and government relations.
- **6. QSU Caucus:** From August 16-18, I was in Montreal for the Union Étudiante du Québec Caucus as Chair of CASA. A number of Quebec post-secondary issues were discussed, as well as voter engagement. We also marched in the Montreal Pride Parade, which was an incredible honour as approximately 300,000 people were in attendance either marching or watching.
- **7. VSU Presentations to COFA:** VP Agarwal invited me to present on the dangers of Voluntary Student Unionism to the Council of Faculty Associations Joint Board. I highlighted what had happened in Australia, New Zealand, and Ontario, as well as what VSU would mean for faculty associations at the University of Alberta and how the SU is planning for it to potentially happen in Alberta in the future.
- **8. Orientations goings-on:** I participated in the Lister move-in, TAWOW, Basecamp welcome addresses, Orientation Day, a Campus Saint-Jean student panel, and have been tabling at the clubs fair for GOTV.
- **9. Senate:** On August 28th, I hosted members of the University Senate at RATT for a social event. I was able to give an overview of the SU and the Executives' goals for the year.





Happy WOW and welcome back to the busy school year!!

Cheers,

University of Alberta Students' Union Vice President (External)

**Adam Brown** 



OFFICE OF THE

# **Vice President Operations & Finance**

**Date**: September 4, 2019 **To**: Students' Union Council

Re: Vice President Operations & Finance Report #8

Dear Council,

Its been an absolutely wild last few weeks, but I'm looking forward to the year! Holp you all enjoyed WOW as much as I did!

#### The Businesses

#### RATT and Dewey's

After a summer of renovations, Dewey's is finally all set for students to enjoy! The menus have been entirely redone with an all-new look, and space as been reworked to accommodate a greater number of students. We now have a full stage and sound system in the backroom and a section away from the tables that is specifically dedicated to pool! Additionally, by popular demand, we have now decided to keep Dewey's loft open all the time for students to enjoy. We had also heard a lot of concerns in the past about the dark and dinginess of the washrooms, so we repainted the restroom space and improved the lighting to make space more comfortable!

If you all have time, you should go by and take a look at your newly revitalized bar. Also, while not as noticeable as Dewey's changes, we have rejigged a portion of the RATT menu to better meet the students' needs based on sales data we've been watching.

#### The Daily Grind

Your campus coffee shop is up and running! After a few weeks of hefty renovations, The Daily Grind has an entirely new face with a more modern, student-centric feel. We've updated the menus and added a few new items to the mix while removing the less popular ones (not sure if you all had the chance to try those slushies we served for a time). The front counter has seen significant improvements to the use of space and displaying of products to help move people through faster and we have added a dedicated pickup area so people don't have to awkwardly wait around.

#### SUB Mart

We've also made some changes to SUBMart! We demolished a lot of the old infrastructure that was used as the front counter and storage space to improve navigation for students and better use the space we have. Also, we are expanding SUBMart into a portion of what used to be the postal outlet, which we also hope will improve our ability to de-cramp the store a bit.

#### Bar Burrito

Bar Burrito is coming as the newest addition to the SUB cafeteria offerings and will be the predecessor to Konz. In making the decision to take them on, we wanted to consider a vendor who provides high-quality and healthy food options to students while fitting the reasonable



# **Vice President Operations & Finance**

pricing students look for when considering where to eat. They have just started the renovations, so you all can expect to be trying them out come mid-to-late October!

#### **Events Coming Your Way**

#### **United Way**

I've been working closely alongside the united way to plan two of their events for the coming year: their yearly kick-off party and their Warp-up event. It looks like they'll be using our spaces, SUB Stage and Dewy's respectively, for the venues as well as Horowitz catering for the food and drinks. Also, in addition to the venue and catering planning, the United Way Comittee is looking to get students involved to get the word out about the cause and help get people involved in volunteering. If you or someone you know would be interested in this, please let me know!

#### ARRC Recomendations Lanch

I have been trying to support the planning of the ARRC recommendations launch event for September 23rd. While there have been a few hickups here and there, it looks like its starting to come together! I won't spoil too much yet, but I'd encourage all of you to come out if you can and support the event. I look forward to reporting on it when it's done!

#### New PERKS Web Application Betaing for Students to Test!

The UASU is trying out a new rewards program which aims to help us better engage students! *Perks* is a cool new mobile web app that allows you to get prizes and rewards for engaging with your Students' Union! Perks will be betaing until the end of September and then will be reviewed, anilized, and re-relesed if it proved to be successful during its beta.

Participate in events, complete surveys and quizzes, compete with your friends, and reap the rewards!

