It has been a pleasure working with all of you this year! For those of you who are not graduating this term I will see you back on campus (hopefully) in Fall 2020 and for those who are, CONGRATULATIONS on completing your degree 😊

Updates

1. Transition
   I have been working with the incoming VPCE, Tino Dogo, to ensure he is adequately prepared for his new role starting May 1 through Skype calls and the preparation of many transition documents. I have no doubt he will be exceptional in this role and I look forward to seeing what he achieves. UMSU is in great hands 😊

2. Marketing/Engagement
   Please help us spread the word, especially when there are important COVID-19 updates. Important posts to watch out for:
   - COVID-19 Updates
   - Online Climate Strike
   - Grade scenario series
   - Grading systems

3. COVID-19 Response
   All UMSU updates can be found on our website and social media pages. All University updates are being shared on the UMSU social media pages. Make sure to check your emails frequently so you don’t miss anything!

FAQs

Declaring Grading Options
   As of 04/20/2020 the University is still figuring out how students will declare the grading option they want to implement prior to May 10th. When this is decided all students will receive an email and UMSU will also promote this on our channels.

Summer Term Extra Fees
   As of 04/20/2020 we do not have an update on what fees will be implemented for the summer term (example: sports and recreation fee) since all summer courses will be conducted completely online until September at the earliest. If there is an update by the time we meet Thursday we will let you know and if not we will notify you as soon as we hear anything.

University Re-Opening
   As of 04/20/2020 we have not received any word on when the University will be re-opening. We will notify you when we hear anything but for the time being UMSU staff are still working remotely and are accessible via email and all businesses remain closed.
4. **Online Climate Strike Info**

You’re invited to participate and help get the word out for a safe & socially distant climate action: *Make Some Noise for the Climate* on Friday, April 24. Organized by the Manitoba Energy Justice Coalition and Manitoba Youth for Climate Action.

On April 24th, 2020, we believe we can once again make history and work together to show the world what our collective actions can accomplish, embracing a joyful vision of a greener, healthier, more equitable, and community minded planet amidst a global pandemic which has forced us apart. Uniting in care and compassion for our Earth is more important than ever. We intend on making history.

There are many different ways your organization can participate:

**Before April 24:**

- **🗣 Spread the word!** Ask your workplace, colleagues, family and friends to participate; and recording.
  Invite them to the Facebook event: [https://www.facebook.com/events/2308429086116109/](https://www.facebook.com/events/2308429086116109/)
- **💚 Wearing a green circle** for the month of April, or all the time
- **🎨 Create for the cause** (banners, songs, Green New Deal-themed knitwear, surprise us, your needed!)
- **$ Donate to the cause:** benenergyjustice.org/donate_to_manitoba_youth_4_climate

**April 24, 10–11 a.m.**

- **🚶 Walk out of your home or workplace to play the music**
  - **🎶 Blast our music** as loud as you can, wherever you are on April 24 at 10:15 a.m. Tune in to play the recording! Have your noise makers, pots/pans, instruments, and songs at the ready - and listen for instructions from the radio! Let’s turn up the volume for climate action!
- **[,] Share a recording** and spread the word about #ClimateStrikeOnline actions on social media.
  Suggested script below:
  “I am a University of Manitoba undergraduate student. I have been an environmentalist who wants to stop climate change from getting too far out of hand since before I first enrolled at the University of Manitoba years ago. While the university may be closed, we still encourage you to do the right thing and stand up for a reason- and compassion-based climate policy.”

To receive updates please sign up! [https://www.mbenergyjustice.org/april_24_strike_pledge](https://www.mbenergyjustice.org/april_24_strike_pledge)

5. **Stats Canada Survey**

Many questions have been raised about the impact of COVID-19 on post-secondary students to address this information need, Stats Canada is conducting a short survey from April 19th to May 1, 2020. Tell them how COVID-19 has affected your life as a post-secondary student here: [https://www.statcan.gc.ca/eng/survey/household/5320](https://www.statcan.gc.ca/eng/survey/household/5320) Results will shed light on the educational, employment, and financial impacts of COVID-19 on post-secondary students in Canada.

6. **CRA Info**

The Canada Revenue Agency (CRA) is still closely monitoring the situation around the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) and the [guidance](https://www.canada.ca) provided by the Public Health Agency of Canada. Our top priority is the health and safety of Canadians, our partner organizations, and our employees.
Please refer to the below-noted links for CRA resources related to the COVID-19 Pandemic:

Extra Canada Child Benefit and GSTC payments that will come out to families who qualify: 

Canada Emergency Response Benefit (for people who are unable to work due to COVID 19): 

Information regarding student loans: 
https://www.csnpe-nslsc.canada.ca/en/what-is-new

Scams (let’s try to make sure nobody gets taken advantage of): 

CRA phone numbers and hours of service: 
https://www.canada.ca/en/revenue-agency/corporate/contact-information.html

Just a reminder that the filing deadline for personal income tax has been changed from April 30th to June 1st.