

TO: UMSU Board of Directors FROM: President, Jaron Rykiss

NATE: March 16, 2022

DATE: March 16, 2023

RE: Report to the Board, March 2023

New Updates

- UMSU Student Guide

- o First draft almost complete!
- o This is a huuuuge project and one that I am so happy to finally finish up
- o Hopefully will be out before end of the term

- Annual survey report

- o We have uploaded some key findings from our annual survey.
- Huge thank you to Sophie for creating all of the report and helping to make sure the data can be seen
- ° It will be available on the UMSU website around March 22nd

- UM Budget Advisory Committee

- o It has been announced that the UM will be receiving an increase of 10.8% to its budget for the year
- O This comes at a time when the PC, MB government is potentially looking to secure favour for the coming election
- o Regardless, this is welcome news
- O Tuition is going to be capped at 2.75% across the board, with no variance or discrepancy between the different university groups (be it: International students, part time students, etc.)
- o UMs budget going forward will hopefully account for any discrepancies in enrollment

- OERs and student financial aid

- o From UMSUs Pre-Budget submission, it has been tentatively confirmed that the university is going to be providing roughly an additional \$3 Million for Bursaries, and \$450,000 for OERs! (open educational resources)
- o This is a HUGE win!!

- Bisons Walkathon for Childhood Cancer

- SSA is working on their second annual walkathon for Childhood cancer, UMSU is hoping to partner and sponsor the event!
- o A preliminary meeting was held, and we are discussing internally what ways we can best support the event
- o I believe that the plan of eventually making it an UMSU event altogether is on the table, but for now, we want to support SSA in hosting their event as best we can!

Continuing Updates

- Mental Health Working group
 - o It is currently Mental Health Week!!
 - o UMSU put out our Mental health survey, which will help to inform the next UMSU team and our UM admin on the current state of student mental health on campus
 - o We are also working on our final report to the BOD regarding the work we have done this year.

- Land Acknowledgement Plaque

 Currently waiting on responses from local Indigenous artists who can help us to create the plaque.



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Hire A bison

- o Proposal in the works
- Finalizing details
- Going to provide it to the next Executive team, with hopes that they carry on the project!
- The results of the annual survey showed that a high percentage of students would use the platform
- o We now need to evaluate implementation!

Transition

- o Now that the eleciton is over, I will begin meeting with the newly elected team of UMSU executives to discuss transition
- o I have been preparing a document for a while now with information and important things that the president needs to know, and I hope to finish it in time to transition Tracy

CASA AGM

- This coming week, Victoria and I will be headed to Halifax for the CASA AGM, to wrap up the academic year, and discuss the organizations' plans for next year.
- We are looking forward to representing UMSU once again!
- Student Association meetings
 - Meeting with CHSA
 - o If you have not responded to my meeting, asking to sit down, please do!!! The term is almost up, and I want to make sure to include any important information in my transition.

Governance

- After the emergency Board meeting on monday, March. 13th, Governance committee will be looking at the requests made by the BOD
- o I look forward to sharing the points of interest with Governance committee and working to implement the proper changes to strengthen our elecitons process!

External Events & Meetings Attended

- March 2nd
 - o BOG meeting
 - o BOD meeting
- March 3rd
 - UMSU Student Guide meeting
 - o UM Art collections committee
- March 8th
 - o UM Budget Advisory Committee
 - o CASA NAC
 - o Residence Council Spaces meeting with UM Residence
 - Convocation Briefing
- March 9th
 - o UM Strategic Planning Committee



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- March 13th
 - o Meeting with Laurie Schnarr
- March 14th
 - o BOG Finance and Infrastructure committee
- March 15th
 - o Challenging our understanding on substance and addition presentation
 - Meeting with CHSA
 - o Bisons Walkathon for Childhood Cancer meeting
- March 16th
 - o UMSU Student Guide meeting
 - o UMSU Exec X Community reps meeting
 - o BOD Meeting