#### Week of Welcome!!!

Had an absolutely great time greeting and getting to know new students coming to campus! Helping out at the Pancake breakfast each day was a great way to welcome the new students to campus and support the events crew! During the day, I thoroughly enjoyed mingling with our student groups in WOW village and talking to the hard working volunteers all around the festivities. Besides visiting during the days, I had a great time attending the evening's enteratinment like the Comedy Night and the Block Party!

#### **Meetings of Note**

### David Turpin

The executive team met with David Turpin to discuss the school year's priorities and the recent report released by the Provincial government. We had the opportunity to communicate key points we expected he could support our work within his last year and looked for any room for





Later De

# **Vice President Operations & Finance**

collaboration with the university. Also, the discussion on the Government's report was definitely helpful and I expct we will be bringing the issue forward to council soon.

If you ever want to meet to discuss ideas, concerns, or just talk, you can shoot me an email and I will do my best to find a time to meet!

Cheers,

University of Alberta Students' Union Vice President Operations & Finance



#### OFFICE OF THE

### **Vice-President Student Life**

Date: 10/09/2019

To: Students' Union Council

Re: Vice-President Student Life 2019/20 Report September 10

Hey Council!

It's been a very busy couple of weeks here as all of the students return back to campus, I hope you've all been enjoying Week of Welcome and the beginning of classes! A lot has happened over the past few weeks and I've detailed them in my report, feel free to ask me anything in council!

#### 1. Suicide Prevention Day

On September 10th, it is the World Suicide Prevention Day. We have been working with the Days of Action Committee over the summer to plan programming for the day, as well as a public awareness campaign for UASUcares. We will be rolling out our campaign for that and having street teams hand out cards and pins to students around campus with a bunch of information about wellness services on campus as well as UASUcares, it should be a great campaign!

#### 2. RezFest

We have recently changed the location and time of RezFest, so it will now be held from 7PM to 2AM on the 14th, in Dinwoodie Lounge. This will allow us to not only save money by changing the venue, but allow for a much better audio/visual set up and a full bar service with drink specials, etc. Our Residence Associations are deep on their way with marketing of the event, and it will be a very exciting event!

#### 3. Landing Student Advisory Committee

We had our first Landing Student Advisory Committee meeting today (september 10), cheers to Councillor Haddouche for joining the committee. As I've written this report prior to the meeting, I don't have much information as to how it went or what was included, but I'm very excited to see what this committee can accomplish this year!

#### 4. Week of Welcome

We had a great turnout this year at Week of Welcome, with lots of energy and excitement! The beer gardens were busier than ever with great performers on stage, the clubs fair had great turnout with lots of awesome student groups on campus, and our night events were tons of fun. I hope you all enjoyed it, and if you're looking for ways to get involved next year, the volunteer search will be opening up later in the year so stay tuned!

#### 5. Residence Move-In

On August 26th, we had our residents on campus move in. The day went very successfully, with tons of Residence Life staff and volunteers helping out with the process, as well as the SU





### **Vice-President Student Life**

execs. Overall, Lister is full in terms of occupancy, although East Campus is low on occupancy this year. It's been really nice to have our Residence Associations back into full swing and to get lots of agenda items for the Council of Residence Associations, things are looking good going into the year for residence!

#### 6. HUB Safety and Security

Many of you probably know this already, but HUB Mall is now locked! There are 5 main exterior access points as well as the main entrance, as well as all of the pedways. All of the exterior doors that do not have OneCard access have physical key access, and the keys have been given to the residents for their specific stairwells. The outcome of this, so far, has been very positive. I have personally stayed a few nights in HUB and have seen residents in the halls and lounges as late as 2 AM, which was very uncommon last year, so things are looking really good!

#### 7. Newton Place Residence Association

Last year, the NPRA did not have a successful election with no candidates running. Although, this year I have been working closely with their Residence Life staff and have had 7 volunteers sign up to create the NPRA again and oversee the operations of their community space.

8. **Selection Advisory Committee for the Vice-Provost and University Registrar**The University is seeking to hire a new Vice-Provost for the Registrar's Office and I will be sitting on the Selection Advisory Committee! Exciting!

If any of you have questions or comments, please feel free to come and talk to me!

