

TO: UMSU Board of Directors **FROM:** President, Jaron Rykiss **DATE:** January 26th, 2023

RE: Report to the Board, January 2023

New Updates

- UMSU Student Guide

- Renamed international student guide
- o Reasoning for this, is that while the guide is focused towards international students, it also has information that could be valuable for domestic students.
- Continuing to focus on ensuring as much information is available to help new students to the province/university
- Started working on the look and feel of the guide!
- UM Strategic planning committee
 - Showed an environmental scan of the country, seeking areas where the UM succeeds, and where it could do better
 - o Concerns of DEI were brought up, looking to have them be incorporated as well
 - o Conversation surrounding micro-credential implementation at the university
- Direct Trade conversation with Aramark
 - I had said that the process of looking into fair trade/direct trade certification was on hold, however, I had a meeting with Christie Nairn from sustainability as well as a representative from Aramark to discuss this.
 - o Aramark seemed interested in looking at how to implement the changes
 - Project isn't dead yet!
- Manitoban Paper Waste sustainability concern
 - Each week, I have noticed that hundreds upon thousands of papers from the Manitoban are not picked up, this is a huge sustainability concern. I emailed the Editor in Chief as well as Christie Nairn and we are looking to have a meeting to figure out what UMSU can do to help cut down on this paper waste!
 - Potential solutions
 - Promotion of the Manitoban
 - Supports to help recycle the paper waste
 - Etc.
- Grad Photos concern
 - o A student had reached out to me a couple of months ago concerned that the University hires a contractor from Vancouver with poor ratings online to take grad photos at convocation
 - I sat down with Jeff Adams from the registrar's office to have a conversation about this
 - The university does not pay any money to hire this contractor, the only money exchanged is by students purchasing their photos
 - The photographers hired by this company are usually local, meaning that even though it is a Vancouver based company that the support stays in Manitoba as well!
 - Suggested that we should ask students what they want to see, potentially survey them after this spring graduation
 - If they are happy, great! If students want a change, then Jeff agreed to look for a new provider.
- UMSU EDI Audit meeting
 - We had a meeting on Monday with an organization which looks into organizations to point out areas where DEI can be improved.
 - o I want to ensure that we have a group look into our bylaws to ensure that they are inclusive and support the wider community
 - More updates to come soon
- BOD appointee removal process



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• When I ran, I promised to make it easier to remove an executive who isn't doing their job, Sophie and I began working this week on that process.

- I asked for consultation from many schools around the country, to learn what they do and what works for them
- Looking to bring this to governance committee and then to the board for approval as soon as it is ready!

Continuing Updates

- MHWG
 - o Working on our recommendations for next year
 - o Changing the weekday of the meetings
 - Looking to create a yearend wrap up post to show students what was worked on and help with transition
- Community rep and student association meetings
 - Meetings with:
 - Alex, Christine, ASBC and more!
 - ASBC issue with missing funds. Working with their leadership and the university security services to ensure that this is handled properly
 - o IF YOU HAVE NOT SCHEDULED A MEETING WITH ME, PLEASE DO!!!! LET'S TALK!
- ISAP
 - Still looking for submissions
 - If you know anyone who identifies as indigenous and creates artwork, please ask them to apply!!
 - o Potentially looking into hosting a gala to auction off the work at the end of the year
 - Started the planning process
- Pre budget submission
 - o Continuing to work on UMSUs pre budget submission to the university
 - Areas of focus: Student mental health supports, waste management on campus, security services, Food bank and student supports, and potentially some work on international student aid

External Events & Meetings Attended

- Friday Jan 13th
 - o Class talks
 - CASA national Advocacy meeting
 - o ith UMFM
 - o Meeting with Charli
- Monday Jan 16th
 - o UMSU audit review meeting
 - o MHWG
- Tuesday Jan 17th
 - o CASA operating procedures consultation
 - o Bell Grant Announcement
 - Note: I do not support Bell-Lets-Talk due to its issues in the past. However, I was invited personally and wanted to be present to see what the announcement was.
 - ISAP Gala Planning meeting



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- o BOG FAHR
- o UMSU Karaoke Night
- Wednesday Jan 18th
 - Strategic Planning Committee
 - Aramark Meeting
 - o CJOB interview
- Thursday Jan 19th
 - $\circ \quad BAC-UM$
 - o Meeting with Alex
 - o ASBC Meeting Funds concern
 - o Meeting with Laurie Schnarr
 - o Governance committee
- Friday Jan 20th
 - o Meeting with Christine
 - o Meeting with Jeff Adams (registrar's office)
 - o UMSU Headphone Disco
- Monday Jan 23rd
 - o EDI Audit meeting
 - o Meeting with Michael U1SC
- Tuesday Jan 24th
 - o Meeting with ASBC
 - o FPC consultation
 - o Interview with UM-PreLaw
 - MAPSS Meeting
- Wednesday Jan 25th
 - o Anti-oppression workshop
 - o UMSU Student guide meeting
 - o Accessibility community assembly