



University  
of Manitoba  
**STUDENTS'  
UNION**

**TO:** UMSU Board of Directors  
**FROM:** VP Advocacy, Sarah Bonner-Proulx  
**DATE:** January 24, 2019  
**RE:** **Report to the Board, January 2019**

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#### **New Updates:**

##### **1) Mental Health & Wellness Week 2019 (MHAWW)**

- a) MHAWW takes place next week (Jan 28<sup>th</sup>-Feb 1<sup>st</sup>) and will be filled with a variety of different programming and events such as a resource fair on Tuesday and Wednesday, Sharing Circle, Buddhist Meditation Session, MDAM Self-Love Photobooth, Movies for Mental Health screening and panel, Nursing Students Mental Health G&A, etc.
- b) I will also be hosting a #studentsletsact Mental Health Campaign co-currently to MHAAW and Bell Let's Talk day. This campaign aims to address the current mental health needs of students and focuses on mobilizing students to lobby the federal government for increased funding for mental health supports. At the end of the week, all of the "hearts" that students write on, both here at UofM and at partner schools across Canada, will be packed up and sent to the Minister of Health.

##### **2) Food Bank Contribution**

All leftover donations and hampers from Holiday Hampers program have now been donated to UofM/UMSU foodbank. The items range from canned goods (fruits, beans, veggies) to rice, pasta and other non-perishable items. I am also looking into ways to recruit more international food options and exploring the possibility of installing a freezer/fridge at the foodbank to maximize storage and increase food options for students.

*Operating Hours: Monday-Friday, 8:30-4:00*

*Location: 518 University Centre*

*\*All students welcome (student ID required)*

#### **Ongoing/Continuing Work:**

##### **SA and RWLE Policy Revision – Consultation Report (Attached in Board Package)**

This past Fall the UofM undertook the process of consulting the University community, including the BOD, on potential changes to our Respectful Work and Learning Environment (RWLE) Policy, Sexual Assault (SA) Policy, and the combined procedures. Feedback for these policies was sought through several means such as online feedback portal, and in person consultations and overseen by the RWLE & Sexual Assault Policy Advisory Committee, in which I sit. This feedback has been a major influencer on the potential changes in these policies and has helped to bring to light and re-confirm priorities for the University and UMSU moving forward.



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**Travel Report:**

PEP-AH (Dec 11<sup>th</sup> -13<sup>th</sup>, Toronto ON.)

- a. This past December, VP External, Owen Black and I attended the bi-annual PEP-AH (Postsecondary Education Partnership – Alcohol Harms) meeting; PEP-AH is a collection of universities across Canada, partnered with the Canadian Centre on Substance Use and Addiction (CCSA) and Universities Canada. This partnership is focused on supporting nation-wide campus efforts to reduce the harms related to alcohol consumption. During this meeting the team tackled a variety of topics such as binge-drinking prevention strategies, alcohol and substance safety, social media engagement and promotion of alternative wellness, etc. During this time, we also reviewed a draft proposal for a survey that investigated student attitudes, perceptions, expectations, reasons and consequences associated with alcohol and substance consumption, as well as student suggestions to address the issue.
- b. Given that Owen is Western Regional Rep for PEP-AH, the only costs incurred to UMSU was my flight to attend the conference – I would recommend that the next year a representative from UMSU attends as it is valuable learning what other schools and student unions are doing to combat alcohol harms and to be a part of the larger conversation. Thus far, we have found our involvement with PEP-AH particularly useful in countering the new proposal for a police presence policy that requires alcoholic events on campus to hire police officers for all events serving alcohol.

**Events/ Meetings Attended (External):**

- Jan 15<sup>th</sup> -Monthly Advocacy Meeting
- Jan 16<sup>th</sup> -PSA Meet and Greet
- Jan 16<sup>th</sup> – Campaign Planning Mtg
- Jan 17<sup>th</sup> - WEC Tabling and Career Fair
- Jan 19<sup>th</sup> – BSA Freshers Event
- Jan 21<sup>st</sup> – Bannatyne Lunches Handout
- Jan 23<sup>rd</sup> – Orientation Meeting
- Jan 24<sup>th</sup> – RWLE SA Policy Advisory Committee
- Jan 24<sup>th</sup> – Bannatyne Campus Lunch Handout
- Jan 24<sup>th</sup> – UCRU Call
- Jan 24<sup>th</sup> – M4MH Logistics Call
- Jan 24<sup>th</sup> – Champions for Mental Health Mtg
- Jan 25<sup>th</sup> –Bison Game Day Event
- Jan 25<sup>th</sup> – Mature Students’ Mtg
- Jan 25<sup>th</sup> – Campaign Prep Mtg