Cheers,

University of Alberta Students' Union Vice-President Student Life

Jared Larsen

Councillor Attenda	ance 2019-20		Spring/Summer								Fall							Winter								
			2019-00	2019-01	2019-02	2019-03	2019-04	2019-05	2019-06	2019-07	2019-08	2019-09	2019-10	2019-11	2019-12	2019-13	2019-14	2019-15	2019-16	2019-17	2019-18	2019-19	2019-20	2019-21	2019-22	2019-23
Position	Name	NDA	4/23/2019	7/5/2019	5/21/2019	6/4/2019	6/18/2019	7/2/2019	7/16/2019	7/30/2019	8/13/2019	8/27/2019	9/10/2019	9/24/2019	10/8/2019	10/22/2019	11/5/2019	11/19/2019	12/3/2019	1/14/2019	1/28/2019	2/11/2019	2/25/2019	3/10/2019	3/24/2019	4/7/2019
Voting Ex-Officio Members			•																							
President	Akanksha Bhatnagar	Y	3	3	3	3	3	2	2	2		3														
VP Academic	Joel Agarwal	Υ	3	3	0	3	3	3	2	2		3														
VP External	Adam Brown	Y	3	3	3	3	3	3	2	2		3														
VP Operations & Finance	Luke Statt	Y	2	3	3	3	3	2	2	2		3														
VP Student Life	Jared Larsen	Y	3	3	3	3	3	3	2	2		3														
Undergraduate BoG Rep	Rowan Ley	Y	0	3	0	3	3	3	0	2		3														
Faculty Representation (33 Seats																										
ALES	Stephanie McKenzie		3	3	3	3	3	3	2	0		0														
ALES	VACANT			,	,	,	,	,																		
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	Chris Beasley				-				-	2		-														
Arts	Yiming Chen		3	3	3	3	3	3	2			3														
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Arts	David Draper		3	3	3	3	3	3	2	2		- 1														
Arts	Abigail Isaac		3	3	3	3	3	0	2	0		0														
Business	Samir Esmail		3	3	3	3	3	3	2	0		3														
Business	Phoebe Marinakis		3	3	2	3	3	3	2	2		0														
Education	Katie Kidd		3	3	3	2	3	3	2	2		0														
Education	Samantha Tse	Y	3	3	3	3	0	3	0	I		3														
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Engineering	Ayman Adwan	Y	2	2	2	2	0	0	0	0		3														
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Engineering	VACANT																									
Engineering	VACANT																									
Kinesiology, Sport and Recreation	VACANT																									
Law	VACANT																									
Medicine & Dentistry	VACANT																									
Native Studies	Nathan Sunday	Y	2	3	0	3	0	2	- 1	- 1		3														
Nursing	Anthony Nguyen		3	3	0	- 1	0	0	2	0		0														
Open Studies	VACANT																									
Pharmacy	VACANT																									
Faculté Saint-Jean	Tahra Haddouche	Y	3	3	3	3	3		2	2		3														
Science	Adarsh Badesha		2	3	3	3	3	3	- 1	2		3														
Science	Simran Kaur Dhillon		2	3	3	3	0	3	2	1		- 1														
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Science	Amber Sayed		3	3	3	3	3	3	2	2		0														
Non-Voting Ex-Officio Members																					-					
Speaker	Robyn Paches		3	3	3	3	3	3	2	2		3														
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2019-08/1a	SUNDAY/VARGAS ALBA MOVED to appeal the Speaker's decision to not special order the late additions on the agenda.	FAILED	SC-2019-08	08/27/2019
2019-08/2a	BEASLEY/CHEN MOVED to allow the "Toastmasters International: Giving a Presentation" presentation.	CARRIED	SC-2019-08	08/27/2019
2019-08/7a	LARSEN/STATT MOVED to appoint one (I) member of Students' Council to the Landing Advisory Committee.	CARRIED	SC-2019-08	08/27/2019
2019-08/7b	TSE/LEY MOVED to approve First Principles on Mandatory Non-Instructional Fees Policy.	CARRIED	SC-2019-08	08/27/2019
2019-08/7c	LARSEN/CHEN MOVED to approve First Principles on Sexual Violence Policy.		SC-2019-08	08/27/2019
	BHATNAGAR/SUNDAY MOVED to commit the motion to Policy Committee.	CARRIED	SC-2019-08	08/27/2019
2019-08/7d	AGARWAL/VARGAS ALBA MOVED to approve First Principles on Scholarships and Tuition Policy.	CARRIED	SC-2019-08	08/27/2019
2019-08/7e	SAYED/VARGAS ALBA MOVED to approve First Principles on Student Spaces Policy.		SC-2019-08	08/27/2019
	VARGAS ALBA MOVED to add "Several spaces at the University of Alberta were built before a change in building codes and thus	CARRIED	SC-2019-08	08/27/2019

