



### New Updates

- EDI and Community Reps:
  - o After our last board meeting, Tracy and I reached out individually to every community representative to invite them for an appointment with us to discuss individual community support
  - o The only way that we can continue to make UMSU more equitable and supportive of individual communities, is if we hear directly from those communities on what we can be doing better to support them!
  - o If anyone on the board has additional concerns that their faculty or community would like to provide, I would love for you to email me!! I would love to arrange a meeting to discuss what we can do to better advocate and support you!
  - o To anyone I have already spoken to, Carly will be looking to schedule these meetings! All that I ask is that you come prepared with some issues you would like UMSU to tackle and we can work together to find good solutions or efforts we can take!
- Healthcare rally:
  - o Huge shoutout to all involved with the MAPSS rally last week!!
  - o Kunal, Victoria and Ivan, among many others, put in a tremendous amount of work and I could not be prouder of them!
    - Round of applause please!!!!
- Statements:
  - o Iran
    - The executive team, as well as Kunal - our international student rep, Christine – our Womens rep and several Iranian students, all worked together to create a staetment in support of students affected by the murder of Zhina Amini in Iran
    - However, statements are often not enough, so in addition to a statement, we created a letter that students were able to send to their professors, explaining why they would be taking advantage of the UM Student Absence Policy, and provided it to students
    - We also connected with the UM administration to ask for fee extensions, this has been formally approved and any student who is experiencing financial stress due to the events in **Iran has been automatically approved for a deferral on their tuition and student fees!!**
    - Also, at the request of Kunal, I connected with UMFA to urge them to send you a letter to their members asking them to be compassionate towards Iranian and international students right now.
      - They sent out an email recently and they included that message!! This is another great step towards supporting our Iranian student community through this tough time!
  - o Death of the Queen
    - The statement has been drafted and we sent it out for feedback on Tuesday so that people could be prepared for the meeting when it was being presented to the board.
    - Due to people on the board having concerns about us posting a statement like this without board approval, we were forced to delay its publication until the board could provide feedback and an official vote could be had.
  - o Truth and Reconciliation release
    - We put out a statement surrounding the national day for truth and reconciliation.



**TO:** UMSU Board of Directors  
**FROM:** President, Jaron Rykiss  
**DATE:** October 6<sup>th</sup>, 2022  
**RE:** **Report to the Board, October 2022**

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- We included Ishkode in the drafting process and wanted to stress that this was not a statement, but a call to action
  - We included many things that students could get involved with throughout the day and weekend, as well as some more information surrounding the importance of the day.
- SEUM Community Cleanup Event
    - We spent the afternoon cleaning up everywhere from Lakeshore Park, to Bison drive. Picking up everything from empty Tim's cups, to shopping receipts and plastic bags!
    - According to [@cbcmantoba](#), "The City of Winnipeg website notes that between 2011 and 2016, waste collection on a per capita basis decreased by 22 per cent, while recycling and composting had both increased, with composting statistics rising by 221 per cent." We cannot be complacent about our city! Trash on the side of the road can suffocate natural plant and animal life, destroying the environment of our city!

### Continuing Updates

- ISHC Update:
  - Victoria, I am sure we will discuss more about the campaign, but I wanted to provide a small update
  - Ran into Madhur Sharma the other day and he tried to allude to the fact that the minister would be uninterested in providing International Students with proper access to healthcare
    - I made it very clear that we have to keep advocating for such and pushed back when he said "international students have healthcare"
    - We cannot accept the bare minimum as the maximum!! Not to mention the fact that international students under MISHP have subpar access to healthcare of a private nature and it costs them lots of money! This is unacceptable!
  - I also have drafted a letter to President Benarroch, asking that he give us a letter of support for international student healthcare, and will be providing a template that he can use or follow when writing his own letter!
    - Hopefully he will participate in this with us!
- CASA September E-plenary
  - Attended a virtual plenary for CASA alongside Victoria to approve policies alongside the CASA membership
  - Some of the followings were:
    - **A13: ACCESSIBILITY FOR INDIGENOUS LEARNERS**
      - Topic 1: Incorporating Truth and Reconciliation Commission Recommendations
      - Topic 2: Supporting Indigenous Institutes of Higher Learning and Indigenous Researchers
      - Topic 3: Ethics of Future Research and Policy Development
      - Topic 4: The Post-Secondary Student Support Program
      - Topic 5: The University and College Entrance Preparation Program
      - Topic 6: The Post-Secondary Partnerships Program
      - Topic 7: Indigenous Skills and Employment Training Program
      - Topic 8: A University of the North in Inuit Nunangat Summary of Recommendations



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- These policies will inform CASAs approach to federal advocacy and help us plan our asks for advocacy week next month
- They were drafted by the CASA National Indigenous Advisory Committee (NIAC) and the CASA policy director, Tara.
- **CFS update:**
  - Referendum scheduled for October 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup>
  - No new update on the Lawsuit at all – spoke to Richard (UMSU Legal counsel), he will let us know when there is additional information
  - We have purchased our tickets for the CFS conference in November, we are hoping to present the results of our referendum (in hopes that they will accept it!!)
    - It will be the full exec team and Kunal, our international student representative, attending the conference with us!
  - We will also hopefully put forward a motion surrounding online voting (which we have presented to CFS twice now, and it has been ignored both times!

#### **External Events & Meetings Attended**

1. Indigenous student's month coordination meeting with Ishkode – Sept. 23<sup>rd</sup>
2. CASA September E-Plenary – Sept. 23<sup>rd</sup>
3. MAPSS ISHC Rally – Sept. 28<sup>th</sup>
4. UM Board of Governors meeting– Sept. 28<sup>th</sup>
5. NSA Truth and Reconciliation walk and ceremony – Sept. 29<sup>th</sup>
6. UMSU Truth and Reconciliation panel discussion – Sept. 29<sup>th</sup>
7. Social in Memorial of Darius @VW social club – October 1<sup>st</sup>
8. SEUM Community Clean up event – October 2<sup>nd</sup>
9. UMSU Mental health working group – Oct. 3<sup>rd</sup>
10. UMSU governance committee – Oct. 3<sup>rd</sup>
11. UM Senate – Oct. 6<sup>th</sup>
12. UMSU Exec and Community representatives meeting – Oct. 6<sup>th</sup>