



**TO:** UMSU Board of Directors  
**FROM:** VP Advocacy, Liam Pittman  
**DATE:** July 27, 2023  
**RE:** **Report to the Board, July 2023**

---

## **New Updates**

### **Canadian Alliance of Student Associations (CASA)**

The Canadian Alliance of Student Associations serves the purpose of lobbying on behalf of Post-Secondary education students to the federal government. This last week, I was able to attend the policy and strategy conference hosted in Fredericton New Brunswick at the University of New Brunswick. As a member of CASA's National Advocacy Committee, I was able to meet and consult with individuals involved in the administrative portion of federal student loans. I was able to present the need for an increase in the Canada Student Grant. CASA has set their top three advocacy strategies for the year which were, 1) Student Financial Aid, 2) Mental Health, 3) Student housing. We were also able to discuss and strategize CASA's plan for a continuation of the international student work-limit cap. Further, we were able to discuss and strategize fair-dealing in Canada, and strategize on the actions it will take going forward.

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

MAPSS has begun to restructure, a new board has been elected. Jagnoor Sandhu has been elected as MAPSS Secretary, Christopher Yendt has been elected as Vice Chair, and Liam Pittman has been elected as Chair. MAPSS is working on restructuring its constitution, as well as consulting with the board to determine our priorities and lobbying efforts for the year.

### **Student Advocacy Cases**

Student Advocacy Cases have been increasing, I have been working on multiple Student Advocacy Cases, while consulting with the Student Advocacy Office. I have completed two student advocacy cases that have resulted in optimal outcomes for the student and ensuring that they have fair and equitable representation.



**TO:** UMSU Board of Directors  
**FROM:** VP Advocacy, Liam Pittman  
**DATE:** July 27, 2023  
**RE:** **Report to the Board, July 2023**

---

### **Minister Jon Reyes**

Meeting with Minister Jon Reyes was very productive. We were able to discuss international student healthcare and express our desire to have the provincial government return to the previous model. We were also able to discuss the working hour cap for international students and were able to have Minister Reyes commit to writing a letter to the Federal Minister of Immigration Sean Fraiser, urging him to not revert to the 20 hour working cap.

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

- Convocation – June 9
- Senate Executive Committee – June 9
- Interdisciplinary Health Program Consultation - June 12 –
- Student Advocacy Consultation – June 13
- University of Calgary Document Consultation – June 14
- Student Senate Caucus – June 19
- Learning Teaching & Student Support Sub-Committee – June 20
- Senate – June 21
- Discovering Our Gifts – Indigenous Peoples Day Event – June 21
- Manitoba Alliance of Post-Secondary Students (MAPSS) Meeting – June 26
- Student Advocacy Consultation – June 26
- Board of Governors – June 26
- MAPSS meeting – July 4
- Meeting With Provost & Executive Lead, EDI – July 4
- Academic Misconduct Hearing – July 4
- MAPSS Executive Meeting – July 10
- July 13 – Land-Based Way-Finding Sign Ceremony – July 13
- Student Advocacy Consultation – July 13
- Meeting With Minister Jon Reyes – July 14
- Canadian Alliance of Student Associations Policy & Strategy Conference – July 16-21