	Date	Result	Motion	Council Agenda Reported In	Notes	
01	2019-05-06	5/0/0	BHATNAGAR/LARSEN MOVED TO appoint Luke Statt and Adam Brown to the Students' Council Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation Committee.			
02	2019-05-16	4/0/0			Regrets from VP Brown	
02	2019-05-16	4/0/0	BHATNAGAR/LARSEN MOVED TO send the President, VP External, EAA, and Reed Larsen to the CAUS Changeover retreat as per budget.		Regrets from VP Brown	
02	2019-05-16	4/0/0	AGARWAL/STATT MOVED TO send the General Manager to the AMICCUS-C National Conference hosted by SAMRU as per budget.		Regrets from VP Brown	
02	2019-05-16	4/0/0	AGARWAL/STATT MOVED TO recommend Akanksha Bhatnagar and Jared Larsen to the University Presidential Search Committee to be ratified by Students' Council		Regrets from VP Brow	
06	2019-06-20	5/0/0	BROWN/BHATNAGAR MOVED TO approve a contingency request of no more than \$30,000 for theatre seat cushions as presented.			
06	2019-06-20	5/0/0	BROWN/STATT MOVED TO approve a Project Allocation of \$500 for Executive Media Training as presented.			
07	2019-06-27	4/0/0	AGARWAL/BHATNAGAR MOVED TO approve a Project Allocation of \$1000 for the Senate Student Postering Session as presented.		Regrets from VP Statt	



# STUDENTS' COUNCIL

#### Tuesday, August 27, 2019 6:00PM Council Chambers, University Hall

We would like to respectfully acknowledge that our University and our Students' Union are located on Treaty 6 Territory. We are grateful to be on Cree, Dene, Saulteaux, Métis, Blackfoot, and Nakota Sioux territory; specifically the ancestral space of the Papaschase Cree. These Nations are our family, friends, faculty, staff, students, and peers. As members of the University of Alberta Students' Union we honour the nation-to-nation treaty relationship. We aspire for our learning, research, teaching, and governance to acknowledge and work towards the decolonization of Indigenous knowledges and traditions.

#### MEETING CALLED TO ORDER AT 6:00PM

#### **VOTES & PROCEEDINGS (SC-2019-08)**

2019-08/I SPEAKERS BUSINESS

Announcements - The next meeting of Students' Council will take place on **Tuesday**, **September 10, 2019 at 6:00PM** in Council Chambers.

SPEAKER: Noted that, after this meeting, Council attendance regulations will be enforced and councillors with insufficient attendance will be automatically removed. Noted that Council scholarships will remain until the end of the week. Determined to not special order the late additions on the agenda.

**SUNDAY/VARGAS ALBA MOVED** to appeal the Speaker's decision to not special order the late additions on the agenda.

SPEAKER: Outlined that his decision conforms to the requirements of Standing Orders. Clarified that late additions are intended for items that cannot be postponed without risking detrimental consequences to or negative procedural difficulties.

SUNDAY: Outlined that his appeal rests on the basis that the item in question has been on the Council order paper twice already, that all of the political policies on the current order paper were added after the technical deadline, and that the delay in submitting the item to the order paper was caused by the Students' Union itself.

10/10/0 - FAILED

2019-08/2 PRESENTATIONS

2019-08/2a *Title:* "Toastmasters International: Giving a Presentation"

Presenter(s):

• Christopher Yakiwchuk - President, University Toastmasters Club

**Abstract:** "We aim to give advice in order to build self confidence in one's presentation skills. This will be achieved by looking at what public speaking entails, how to prepare for it, how to deliver it, and how to learn from that experience in order to better the next one. We will have a Q&A at the end if anyone has any further questions for us."

**BEASLEY/CHEN MOVED** to allow the "Toastmasters International: Giving a Presentation" presentation.

See SC-2019-08.10.

BADESHA: Expressed concern that professional development opportunities, such as this presentation, should be optional and offered separately from Council assemblies as they do not directly bear on issues affecting students.

#### 10/9/I- CARRIED

#### 2019-08/3 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT

Akanksha BHATNAGAR, President - Report.

Jared LARSEN, Vice President (Student Life) - Report.

Luke STATT, Vice President (Operations and Finance) - Report.

Joel AGARWAL, Vice President (Academic) - Report. Adam BROWN, Vice President (External) - Report.

#### 2019-08/4 BOARD AND COMMITTEE REPORT

Audit Committee - Report.

Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation Committee - Report.

Bylaw Committee - Report.

Council Administration Committee - Report.

Executive Committee - Report.

Finance Committee - Report.

Nominating Committee - Report.

Policy Committee - Report.

Student Group Committee - Report.

Translation Committee - Report.

Board of Governors - Report.

#### 2019-08/5 OPEN FORUM

KLOOSTER: Inquired, to the Board of Governors Representative, as to whether the recent Government of Alberta's recent changes in the composition of the Board will result in delays to how the Board serves students as new members learn their roles.

LEY: Responded that newly appointed members will not result in delay but will change the direction of the Board.

