



Introduction

Hello everyone! My name is Elishia Ratel (she/her) and I'm very honoured to be serving as your UMSU Vice President Community Engagement this year! The Fall Term has been one of learning and growth alongside UM departments and student groups as we navigate and adapt to new experiences this year. The priorities I have been focusing on include putting on a variety of events and campaigns to create a holistic and fun student lifestyle, supporting student associations in events and initiatives that engage their communities through mentorship, sponsorship, and marketing, and connecting with local partners to provide students with connections across the city. If you have any questions about my report or upcoming projects, please feel free to contact me at vpce@umsu.ca.

New Updates

May

Red Dress Day

- Created a mini social media campaign on May 5 to highlight the National Day of Awareness of Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls, otherwise known as Red Dress Day. The campaign included infographics on what Red Dress Day is as well as resources to support Indigenous communities.

Bison Walk-a-Thon for Childhood Cancer

- Volunteered with members of the Science Students' Association (SSA) at their Walk-a-Thon for childhood cancer on Saturday, May 28, 2022.

June

Pride Month

- June 1 at 9 am – Flag raising in front of University Centre
 - o Participated in the ceremony and provided refreshments courtesy of Degrees
- June 2 from 10 am to 2 pm – Tabling in University Centre
 - o Gave out resources on 2SLGBTQIA+ Health and connected with local organizations that support 2SLGBTQIA+ community members
- June 5 at 10 am – Winnipeg Pride Parade
 - o Helped organize and walk in the Winnipeg Pride Parade with the University of Manitoba
- June 23 at 6pm – Drag Queen Bingo at IQ's Café and Billiards
 - o Hosted a Drag Queen Bingo with Pride themed cocktails and mocktails and donuts courtesy of Oh Doughnuts
- Pride Month Giveaway
 - o Gave away 3 UMSU Pride cross-body bags every Friday during the month of June through a contest on our Instagram

Canadian Organization of Campus Activities (COCA) Conference



- Spent a week learning and networking with Student Unions across Canada to improve campus life through new ideas, activities, and supports available for students.

Welcome to the Herd

- Volunteered with Student Engagement and Success to help new students learn about campus life

August

Student Union Development Summit (SUDS)

- Met with student unions across the country to learn more about effective leadership and make meaningful connections with other leaders. I had the opportunity to share ideas and strategies to bring better events to our student body.

Mental Health Working Group

- An ongoing project with a group of students passionate about mental health and implementing systemic change and support to promote the betterment of mental health resources at our University

Inner City Campus

- Held orientation for the Inner City Campus and provided resources about UMSU and student supports available
- Connected with the Inner City Campus administration to provide them pronoun pins during our Pride Month Campaign
- Connected with the Inner City Campus administration to provide them with menstrual products

Bannatyne Campus

- Met with marketing administration to discuss how to better engage the Bannatyne campus
- Held free lunches on September 1st and November 3rd with more to come throughout the year

September

CSA Commerce Week

- Provided funding and support to continue a long-standing partnership with the CSA and their annual Commerce Week

UM Fall Orientation

- Helped facilitate the Welcome Day ceremony for first year students in collaboration with Student Engagement and Success

Bison Sports

- Entered into a partnership with Bison Sports to support their programming and maintain a healthy interdepartmental relationship with their staff and students

Bison Bash and Orientation

- Free Breakfasts
 - o Served free hot breakfast to students every day for a week



- Info Fair
 - o Hosted external vendors to provide students with information on how to get additional supports and to get engaged with different organizations throughout the year
- Quad Days
 - o Held outdoor lawn games on the Quad to foster a community where students can come and enjoy activities throughout the day.
 - o Had to cancel due to weather considerations from Wednesday-Friday, but still had henna tattoo artists inside UC.
- Karaoke Night
 - o One of our most popular nights that students showed high interest in. This has become a recurring monthly themed event.
- Movie Night
 - o Students voted to watch Mean Girls for our first movie night of the year. Snacks and drinks were available for purchase. Pivoted this event indoors due to weather considerations with the help of Bulldog Outdoor Movies.
- Night Market and Festival
 - o The Night Market had a steady flow of attendees throughout the night. We featured about 15 vendors and 9 local artists, with tons of support from students. We received a lot of positive feedback from the artists, showing interest in future events on campus.
 - o We worked with Eventlight to create the stage and atmosphere, which went above and beyond our expectations for the evening.
- Street Party
 - o Our first sold-out event took place on the 3rd Floor of UC (UMSU Street) in collaboration with our businesses. We hosted a Silent Headphone Disco in IQ's Café and Billiards and local DJ's and hip hop artists in VW Social Club. Additionally, we had The Happy Fits headline the evening.
- Concert
 - o The Concert at the Burton Cummings Theatre was cancelled due to low ticket sales. The uptake wasn't high enough for it to be worth the cost of putting it on. We saved a lot of money by cancelling and pivoting The Happy Fits to the Street Party, which students were much more interested in. This will further inform the events we choose to put on throughout the year.
- Sponsorship with RBC
 - o Each of the events featured in Bison Bash were sponsored by RBC, who generously donated a large portion of our funding for these events.

