Updates:

1) GOTV/100 Debates Federal Election

- Last week UMSU alongside 100 Debates for the Environment hosted a debate in IQ’s with candidates from the Liberal, Green and NDP parties (PC’s not present) to bring to the forefront environmental issues and other student issues such as sexual violence, mental health, financial aid for students, Post-secondary funding etc. Advanced polling took place this week on campus – if you didn’t have a chance to vote, there’s still time! Election day is on OCTOBER 21ST. We are still running our GOTV campaign to collect vote pledges from students – reminder to please, please keep pushing for those pledges from folks in your faculty—in order to have our issues reflected in legislation, students must speak up -- every voice counts! 😊
- We will also be hosting a results viewing party in the HUB on the 21st! There will be prizes to be won, good food to eat and even better company (only catch is that you have to show your “I voted” sticker at the door!) Stay tuned for more details.

2) National Day of Violence Against Women

This year we will be partnering with Spiritual Care and Health and Wellness Office at the university to hold a commemoration service for the National Day of Remembrance of Violence Against Women on December 6th (location and time TBD). More details to come as the planning develops. Please see below for history behind this day:

‘In 1989, 13 female students and a female administrator at l’École Polytechnique de Montréal were murdered because they were women. The impact of their deaths led Parliament to designate December 6 as a national day of remembrance and November 25th as International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women. Even today, the effects of this tragedy continue to be felt and women remain targets because of their gender. The National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence against Women is about remembering victims; it is also a time to take action. We each have the opportunity and the responsibility to stand up against misogyny, sexism, and hate — and it starts with creating a culture of respect.’

3) HUB Staff BITB/Consent Culture Training

Last week The Hub staff received both brining in the bystander training as well as consent culture training to help equip them with the tools to be a proactive bystander and gain a better understanding of consent, sexual violence on campus and the resources and support available for those seeking it. From this, I alongside management will be devising a plan to mitigate risk of
potential incidents occurring and to help ensure that both hub staff and patrons feel safe while in this space.

4) UM Anti- Sexual Violence Initiatives

- Last month the University Launched their Anti-sexual violence campaign, “Together”, which focuses on addressing sexual violence on campus, establishing a culture of consent and raising awareness about the supports and resources available to students (i.e where/how to disclose, where/how to report, where to seek support, how to give support, etc). The goal is to educate faculty, staff and students on the topic of sexual violence and to work together towards building a stronger community.
- If your association would like pins, wristbands and/or info cards about the campaign, please email me vpa@umsu.ca and I’ll hook you up.
- SVRC: With the sexual violence resource centre set to open early 2020, I have been asked to serve on the hiring panel for the coordinator for the centre. Space has been secured on 5th floor UC for the resource centre.

5) UMSU Mental Health Working Group

Meetings and Events -- (External only)

- Sept 30th – OSHA Committee Mtg
- Sept 30th – Student Senate Caucus
- Oct 1st – Substance Use Advisory Committee
- Oct 1st – NDV Mtg w Spiritual Care
- Oct 2nd – FROSH Debrief Mtg (PSA, JFW)
- Oct 2nd – Senate
- Oct 3rd – URCU Call
- Oct 3rd Honouring Emeriti 2019
- Oct 3rd – 100 Debates
- Oct 4th – RWLE/SV Call
- Oct 7th – 11th – Mental Health Week
- Oct 8th – Jack.org Talk
- GOTV BOSS presentation
- Peer Support Mtg w SSC