



TO: UMSU Board of Directors
FROM: President, Jaron Rykiss
DATE: Feb 9th, 2023
RE: **Report to the Board, February 2023**

New Updates

- Digital Strategy committee
 - o New committee
 - o Discussing the plan to continue advancing the UM online and digital strategy
 - o Chaired by mark Torchia
 - o I brought up OERs as well as started a discussion on the modernization of Aurora
- Period Product Pilot program
 - o Victoria, Christine, Myself and Laurie Schnarr. Have the official confirmation that the university is starting to provide period products to students in roughly 10 bathrooms across the Fort Garry, Bannatyne and William Norie UM Campuses.
 - o UMSU has been advocating for this advancement for the last several years, and we are so excited to know that we are able to provide this service to students!
 - o It is a pilot program, but we are hoping that it can continue on past next year, and be a resource for students to come!
- BOG – Southwood Development
 - o Update from UM Board of governors
 - Passed motion to begin investigating contractors to create the Southwood development
 - In the next roughly 40 years, the development will turn land next to the university into around 10,000 living spaces, stores, relaxation areas, and access points for transportation.
 - This is incredibly exciting!
- Meeting with President Benarroch and Laurie Schnarr
 - o Discussed
 - annual survey
 - International student healthcare
 - Nutrition and dietetics program
 - The Immigration committee of Manitoba
 - Student association concerns and more!
- Meeting around Indigenous Language courses
 - o Met with Ishkode, Carla Loewen, Carry Miller, and others
 - o Discussed the Indigenous Language Courses at UM and proposed the solution of moving those dates and times so that it works better for students
 - o They said that they are going to work on it internally and ask for support from UMSU when needed for consultation!

Continuing Updates

- Annual survey completed
 - o Finalized!
 - o Will be looking to create a report on the data to present to students and share with the administration
- Pre-Budget submission – submitted



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- We provided a pre-budget submission to the UM administration to influence where finances are spent this upcoming year.
- We used data from the Annual survey, as well as other student-engagement areas and created a proposal touching on student counselling supports, waste management, security supports, and more.
- Election – Nomination period
 - Nomination period is underway! Get involved, get running!!!
 - Make sure that if you are running, that you are respectful to everyone who you ask to sign your form, and that you don't force anyone to do so.
 - Also! Avoid pre-campaigning wherever possible!
 - Contact CRO@umsu.ca for any help with the process, or to request a package.
 - Also, we held our UMSU Executive training sessions this week! Thank you to everyone who came out and asked questions
 - Make sure to stop by the BIPOC and International student Panel discussion coming up!
 - This was a campaign promise for me! Happy to see it completed!
- Mental Health Working Group
 - We are working on our recommendations for next year, as well as a survey to send out to students which can be included in the UMSU mental health week campaign.
 - More information coming soon
- UMSU Student Guide
 - Going through documents and editing them
 - Connected with UMISO in order to gain perspective on what else needs to be included
- Student Association and Community Rep check in meetings
 - CHSA
 - Caleigh, Accessibility Rep
 - Christine, Womens Rep

External Events & Meetings Attended

- Friday Jan 27th
 - Meeting re: Indigenous Language Courses
 - Meeting with MSA: Mosque renovations
- Monday Jan 30th
 - Office hours
- Tuesday Jan 31st
 - Learning Teaching and student support (digital strategy committee)
 - CASA EDI Strategic planning meeting
 - UM Budget Advisory Committee
 - BOG
 - Endowment fund – BOT Meeting
- Wednesday Feb 1st
 - Meeting with Laurie Schnarr
 - Meeting with Caleigh
 - Governance Committee



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- Thursday Feb 2nd
 - o Meeting with President Benarroch and Laurie Schnarr
 - o Meeting with UMFH
 - o Meeting with UMISO
- Friday Feb 3rd
 - o CASA NAC Meeting
 - o Meeting with SOFASA
 - o Bison Sports Tabling
- Monday Feb 6th
 - o Meeting with CHSA
 - o Meeting with Ivan
 - o Mental Health Working Group
- Tuesday Feb 7th
 - o Meeting with Caleigh
 - o Meeting with Pitblado
 - o Meeting with Christine
 - o Meeting with Devin King
 - o UMSU President Information session
- Wednesday Feb 8th
 - o UM Strategic planning committee
 - o CTV interview – Southwood development
- Thursday Feb 9th
 - o Culture Event
 - o Winter Palooza in the quad
 - o Exec X Community rep meeting
 - o BOD Meeting