National Day for Truth and Reconciliation

- Held a panel discussion on September 29th with Julie Albert, John Morriveau, and Ivana Yellowback to share what truth and reconciliation really looks like and how we can best uplift the Indigenous community. Catering for this event was provided by a local Indigenous restaurant, Feast Café and Bistro.
- Provided funding and support for the NSA Truth and Reconciliation walk and participated in their event.



ICM Orientation

- Tabled in Engineering and provided information and resources to ICM students

International Students Orientation

- Created a presentation to provide information and resources to new international students.

UM Residence Orientation

- Tabled on the Quad and gave away swag and information about UMSU to students living in residence.

MSA Mosque Reopening

- Spent an evening in community with the Muslim Students' Association to celebrate the reopening of their Mosque on campus.

October

Healthy Sexuality

- Held Sexy Sexual Health Trivia with Samantha Bitty with prizes and information for Healthy Sexuality Week
- Created a series of info posts on topics relating to sexual health for men, women, and 2SLGBTQIA+ individuals.

Instagram Account

- In early October, our Instagram account was hacked and further removed. In light of this event, we have created a new account @studentsofumsu, where we have and will continue to be posting all of our content. We highly encourage you to follow this account to stay up to date with what's going on at UMSU.

Malpractice

- On October 28th, we held our Malpractice Halloween Social in the MPR. We featured a local DJ, had a costume contest and door prize available for attendees.

Karaoke Night

- On October 25th, we held our second Karaoke Night of the year with a Halloween theme.

Pumpkin Carving

- Held a pumpkin carving event on October 27th for students to participate in a hands on, fun craft for Halloween.

November

Indigenous Students' Month

- Open Mic Night—November 1st from 8pm-10pm in VW Social Club
 - o A space for Indigenous comedians, slam poets, musicians, etc. to come and share entertainment



TO: UMSU Membership
FROM: VP Community Engagement, Elishia Ratel
DATE: December 2022
RE: **AGM Report, Fall 2022**

- Cost: \$5 with proceeds going to the ISM Bursary
- Speaker Night—November 14th from 5:00pm-7:00pm in the MPR
 - Keynote speech and Drag performance by Chelazon
 - Catering from Feast Café and Bistro
 - Cost: Increased to \$10 with a portion of the proceeds going to the ISM Bursary
- Indigenous Celebration and Market—November 25th from 5pm-8pm in the MPR
 - Local market with Indigenous vendors, dancers, drummers, and musicians
 - Cost: Free!

Canadian Federation of Students

- Spent a week campaigning for the CFS-UMSU Referendum, participating in tabling, class talks, and social media engagement.
- Attended the CFS National General Meeting in Ottawa to present our referendum results, which did not go to closing plenary due to unrelated reasons.

Holiday Hampers

- The Annual UMSU Holiday Hamper program has been in existence over 15 years and provides assistance to students and their families over the holiday season. For many years, we have provided hampers filled with food and toys for our members and have recently revitalized the program to better suit the needs of our students. This year, we will be providing gift cards as well as toy and hygiene hampers for students to create a hamper personalized for their family.
- This year, we had four tiers of Holiday Hamper packages:
 - Package A – \$150 (1 person)
 - Package B – \$250 (2-3 people)
 - Package C – \$350 (4-5 people)
 - Package D – \$450 (6+ people)
- With the help of our student clubs, associations, and corporate and community partners, we collected donations both in-person at the UMSU Service Centre (101 UMSU University Centre) and online through our website for toys for children of all ages, hygiene products and toiletries, menstrual products, and monetary donations.
- Our fundraising efforts have been fairly successful this year and we encourage you to still donate online through our website.

December

Movie Night

- Held a holiday movie night on December 1st in the Fireside Lounge on the 1st floor of UC to fundraise for Holiday Hampers. The selected movie was Elf with snacks available for purchase with all proceeds going to Holiday Hampers.

Holiday Karaoke Night

- A holiday take on Karaoke Night at VW Social Club on December 2nd with the cover charge being a \$2 donation to Holiday Hampers or a new toy or hygiene product.



University
of Manitoba
**STUDENTS'
UNION**

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Photos with Santa

- Photos with Santa on December 5th and 6th on the 1st Floor of UC to capture some holiday memories for students and their friends while raising funds for Holiday Hampers. Both digital and physical copies of photos were available for purchase.

Winter Orientation

- Currently planning 3 events for Winter Orientation that feature a number of different ways to engage students on campus in creative ways. The creation of these events are based on feedback from previous events held in the Fall Semester. Stay tuned for more information to be released in January.

Summary

Thank you for all your feedback and engagement in the fall semester! It's been a busy term filled with many learning experiences and I'm always looking for ways to improve and better connect with communities on campus. If you need help planning events or are looking for support from UMSU, please don't hesitate to reach out to me at vpce@umsu.ca.