



University of Manitoba **STUDENTS' UNION**

UMSU Board of Directors Meeting
November 30, 2023, 7:30pm
UMSU Council Chambers, 176 Helen Glass

Attendance:

Caleigh Guillou-Corimer, Accessibility Students' Representative
Ishkode Catcheway, Indigenous Students' Representative
Andrea Nguyen, International Students' Representative
Allisther De Castro, Racialized Students' Representative
Alex Rana, 2SLGBTQIA+ Students' Representative
Witta Irumva, Women's Students' Representative
Emily Katsman, Arts Student Body Council (ASBC)
Avery Groeneveld, Commerce Students' Association (CSA)
Brad McMechan, Education Students' Council (EDSC)
Tanvin Hossain, Faculty of Agriculture Students' Organization (FASO)
Nick Brzak, Interdisciplinary Health Program Students' Association (IHPSA)
Nathan Dueck, Manitoba Law Students' Association (MLSA)
Max Fidel, Manitoba Medical Students' Association (MMSA)
Miyansh Jhamb (proxy), Nursing Students' Association (NSA)
Krupa Mashru, Physical Education Recreational Kinesiology Student Council (PERKS)
Paul Houston, Science Students' Association (SSA)
Gary Hill, Social Work Students' Association (SWSA)
Macarena Izurieta, Society of Earth Sciences and Environmental Studies (SESES)
Andrea Tabing, Students' Architectural Society (SAS)
Charli Feener, Students of Fine Arts Student Association (SOFASA)
Victor Aderinto (proxy), University of Manitoba Engineering Society (UMES)
Sam Rubin, University of Manitoba Pharmacy Students' Association (UMPhSA)
Irtiza Zawad Ali, University 1 Student Council (U1SC)
Tracy Karuhogo, UMSU President
Liam Pittman, UMSU Vice-President Advocacy
Divya Sharma, UMSU Vice-President Community Engagement
Vaibhav Varma, UMSU Vice-President Finance and Operations
Christine Yasay, UMSU Vice-President Student Life
Thomas Blumer, UMSU General Manager
Lauren Slegers, UMSU Governance Administrative Coordinator
Teresa Sanchez, UMSU Policy and Strategy Advisor
Elbethel Masresha, UMSU Board of Directors Chairperson

Rohan Sethi, UMSU Judicial Board Chairperson
Michael Prokipchuk, UMSU Governance Committee Chairperson
Brendan Scott, UMSU Director of Bannatyne Operations
Christopher Yendt, University of Manitoba Graduate Students' Association (UMGSA)
Sharif McCurdy, St. Paul's College Students' Association
Sarah Cohen, The Manitoban
Kha Pham, Dev Club
Arion Kennedy, Dev Club
Victoria Romero, Student-at-Large
Matthew Lock, Student-at-Large
Marcus Lamont, Student-at-Large
Isham Behl, Student-at-Large
Sarah Pittman, Student-at-Large

DRAFT

Business

1. Call to Order

Meeting called to order at 8:42pm.

2. Land Acknowledgement

The University of Manitoba campuses and the UMSU offices are located on the original lands of the Anishinaabeg, Cree, Oji-Cree, Dakota, and Dene peoples, and on the homeland of the Métis Nation, and on the original lands of the Inuit. We want to acknowledge our part in the systemic oppression and colonization of the lands of these peoples, the harms that colonization has had on these lands, and the dangers of forgetting our part in colonization. We acknowledge that our water comes from Shoal Lake 40 First Nation, and our hydro from the hydro dams located in Treaty 5. UMSU would not be here without the Indigenous peoples who kept our lands safe and cared for. We dedicate ourselves to working harder every day to strengthen the relationship between ourselves and Indigenous communities. We acknowledge the harms and mistakes of the past, and those still occurring, and vow to move forward in partnership with indigenous leaders and communities in a spirit of reconciliation and collaboration.

3. Approval of Agenda

MOTION – BE IT RESOLVED THAT the agenda be approved as presented.

Moved by *Sam Rubin*, seconded by *Ishkode Catcheway*.

Motion carried.

4. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

a. November 9, 2023

MOTION – BE IT RESOLVED THAT the draft minutes from the Board of Directors meeting on November 9, 2023 are approved as presented.

Moved by *Avery Groeneveld*, seconded by *Emily Katsman*.

Motion carried.

5. Presentations

a. Victoria Romero

Victoria Romero, Student-at-Large, provides a presentation regarding ranked ballot voting. A copy of the PowerPoint and report are attached.

b. Budget Amendments

Vaibhav Varma, UMSU VP Finance and Operations, provides a presentation regarding motion 0586. A copy is attached.

