



University  
of Manitoba  
**STUDENTS'  
UNION**

**TO:** UMSU Board of Directors  
**FROM:** VP Advocacy, Liam Pittman  
**DATE:** October 10, 2023  
**RE:** **Report to the Board, October 12, 2023**

---

## Updates

### Meeting with Chancellor Anne Mahon

I had the privilege of meeting with Chancellor Anne Mahon to establish a connection and discuss potential areas of collaboration. This meeting served as an important opportunity to introduce our student union and lay the foundation for future engagements.

### OER Implementation Discussion with Administration

I participated in a meeting with university administration to discuss the implementation of Open Educational Resources (OERs) at the University of Manitoba. During this meeting, we discussed the potential benefits of OERs, addressed concerns, and formulated strategies for their effective implementation. We also explored data collection methods to gauge the impact of this initiative on students and the uptake by faculty members.

### Moderated Debate in Collaboration with UPSSA

In collaboration with the University of Manitoba Political Science Student Association (UPSSA), I moderated a debate that was attended by all relevant parties. This event provided a platform for constructive discourse and exchange of ideas among students and political candidates. The debate was received by candidates and students alike.

### Committee on Admissions for Program Appeals

I attended a Committee on Admissions to determine the eligibility for an appeal for entrance to a specific program. This committee plays a crucial role in ensuring fairness and transparency in the admission process.

### Student Senate Caucus

The Student Senate Caucus convened to discuss the Senate agenda and various matters concerning student representation. During this meeting, we nominated Uche Nwanko to represent our student body on the Senate Executive Committee as a voting member, and Tristan Dobrowney as an assessor.



University  
of Manitoba  
**STUDENTS'  
UNION**

**TO:** UMSU Board of Directors  
**FROM:** VP Advocacy, Liam Pittman  
**DATE:** October 10, 2023  
**RE:** **Report to the Board, October 12, 2023**

---

### Canadian Alliance of Student Associations National Advocacy Committee

I attended a meeting of the National Advocacy Committee for the Canadian Alliance of Student Associations (CASA) to address key advocacy issues impacting students on a national level. Our participation in CASA allows us to contribute to meaningful change in post-secondary education at the federal level.

### Indigenous Students Working Group

I joined the Indigenous Students Working Group as a non-voting member, where we engaged in productive conversations and gained insight into Ishkode's vision for the year.

### Meeting with Vice-Provost Tina Chen

In a meeting with Vice-Provost Tina Chen and Alex, we discussed equity issues on campus. This conversation was instrumental in identifying areas where we can work together to enhance inclusivity and diversity within the university community and how we can collaboratively work together to ensure there is fair and equitable policies and procedures on campus.

### Grand Opening of the Student Wellness Centre

I attended the grand opening of the Student Wellness Centre and was impressed by its fantastic operation. The team is fantastic and I would recommend all of our board members to go and visit the facilities. They are incredibly accommodating and provide an opportunity for students to detach from the stressors of day-to-day campus life.

### Individual Student Advocacy

I have been able to assist students on specific student advocacy efforts. Ranging from administrative and policy level, to assistance with personal circumstances impacting their academic career. Some of these are ongoing and will continue on to different levels of escalation throughout our campus community.



University  
of Manitoba  
**STUDENTS'  
UNION**

**TO:** UMSU Board of Directors  
**FROM:** VP Advocacy, Liam Pittman  
**DATE:** October 10, 2023  
**RE:** **Report to the Board, October 12, 2023**

---

**Events and Meetings Attended:**

Arthur V. Mauro Memorial – Sept. 26  
Chancellor Mahon – Sept. 26  
Student Advocacy Case – Sept. 27  
Community Rep Meeting – Sept. 28  
Elections Tabling – Sept. 28  
Admissions Hearing – Sept. 29  
National Truth & Reconciliation Day Event – Sept. 29  
Student Senate Caucus – Oct. 03  
UMSU Does That Tabling – Oct. 03  
Black Student Rep. Meeting – Oct. 03  
Vice-Provost Chen – Oct. 04  
National Advocacy Meeting – Oct. 04  
Senate – Oct. 04  
Indigenous Students' Working Group – Oct. 04  
Student Advocacy Meeting – Oct. 05  
Student Wellness Centre Opening – Oct. 05  
UMSU Does That tabling – Oct. 05