KLOOSTER: Inquired, to the Vice President External, as to whether the Council of Alberta University Students has reservations as to the Government of Alberta's changes to its post-secondary board representatives.

BROWN: Responded that the government is within its rights to change its board representation. Urged waiting to see the performance of new appointees before passing judgement on them.

BILAK: Inquired, to the chair of Policy Committee, as to the status of the Public Transit Policy.

BROWN: Responded that the Policy is proceeding with a slight delay and that it is currently in a consultative phase.

#### 2019-08/6 QUESTION PERIOD

VARGAS ALBA: Inquired, to the President, as to whether the Students' Union can support a student strike against climate change.

BHATNAGAR: Responded that the SU will provide a student group with a space for protest. Urged students concerned about climate to engage in the upcoming federal election. Inquired, to Councillor Dixon, as to whether she can provide an update regarding creating a Sustainability Committee.

DIXON: Responded that the Committee is close to having complete Standing Orders and is awaiting feedback on them from Aboriginal Student Council.

DRAPER: Inquired, to Vice President Student Life, as to why certain faculty associations are permitted or prohibited to table at Clubs Fair.

LARSEN: Responded that the Clubs Fair has changed in size and nature. Noted that Draper should contact him to see if there is space for Organization for Arts Students and Interdisciplinary Studies to table.

VARGAS ALBA: Inquired, to President Bhatnagar, whether the SU will endorse a September 27 class walkout protesting climate change.

BHATNAGAR: Clarified that Council has not directed the Executive to take action on this issue and no Executive was elected on a climate change mandate. Clarified that Council must direct the Executive to take action on an issue such as climate change.

DRAPER: Inquired into whether there has been thought to include other flags within the SUB Atrium.

BHATNAGAR: Responded that adding new flags was a topic considered last year and

that interested communities, such as Aborginal Student Council, are leading the change.

SUNDAY: Expressed concern that the University was not interested in raising a Treaty 6 flag.

VARGAS ALBA: Inquired into what tools and resources the UASU can offer to student organizations to engage in advocacy.

BHATNAGAR: Responded that the UASU advocates through the Council of Alberta University Students and Canadian Alliance of Student Associations and has a reserve fund of money to engage in advocacy at key points in time.

TSE: Inquired, to Councillor Draper, as to what criteria he would use to determine which flags to include in the SUB Atrium.

SUNDAY: Suggested that the Treaty 6 should be included in the Atrium as the University is located on Treaty 6 flag.

DIXON: Inquired, to the President, whether the SU will support the climate change walkout.

BHATNAGAR: Determined to follow-up on this issue on Friday at 1:00pm after meeting with the Executive.

#### 2019-08/7 BOARD AND COMMITTEE BUSINESS

2019-08/7a LARSEN/STATT MOVED to appoint one (I) member of Students' Council to the Landing Advisory Committee.

DIXON nominated VARGAS ALBA: declined.

DIXON nominated DRAPER: declined. STATT nominated DIXON: declined.

HADDOUCHE nominated HADDOUCHE: accepted.

**HADDOUCHE** is appointed to the Landing Advisory Committee.

2019-08/7b **TSE/LEY MOVED** to approve First Principles on Mandatory Non-Instructional Fees Policy.

See SC-2019-08.01.

TSE: Noted that the Policy was adjusted and created to address Bill 19: An Act to Improve the Affordability and Accessibility of Post-secondary Education.

BHATNAGAR: Proposed that the Committee, for second principles, differentiate between University and Students' Union fee collection, make provisions related to

mandatory non-instructional fees, and use binding, hard-hitting language in the Fact section.

#### CARRIED

2019-08/7c LARSEN/CHEN MOVED to approve First Principles on Sexual Violence Policy.

See SC-2019-08.02.

SUNDAY: Proposed referring the Policy back to the Committee. Expressed concern that the Policy does not address the issues he raised as to the inclusion of content specific to Aboriginal women and girls.

LARSEN: Clarified that Fact 4 references Aboriginal peoples in the context of the Policy.

SUNDAY: Expressed concern that addressing sexual violence as a one-size-fits-all approach, without mentioning women and girls, will not lead to meaningful change.

VARGAS ALBA: Proposed that Sunday move to add a new provision to the Policy.

SUNDAY: Expressed concern that he should not provide a suggestion as he is not female and adding a new provision requires a policy perspective from the Committee.

**BHATNAGAR/SUNDAY MOVED** to commit the motion to Policy Committee. **CARRIED** - 15/3/0

2019-08/7d **AGARWAL/VARGAS ALBA MOVED** to approve First Principles on Scholarships and Tuition Policy.

See SC-2019-08.03.

