



**TO:** UMSU Board of Directors  
**FROM:** VP Advocacy, Victoria Romero  
**DATE:** January 12<sup>th</sup>, 2023  
**RE:** **Report to the Board, January 2023**

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## **New Updates**

### **Master of Applied Human Nutrition (MAHN) Dietetic Practicum Program.**

This proposed program (MAHN) was approved by all levels of the University and was sent to the province for approval in March 2022. The proposal has been under review by the province for eight months, and has yet to be approved. The current Manitoba dietetic practicum, *Manitoba Partnership Dietetic Education Program*, was funded by and offered through the Winnipeg Regional Health Authority. The plan was to transition the dietetic practicum to the University of Manitoba where it would become an integrated applied master's level practicum program. This would allow students to not only obtain a master's degree and the dietetic practicum training required to become a dietitian in Manitoba but also gain a competitive edge with dietitians and schools across other provinces, many of which are changing to this model.

The uncertainty of dietetics practicum training in Manitoba has caused significant distress for students who invested four years into obtaining an undergraduate degree with the understanding that they could apply for dietetic practicum training within the province.

We have raised correspondence with Minister Jon Reyes about this issue, and have requested an urgent meeting with him to discuss the approval of this program. We also contacted President Michael Benarroch and requested that he please send a letter to Minister Reyes urging the approval of the program as well.

### **Menstrual Products on Campus**

Currently working on an initiative to have menstrual products provided on campus. We are awaiting an update from University of Manitoba Administration to see where the project status is at right now. The main concern with this initiative is the need to find a way to supply menstrual products in a fiscally sustainable way. However, UM Administration has been very cooperative and willing to work with us on this so far, and we hope this collaborative energy will continue to flow. We are hoping to be able to provide a more concrete update by next BOD meeting.

## **Continuing Updates**

### **International student healthcare**

We are steadfast in our advocacy for the reinstatement of healthcare coverage for international students. Our proposal has been tabled with the provincial special immigration committee. Currently, we are working to set up a meeting between UMSU, Minister Jon Reyes and Shared Health to discuss this pressing issue more in depth.

### **Harm Reduction**

On various days during the weeks of December 5-9 and 12-16 2022, we tabled in UC to hand out safer snorting/smoking/injecting kits. We distributed over 50 kits!



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Our harm reduction display inside the Flex Space in University Centre (located near the main UC doors , across from the UMSU offices) was also a success. The space is still set up if you would like to check it out before it is taken down.

For those looking to learn more about harm reduction, there is a virtual seminar on fentanyl safe supply (register at the link below):

*Join the SAFER Knowledge Translation & Exchange (KTE) team from AVI Health and Community Services to discuss early learnings from implementing prescribed fentanyl as a safer supply option.*

*This panel discussion includes an introductory presentation on outcomes, opportunities, successes, and failures of prescribed fentanyl safer supply.*

*Following the presentation, the interdisciplinary team of pharmacists, support worker, prescribers, and nursing will share their own unique perspectives via a panel discussion facilitated by Corey Ranger.*

*This is a public webinar and anyone can attend! A question and answer period will follow the presentation. Audience members may submit questions using the Q & A box.*

*Close captioning in English and French simultaneous oral translation will be provided.*

*Register at this link:*

*[https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_aXfZCC8tTOK6eLYCtpEFQA?fbclid=PAAaYIH74LvRvVO3EAPAWK7Q0wRm571Ef2rIWV535HNTPh8M\\_XmTzJG24EmEs](https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_aXfZCC8tTOK6eLYCtpEFQA?fbclid=PAAaYIH74LvRvVO3EAPAWK7Q0wRm571Ef2rIWV535HNTPh8M_XmTzJG24EmEs)*

### **Manitoba Alliance of Post-Secondary Students (MAPSS)**

MAPSS will be visiting each of our member campuses in the next coming weeks. We will be onsite at each of our member schools to host phone calling & letter/email writing banks where students will be able to write or call Ministers using given templates /scripts for various Post-Secondary education related topics such as :

- Ensuring adequate funding of provincial operating grants for post secondary institutions in manitoba
- Opposing Performance Based Funding metrics in accountability frameworks
- Imposing a cap on co-op fees for international students
- Reinstating healthcare coverage for international students
- More robust funding and further implementation of Open Educational Resources (OERs) ((which can be done through increased funding of provincial operating grants))



University  
of Manitoba  
**STUDENTS'  
UNION**

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### **Anti-Violence**

In order to truly foster inclusivity & safe spaces for all, we must continue to educate ourselves every day! Students For Consent Culture Canada will be hosting a series of “Beyond Consent” monthly webinars which will serve to train, educate and inspire individuals & organizations in the fight to end violence.

The webinar for this month is : *Disability Justice and Anti Violence*

It will focus on the intersection of disability Justice and anti violence organizing, how we can make anti-violence work more accessible, and how we can integrate differently abled perspectives into anti-violence advocacy and community care.

It will be taking place on January 25<sup>th</sup>, 2023 at 12:00pm

You can register for the webinar at this link: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/beyond-consent-disability-justice-and-anti-violence-tickets-399848787487>

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

- January 5<sup>th</sup> 2023 : International Student Orientation
- January 6<sup>th</sup> 2023: New Student Orientation