New Updates:

Orientation

Tino and I have been meeting regularly with Brandy Usick and Sarah Saunders from the University’s Student Life office to plan orientation and what that will look like virtually come September 2020. A few initiatives we’ve been discussing:

1. Welcome packages for first year students in place of the orientation gift bags UMSU usually distributes. Since this is going to be more expensive than it has been in previous years, we are partnering with the university to collaborate on small welcome packages to mail out to domestic students within Canada. Items in these packages may include:
   - Informational brochures and pamphlets (on behalf of UMSU and UM)
   - Faculty-specific merchandise (pending response from faculties)
   - UMSU welcome card, personally signed by an executive
   - Pens, chapstick, coupons, lanyards, stickers, or any other small items

We are also looking to find an online alternative to sending out these packages that we can offer to students outside of Canada, as mailing out these packages internationally and overseas will cost a lot of money, but we want to still find a way to give something to new students outside of Canada to help welcome them to the U of M community.

2. UM Commons website contribution from UMSU: The U of M is introducing a new online orientation platform and has reached out and asked if UMSU (specifically me) would like to put together some information to have in a specific section of their website. This will primarily include information about student clubs and community involvement on campus, but we’re also looking into creating an interactive personality quiz that would direct students towards clubs that might be of interest to them. To help with organizing all of this information about clubs, I spent some time categorizing all of UMSU’s 206 student clubs into 15 different categories, and have forwarded that list to Brandy and Sarah.

Also as an addition to UM Commons and to help advertise the different categories of student groups and clubs on campus, Brandy has suggested we reach out to clubs and ask that at least one club from each category create a short video clip talking about the category their club is associated with, and the importance of that community on campus as well as how first year students can get involved, even during this time of remote learning and online engagement. I have already reached out to clubs about this, and I have gotten quite a few clubs expressing interest so far, so it’s looking like this will be something we will also be implementing on the UM Commons page.
Campaign Planning

We have a few campaign planning initiatives in the works right now:

Get Involved:

This campaign will be entirely online and will be spread out over the course of 5 days, Monday-Friday. We will be featuring 3 categories of student clubs every day, as well as posting 2 poll questions daily that students can participate in in order to be entered into a draw to win one of two $100 bookstore gift cards. We will announce the winners of the gift cards at the end of the campaign. We will also be hosting a student clubs livestream on the @myumsu Instagram account to highlight some specific clubs on campus and do a live Q&A with some club executives. I’ve emailed all student clubs and associations asking about interest in participating in this, and set the deadline for this Friday, and I’ve already received quite a few responses! This will be a 2 part livestream, taking place on the Wednesday and Thursday of the week.

UMSU Does That:

The purpose of this campaign is mainly to highlight the services and resources that UMSU provides for students. This will likely be done primarily through social media and online graphics, more to come!

Healthy Sexuality Month: September 1st, 2020 – September 21st, 2020

We are in the very early stages of planning this campaign, but my initial idea before COVID was to have some kind of expo in the UC MPR. Since we can’t do that now, the UMSU Marketing team has brainstormed a really great idea that will likely be implemented in the form of a new interactive page on the UMSU website. The layout will be similar to what a tabling expo would look like in MPR, and each table when clicked on will display info about online session times, as well as some background information about the group in the form of a short audio clip. We will be organizing live online info sessions for each group, likely over Skype or Zoom, that students can attend at their own leisure, and we are working on ways to encourage students to attend and considering having a prize entry incentive for students who attend a certain number of sessions.

Below is a list of groups and organizations (that I have not reached out to yet) that I am hoping to involve in this campaign:

- Red Frogs
- Human Rights and Conflict Management
- Rainbow Resource Centre
- Rainbow Pride Mosaic
- Klinic Community Health
- Justice for Women
- UMCRAFT
- Student Counselling Centre
- Student Support Case Management
- Student Advocacy
- Sexual Violence Resource Centre
- Security Services
- Residence Life & Residence Security
- UMSU Vice President Advocacy
- Bringing in the Bystander
- Possibly the Sex Crimes Unit of the Winnipeg Police
- Sunshine House

If anyone has any additions to this list in mind, please email me and let me know! We want to involve as many people as possible and make this as educational for students as we can. In the past, this campaign has been limited to education surrounding consent culture, which is SO important, but I also am wanting to incorporate education surrounding sexual orientations and gender identities this year, amongst highlighting the sexual violence reporting process both on and off campus, and streamline the resources available to students within our communities.
At some point during the campaign period I would also like to have a speaker series, and incorporate this as well!

**Continuing Updates:**

**Holiday Hampers**

So obviously due to COVID, we will not be able to continue with Holiday Hampers as we have in the past, however we are going to do our best to turn this initiative into something that will work to still support students in need during these times.

We have thought more along the lines of “Easter” or “Spring Hampers” instead, but regardless of what time of year we distribute these hampers, we have been brainstorming some fundraising initiatives to help raise money for the hampers since we will not be able to safely collect donations in the ways we have in the past. Some of these ideas include:

- Virtual Raffles or 50/50 Draws
- Executive Pie Throwing
- Virtual Chase the Ace
- Virtual Bingo
- TED Talk Style Event
- Virtual Talent Show
- Virtual Open Mic Night
- Virtual Paint/Craft Night
- Free Digital Download with Donation
- Virtual Online Shopping Sale
For prizes, we’ve been looking at things like:
- AirPods
- Bookstore Gift Cards
- Grocery Store Gift Cards
- Bumble Merchandise
- Therma Gift Certificate
- Gift Certificate(s) to UMSU Businesses

That’s where we’re at with hampers for now, will keep everyone updated as we move forward!

Projects:

REES
This project was presented to the Sexual Violence Steering Committee last month, and a sub-committee has been created within SVSC to help present recommendations moving forward with this initiative, and whether it will become something that the committee formally recommends to the University of Manitoba. I am a member of this sub-committee and have presented my opinions and thoughts about the REES program to fellow members. UMSU has formally recommended to SVSC that this be taken on by the U of M and personally, this is something I’m extremely passionate about and I hope the U of M chooses to move forward with REES as an online sexual violence reporting program on campus.

External Events and Meetings Attended:
*This excludes all meetings internal to the organization

June 18 – PEP-AH Western Regional Team Meeting
June 18 – CCR Informational Meeting
June 19 – Orientation Planning Meeting with Student Affairs
June 19 – Interview with the Manitoban about UM Photo Club
June 19 – Discussion with Justice for Women RE: Yearly Initiatives
June 22 – Meeting with Laurie Schnarr RE: Remote Learning
June 23 – Canadian Federation of Students
June 23 – UMSU/Photo Club Discussion
June 24 – Campus Study Spaces Meeting
June 24 – Red Frogs X PEP-AH Discussion with Tammy Jung
July 3 – Meeting with Student Affairs RE: Welcome Packages
July 6 – Nimbus Learning Meeting
July 6 – Student Hardship Meeting
July 8 – COCA Regional Meeting
July 14 – NCTR Dialogues: Sharing Survivor Perspectives Online Event
July 14 – Meeting with Student Affairs RE: Welcome Packages and Student Communities
July 15 – Sexual Violence Steering Committee Meeting
July 15 – Finance Committee Meeting
July 17 – Meeting with Laurie Schnarr RE: REES and Remote Learning Time Zones
July 20 – Member Services Committee Meeting