



**TO:** UMSU Board of Directors  
**FROM:** President, Jakob Sanderson  
**DATE:** March 14, 2019  
**RE:** **Report to the Board, March 2019**

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## Ongoing / Continuing Work

### 1. Board of Governors

BOG has not met since the last UMSU Board of Directors Meeting.

### 2. Presidential Search Committee

The Presidential Search Committee has consultations under way. Our UMSU executive met with the committee last week to provide our input, and the committee also met with members of senate. I will be taking part in consultations this week with Indigenous students and faculty, Senior Administration, and Deans and Directors.

In the UMSU consolation session, major attributes we brought up, among others, were;

- A commitment to reconciliation and Indigenous course content
- A commitment to progressive leadership on sexual violence
- A commitment to address the major challenges faced by international students such as affordability and housing
- A commitment to address creative ways for student affordability such as open educational resources in the face of diminishing budgets and rising tuition

By our meeting on March 22nd, we look forward to having a debrief from these consultations and a better idea of what we should be looking for in our search.

### 3. Sustainability Week

Next week, March 18-22, is UMSU's Sustainability Week! Between our work and that of our co-operating partner groups, we have a number of fun and interactive events and sessions planned including a campus cleanup, movie screenings, cycling and sustainable cooking workshops, free lectures, games and a fruit and coffee giveaway!

We will also be submitting postcards on scrap paper collected around our campus to city hall and the university administration in support of a campus-wide composting program.

## New Updates

### 1. 2019-20 UMSU Executive

I am proud to announce that pending official ratification by UMSU's board, I have been re-elected as UMSU President alongside VPA Sarah Bonner-Proulx, VPFO Mbuli Matshe, incoming VPSL Jelynn Dela Cruz and incoming VPCE Kyra Fanning.



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I hope many of you stay involved on campus and within UMSU next year and I look forward to working with you! I would also like to congratulate all candidates who ran in the elections for executive and community rep positions. Collectively, we engaged more students in this election than in any election in UMSU history.

## **2. Meeting with Scott Fielding / Provincial Budget**

On February 11, VPE Owen Black, VPA Sarah Bonner-Proulx and I met with the Minister of Finance, Scott Fielding ahead of the provincial budget. We discussed the university's operating grant and interest on student loans. While we were encouraged to receive a commitment to keep zero interest on student loans, we were saddened to hear that our ask regarding the operating grant was not enacted, as of the budget announcement on March 7th.

The Province cut the university operating grant by 0.9% for the second straight year. This is an extremely debilitating act against post-secondary education quality and affordability. This cut means universities will be forced to raise tuition to make up for the lost revenue leaving students once again alone to pay off the provincial debt with no value added into the quality of our education.

We call on administration to respond to this attack on our education with a renewed commitment to covering international health care for an additional year, as international students will be hurt most by expected tuition raises, as well as we call on administration and UMFA to take a leadership position on open educational resources so that we can improve the quality and affordability of our education in face of these cuts.

## **Events & Meetings Attended**

\*Executive Meetings twice weekly \*\*Schedule excludes internal meetings \*\*

February 8: SEMP  
February 8-9: Board of Governors Retreat  
February 11: Meeting with Minister Scott Fielding  
February 11: Campus Cleanup Meeting  
February 11: BOSS  
February 12: BAC Meeting #1  
February 12: Meeting w/ Manitoban  
February 12: Finance Committee  
February 13: OER Research Meeting  
February 13: Senate Exec  
February 13: Student Experience Committee  
February 13: Sustainability Working Group  
February 14: Meeting w/ UMCycle  
February 15: Louis Riel Day Celebrations  
February 15: Meeting w/ Fair Dealing MB



University  
of Manitoba  
**STUDENTS'  
UNION**

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February 16 - 24: UMSU Election Pre-Campaign Period  
February 20: BSA Mother Language Day  
February 25: March 8: UMSU Election Campaign Period  
March 2: PSA Jashan e Pakistan  
March 6: Presidential Search Committee  
March 11: Sustainability Week Meeting  
March 11: Alumni Association Board Meeting  
March 12: BAC  
March 12: SV Policy Review Meeting  
March 12: Brand Advisory Council  
March 13: Presidential Search Committee  
March 14: UM Practices Meeting  
March 14: Presidential Search Committee  
March 14: Ian Campeau Speaker Series  
March 14: Inner City Campus Advocacy Meeting  
March 14: Sustainability Working Group