**CARRIED - 18/0/0** 

2019-08/7d **SAYED/VARGAS ALBA MOVED** to approve First Principles on Student Spaces Policy.

See SC-2019-08.04.

VARGAS ALBA: Noted that the Committee rephrased and edited the Policy and incorporated the Principles of Universal Design in its recommendations.

BHATNAGAR: Proposed clarifying the Facts as to the importance of the Principles of Universal Design. Proposed referencing in the Facts the difficulty of improving non-accessible spaces that are exempt from deferred maintenance classification due to the date of their construction.

# **VARGAS ALBA MOVED** to add "Several spaces at the University of Alberta were built before a change in building codes and thus currently remain physically accessible to many students" as a new Fact.

CARRIED

#### **CARRIED - 18/0/0**

2019-08/8	GENERAL ORDERS
2019-08/9	INFORMATION ITEMS
2019-08/9a	First Principles - Mandatory Non-Instructional Fees.
	See SC-2019-08.01.
2019-08/9b	First Principles - Sexual Violence Policy.
	See SC-2019-08.02.
2019-08/9c	First Principles - Scholarships and Tuition Policy.
	See SC-2019-08.03.
2019-08/9d	First Principles - Student Spaces Policy.
	See SC-2019-08.04.
2019-08/9e	President - Report.
	See SC-2019-08.05.
2019-08/9f	Students' Council Attendance.
	See SC-2019-08.06.
2019-08/9g	Students' Council Motion Tracker.
	See SC-2019-08.07.
2019-08/9h	Executive Committee Motion Tracker.
	See SC-2019-08.08.
2019-08/9i	Students' Council, Votes and Proceedings (SC-2019-07) - Tuesday, July 30, 2019.
	See SC-2019-08.09.

2019-08/9j "Toastmasters International: Giving a Presentation" Presentation.

See SC-2019-08.10.

# MEETING ADJOURNED AT 8:29PM



#### 2019/2020 Executive Goals

As your 2019/2020 Students' Union Executive team, we aim to represent you to improve your experience as undergraduate students at the University of Alberta, while also providing advocacy within the university community and to all levels of government. In order to best represent and promote your interests, we hold regular office hours, attend various campus events, and are constantly reaching out for your feedback and thoughts. As your representatives, we are constantly working to ensure that all Students' Union businesses, services, events, and advocacy efforts are in the best interest of you — the members of our University of Alberta Students' Union.

This document outlines the 2018/2019 goals set out by the SU Executive.

 Empower students to act with confidence and live with compassion.

Students should feel well equipped with the tools to craft a future that will allow them to better recognize and dismantle systemic barriers to participation in student life.

#### Continue progress on the Charter of Student Rights.

 Ensure a Charter of Student Rights is produced at the University of Alberta that includes academic rights, procedural rights, fundamental rights, and residence rights.

# Strengthen our collective voice by actively engaging students in advocacy.

- Run a Get Out The Vote (GOTV) campaign to encourage students to vote in the 2019 federal election.
- Increase engagement with Student Representative
   Associations to collect feedback regarding external priorities.
- Foster an environment of civil discourse and academic discovery while upholding our values of compassion and respect.
- Assist the Augustana Students' Association in municipal advocacy.
- Continue to work with the Association des Universitaires de la Faculté Saint-Jean (AUFSJ) and the Francophone community to advocate for greater access to post-secondary education in French in Alberta.

# Build relationships with both new provincial and federal governments.

- Support Indigenous student advocacy and initiatives.
- Collaborate to implement the Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation Committee (ARRC) Recommendations.
- Engage Indigenous students as partners, provincially, in advocacy with the Council of Alberta University Students (CAUS).

 Engage Indigenous students as partners, federally, in advocacy with the Canadian Alliance of Student Associations (CASA).

#### Provide support for grassroots initiatives of student leaders.

- Invest in professional development opportunities for our student group leaders, representatives, staff, and volunteers.
- Publish a centralized document for student groups to host successful events.
- Support Residence Associations to create long-term strategic plans to foster their continued and sustainable growth.
- Explore opportunities to work with cultural Student Groups on collaborative events.

# 2. Embrace student wellness and academic success.

Students deserve to be included and supported throughout their time on campus so they can succeed both individually and academically.

#### Implement a cultural lens in our mental wellness services.

- Advocate for increased diversity among mental wellness counsellors on all campuses.
- Integrate community-based approaches to reduce stigmas and instill wellness.

# Call for robust and reliable on-campus health and wellness services.

- Ensure that mental health services remain on campus and are funded on a per-student basis.
- Collaborate with other Alberta students' associations to produce unified mental health funding recommendations for the provincial government.
- Advocate for increased grants from governments for students with specific mental health needs.



