



TO: UMSU Board of Directors
FROM: VP Finance and Operations, Brook Rivard
DATE: March 2, 2023
RE: **Report to the Board, March 2023**

New Updates

Participatory budgeting

PB planning has begun! It will look very similar to how it was run last year, with students having the ability to put forward their ideas on how the \$10k or \$15k should be spent on their campus. After collecting these ideas, the most common ideas will be put onto simply voting for proper selection. At this same time, I am thinking of having an informal poll of students around the external fees that UMSU is charging under the UMSU fee. I feel that they are currently in a grey area for the expectation of “having a vote every 2 years for external partnerships” as outlined in the UMSU act, and that some of the expenses may no longer be desired by students. With it being an informal poll, no immediate changes will come from this, it will just serve as more information for the incoming team should they want to look at changing the fee structure.

Continuing Updates

3rd Floor art project

Some of the artists have completed their murals now. If you haven't already, go up to the third floor to check out their amazing work! The rest will be completing theirs when they can through the rest of the term. It was great to get such talented artists from across campus involved in this project, I hope that this project might be taken up again in the future as initially proposed.

Understanding fees

We have been able to track down what the unknown fees are going to. One that was unknown was the “world W.I.S.E” fee. We found that this is funding going to the international student center to help support the salary of student staff members, and is put towards the exchange program along with intercultural activities. The explanation of the fees is set to come out this following week, providing a brief understanding of each fee under the UMSU fee for where it's going/ what it is used for. This information will be available on the website going forward too, so students are able to find it easily if they are not engaged on social media.

External Events & Meetings Attended

- Feb 8th – Election Information session
- Feb 10th – World W.I.S.E discussion
- Feb 16th – Governance committee
- Feb 16th – Finance committee
- Feb 28th – Student care usage