



**TO:** UMSU Board of Directors  
**FROM:** VP Student Services, Carly Mastromonaco  
**DATE:** October 11, 2018  
**RE:** **Report to the Board, October 2018**

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### **New Updates**

#### **1. Health & Dental Appeals**

- In the past, students could apply to the Member services committee to attempt to opt-out of the health and dental plan after the opt-out date has passed. This year, StudentCare informed us that they will be implementing a new system, an “exemption request” form that students fill out online. This form is then reviewed by StudentCare.
- Goal of implementing the new system is to make the review process quicker
- Member Services decided to keep our current appeal system still alive for students who now wish to appeal the decision of the exemption request, as well for any students requesting to “opt-in” to the plan

#### **2. “What is UMSU?” Video**

- Video intended to increase awareness of UMSU advocacy and services in an easily accessible fashion. Filming for this video is set to begin this Thursday (Oct. 11)
- Ideally ready to go in the next few weeks and up on the UMSU website as soon as possible

#### **3. Mental Health Awareness Week – Tree of Support**

- Partaking in Sarah’s (VPA) Mental Health Awareness Week this week by bringing back the “Tree of Support” a mental health initiative started by SSA (Science Students’ Association) last year. The goal of the tree is to start the conversation surrounding mental health to eliminate the stigma surrounding mental illness.
- Re-painted the tree and prepped location and everything necessary to have the tree up in UC (leaves, markers, etc.)
- Ideally would be neat to get faculty associations involved to take on their own “Tree of Support” idea to ending the stigma for the next Mental Health Awareness Week next semester

### **Ongoing/Continuing Work**

#### **4. Peer Tutoring**

- UMSU has now vetted over 150+ tutors and has received the administrative console from Nimbus tutoring. The next step is to have tutors create accounts on the app and verify them before promoting the service to tutees.
- Gordon (Services Manager) and I are currently working on getting tutors set up on the site to start linking up with tutors
- Ideally marketing for tutees will begin next week as long as everything on the administrative side goes smoothly



## 5. Study Snack Application Sheet

Currently working out the logistics (cost, etc) of student groups renting the cart

- In contact with Ryan Woods (manager, Degrees) waiting for cost breakdown of coffee/snacks
- Currently chatting with Thomas (GM) and Ryan to discuss possible discounts for student groups (i.e. instead of regular catering prices)

## 6. Possible U-Pass/Member Services Committee merge

- When U-Pass was a new service, it was essential to have a committee specifically dedicated to reviewing and setting precedence on issues facing the service. Now that U-Pass is an established service, it would be possible and potentially beneficial to add the U-Pass onto the Member Services mandate. Member Services and U-Pass committee will be meeting to discuss the logistics of the merge on **October 13<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 am**

## 7. Career Services Summer Job Portal

- Working with staff from Career Services to discuss the best way to implement an easier way for students to sift through and find summer employment
- Recently the CareerConnect portal was updated, and Career Services implemented a "Summer Job" button which allows all summer employment opportunities to come up for students to look through
- Goals moving forward are to make this portal as effective as possible by increasing awareness to employers (so they upload their jobs) and to students so they know where to look
- Also hoping to add links to other summer job portals that may be handy for students such as FSWEF, etc.

## Events & Meetings Attended

- Executive Committee meetings occur every Monday and Thursday
- Standing meetings every Thursday with Services Manager Gordon Chandler
- September 27<sup>th</sup> – UMSU BOD Meeting
- September 28<sup>th</sup> – Orange Shirt Day
- September 28<sup>th</sup> – Bison Ball
- September 29<sup>th</sup> – Men's Football Homecoming game
- September 29<sup>th</sup> – Engineering social
- September 30<sup>th</sup> – Brown & Gold Brunch (Monty & Marilyn Hall Exhibit)
- October 1<sup>st</sup> – Research meeting



University  
of Manitoba  
**STUDENTS'**  
**UNION**

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- October 2<sup>nd</sup> – Call with ASEQ/StudentCare
- October 2<sup>nd</sup> – Finance committee
- October 3<sup>rd</sup> – Mental health tree prep
- October 3<sup>rd</sup> – Member Services committee
- October 4<sup>th</sup> – Mental health tree prep
- October 5<sup>th</sup> – Arts First Affair/Running Man socials
- October 5<sup>th</sup> – Student Club meeting (ISA)