- Advocate that University faculty and staff receive Question, Persuade, and Refer (QPR), as well as Suicide Awareness and Prevention (SAP) training.
- Provide free menstrual products on campus.

#### Ensure relevant employment, research, and workintegrated learning opportunities.

- Push for international students to have combined study and co-op permits, as well as for increased working hours during the school year.
- Advocate that student employment subsidy programs offered by governments are modified to run year-round and ensure degree-relevant positions.
- Advocate for and promote greater accessibility to undergraduate research opportunities, including increased funding and studentships.
- Advocate for the expansion and increased accessibility of the First Nations and Inuit Summer Work Experience Program.

Advocate for the hiring of the Sexual Violence Prevention Coordinator.

### 3. Stay true to the student heartbeat.

We need to keep our finger on the pulse of student life to provide students with the unique supports they need to succeed.

#### Prioritize student-guided decision making.

- Provide opportunities for students to actively engage with the Students' Union organizational and business decisions.
- Create a University of Alberta Students' Union (UASU) Street Team to communicate advocacy campaigns, promotions, and other efforts effectively.
- Evolve our student-centred online presence.

# Strengthen our businesses and services to evolve alongside student needs.

- Ensure all Students' Union spaces on campus are physically accessible.
- Continue to seek sustainable project ventures for our businesses.

# Pursue increased revenue-generating opportunities to decrease our reliance on student fees.

- Expand SUTV into new spaces and continue to seek partnerships with students' associations across the country.
- Continue to invest in our Information Technology and Development Department at the Students' Union.
- Establish a strategy for the Students' Union to create a fundraising model and actively seek out donor opportunities.
- Activate campus with mutually beneficial third-party partnerships and sponsorships to support student life.

# 4. Actualize change to create an equitable post-secondary experience.

To thrive, campus needs to be a barrier-free environment and an intellectually stimulating space for students.

# Advocate for strategic investments in deferred maintenance and accessible spaces.

- Lobby for the creation of a long-term strategic deferred maintenance plan and increased investments in studentoriented spaces from the provincial government.
- Call on the provincial government to provide predictable, sustainable operational funding for post-secondary institutions.
- Hold the University accountable to commitments made concerning campus safety and security.

# Encourage the implementation of faculty-specific interdisciplinary Indigenous course content.

# Seek to increase affordability in educational resources, financial aid, housing, and tuition.

- Work with the provincial government and the University to develop a long-term, sustainable funding model for the creation and adoption of Open Educational Resources (OERs).
- Continue advocacy to ensure predictable and affordable international student tuition.
- Lobby the provincial government to reallocate tax credit funds into up-front, non-repayable grants for low- and middle-income students.
- Advocate for the Repayment Assistance Program (RAP) threshold to increase, reflecting changes in the minimum wage and living expenses.
- Advocate for equitable rent and meal plan fees to maintain the value-added experience in residence.
- Continue to develop more needs-based Students' Union awards through the Student Involvement Endowment Foundation (SIEF).





Do what's right, not what's easy. Inspire change for the world. Act with unbridled compassion Always keep moving Plan for tomorrow

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- Encourage the implementation of facultyspecific interdisciplinary Indigenous course content.
- Seek to increase affordability in educational resources, financial aid, housing, and tuition.

Akanksha Bhatnagar

Joel Agarwal

Adam Brown VP EXTERNAL

Luke Statt
VP OPERATIONS
& FINANCE

Jared Larsen

Dear Executive Council,

This is a written question regarding the conversation we had at the August 27 Council meeting about the lack of SU support of the International General Strike for climate action and awareness on September 27. As you may know, many of us were disappointed with the response we received, and would like to follow up about the decision that was taken.

Climate change is real, it is caused by humans, and it is the single biggest issue of our generation. In the same way that this problem has been caused by us, it is also within our power to solve it. Last year, the United Nations Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change released a special report that warned that an increase of over 1.5°C would significantly worsen the risk of drought, floods, extreme heat, and poverty for hundreds of millions of people around the world. As of October 2018, the warning noted that at current rates, this threshold would be met within 12 years.

On the week of August 28, 2019, the <u>City of Edmonton declared a state of climate emergency</u>. In doing so, it joined Canadian cities like <u>Ottawa, Halifax, Hamilton, and Vancouver</u>, which had previously done so. To Mayor Don Iveson, it was "a clear wake up call to take action now."

In July of 2019, <u>7,000 colleges and universities around the world joined to declare a climate emergency</u>, outlining plans to commit to carbon neutrality, mobilize resources for action-oriented climate change research and skills creation, as well as increasing environmental and sustainability education across a variety of programs.

Communities around the world have joined together to organize the General Strike on September 27, calling governments around the world for action on climate change. In Edmonton, youth from all backgrounds have been mobilizing to take part in this action, hoping to create a world that we can live in. At the University of Alberta, several professors have cancelled classes on this day and encouraged their students to join the strike. Several other associations have also been reached out to in hope of taking up similar actions. This is an issue that the University of Alberta Students' Union cannot ignore.

As students, we strive to better ourselves, to learn and grow so that we too can create change for the better in the world we live in. We do this for ourselves, but also for the communities that we love. However, we fear that our opportunities as professionals, the reason why we attend university, are in extreme danger if we cannot envision a future where we can live comfortably without the fear of climate catastrophe.

Climate change is a student issue. It is an issue we can either address now, or address once it's too late. We choose to address it now.

As a Students' Council, we have been elected to represent students and the issues that they face. Many of us were elected on mandates of environmentalism and sustainability, and did so with very strong mandates. We will not be silent on this issue, which is why we implore you to follow us in speaking up. Because of this, we would like to reach out again, and request for UASU action on this issue.

Here is a list of asks, including our main request. We are asking, request by request, whether the Executive will support councilors in any of the following ways. Yes or no per question is sufficient:

- Will the University of Alberta Students' Union inform students about the general strike on September 27?
- Will the University of Alberta Students' Union inform students about the general strike on September 27 through its campus-wide email lists?
- Will the University of Alberta Students' Union inform students about the general strike on September 27 through our social media platforms?
- Will the University of Alberta Students' Union advocate against attendance penalties towards students who miss class to attend the general strike on September 27?
- Will the University of Alberta Students' Union join dozens of Canadian cities and thousands of universities around the world to declare a climate emergency?
- Will the University of Alberta Students' Union executive pledge to take climate change seriously and take direct action to help University of Alberta students tackle this massive issue?
- Will the University of Alberta Students' Union have the courage to do what's right, not what's easy?
- If any of the previous requests receives a 'no' vote, will the Executive Committee of the University of Alberta Students' Union give thorough reasoning as to why this decision was made?

Sincerely, signed,

Councillor Vargas Alba

Councillor Draper

Councillor Dixon

Councillor Kidd

Councillor Beasley

Councillor Haddouche
Councillor Sunday
Councillor Jamaleddine
Councillor McVea
Councillor Isaac

#### Principles on Free Expression - preliminary consultation draft

#### **Preamble**

The mission of the University of Alberta is to discover, disseminate, and apply knowledge for the benefit of society through teaching and learning, research and creative activity, community involvement, and partnerships.

To achieve our mission and mandate, we must cultivate an environment that fosters and supports the ability of each member of our community to learn, to research, and to discover. Freedom of expression is one of the key elements of such an environment. Learning requires exposure to a variety of views, including those with which one disagrees, and the ability to participate in intellectual debate – including having one's own views challenged. Research and discovery requires the ability to challenge the conventional, to communicate findings and their implications, and to provide informed commentary in the public sphere. Across all areas of its mandate, the university is committed to rigorous inquiry and the robust expression and discussion of ideas - within our local, provincial, national, and global communities.

Above all, we value intellectual integrity, freedom of inquiry and expression, and the equality and dignity of all persons as the foundation of ethical conduct in research, teaching, learning, and service.

In support of our mission, the university is committed to the protection of free expression for our university community, including written, oral, aural, visual, and artistic expression, as well as peaceful protest and dissent. The right to academic freedom is addressed separately in the context of the collective agreement with the Association of Academic Staff of the University of Alberta.

#### **Principles**

- Free expression may not violate Canadian law or any law in force in Alberta.
- The university is a place of free and open inquiry in all matters, and all members of the university community are guaranteed the broadest possible latitude to speak, write, listen, view, challenge, profess, and learn.
- Members of the university community have the right to criticize and question other views expressed on our campuses, but may not obstruct or interfere with others' freedom of expression.
- Debate or deliberation may not be suppressed because the ideas put forward are thought by some, or even most, to be offensive, unwise, immoral, or misguided. It is for individuals, not the institution, to make those judgments for themselves and to act not by seeking to suppress expression, but by openly and vigorously contesting the ideas they oppose.

August 30, 2019

- The university does not attempt to shield members of the university community from ideas or opinions they disagree with or find offensive.
- The university is deeply committed to cultivating an atmosphere that promotes inclusiveness and respect for human dignity, and work and study environment that is respectful of human dignity, that encourages participation by all members of our diverse community
- The university may reasonably regulate the time, place, or manner of expression to ensure that it does not disrupt the ordinary activities of the institution.
- The university may restrict expression that violates law, falsely defames an individual, constitutes a genuine threat or harassment, or unjustifiably violates privacy or confidentiality interests.