6. Current Business

a. Motion 0584

WHEREAS the Board of Directors has tasked the Governance Committee with a review of the Election Manual of the University of Manitoba Students' Union.

WHEREAS the Governance Committee has performed consultation with UMSU stakeholders, including the Board of Directors.

WHEREAS the Governance Committee wishes to amend the Election Manual of the University of Manitoba Students' Union (see supporting documents with proposed changes).

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Directors approve the proposed amendments to the Election Manual of the University of Manitoba Students' Union by the Governance Committee.

Moved by *Governance Committee*

Michael Prokipchuk, on behalf of the UMSU Governance Committee, motivates the motion.

Motion – to amend the motion to:

- Make the following changes to the Appeals Committee Document
 - Change any word currently written as “renumeration” to “remuneration”.
 - In the Section “Remuneration of Appointees”, add “Should a voting member not complete their duties as outlined, and in full, an honorarium may not be awarded.”
- Make the following changes written in blue to the Election Manual, in addition to the original amendments written in red.

- Section XII: Campaigning as an Incumbent
 - 2. Candidates and Campaign Managers who have access to UMSU and/or Faculty Association resources not available to all Union Members including but not limited to email lists and office space will not have access to these resources during the campaign period.
- Section XXXIV: Results
 - a. If a compliant complaint or appeal is not resolved within the twenty-four (24) hours following the completion of voting the ballot count, the results may not be finalized.

Moved by *Governance Committee*

Michael Prokipchuk, on behalf of the UMSU Governance Committee, motivates the amendment.

Vaibhav Varma speaks in favour of the amendment.
Christopher Yendt comments on the motion.

Motion carried.

Avery Groeneveld speaks in favour of the motion.
Vaibhav Varma speaks in favour of the motion.

Motion carried as amended.

b. Motion 0586

WHEREAS the 2022-2023 UMSU Board of Directors approved an operating budget on March 28, 2023 that did not align with the internally circulated budget document.

WHEREAS this discrepancy has caused operational confusion and altered the projected end of year fiscal position.

WHEREAS UMSU is committed to supporting students who are experiencing financial hardship.

WHEREAS UMSU is dedicated to fiscal responsibility and balancing the operating budget where possible.

WHEREAS the Finance Committee shall have the power to oversee, the following, subject to motions of the Board:

- a. The preparation and presentation of the UMSU Budget.
- b. Approval of financial and audited statements.
- c. The exercise of any right attached to a security, and the acquisition and disposition of securities.
- d. Review employment of full-time staff and personnel matters relating to the Union.
- e. Scrutinize the financial affairs and the contractual obligations and benefits of the Union.
- f. Review quarterly the distribution of hardship funding to provide oversight to the program. Justifications of funding decisions may be compelled of the Vice President Student Life per the Finance Committee's discretion, provided that all information distributed to the committee is redacted to ensure the confidentiality of recipients, who will be noted only with an anonymous recipient number.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the UMSU Board of Directors approve the amendments to the 2023-2024 operating budget as presented.

Moved by *Finance Committee*.

Vaibhav Varma, on behalf of the UMSU Finance Committee, motivates the motion.

Avery Groeneveld speaks in favour of the motion.

Victoria Romero asks a question regarding the motion.

Motion carried.

c. Motion 0587

WHEREAS the UMSU Judicial Board is responsible for adjudicating on Complaints regarding the conduct of any elected or appointed UMSU directors, as well as the Appeal of any Motion passed by the UMSU Board of Directors;

WHEREAS the procedures for conducting Hearings are not clearly comprehensible due to inconsistent language used in the text of the UMSU Governance and Operations Manual, Section VII, Judicial Board, Procedure for Hearings;

WHEREAS the Judicial Board is unable to handle and resolve Complaints in a timely, methodical, and consistent manner due to the same;

WHEREAS the Governance Committee Chair and Judicial Board Chair are

continuing to work on Judicial Board reforms;

WHEREAS the Judicial Board is unable to wait for reforms to be enacted to address pending and prospective Complaints;

WHEREAS the Judicial Board has interpreted the procedures for conducting Hearings to be as follows:

29. Hearings for the determination of a Complaint against an elected or appointed member of the UMSU Executive, Board or Committees, as well as the Appeal of any Motion passed by the UMSU Board of Directors, may be conducted orally or by way of written submissions.
30. Written submissions shall be subject to a deadline, and any submissions received after the deadline shall be deemed inadmissible and shall not be considered by the Judicial Board.
31. The Complainant, Appellant or Respondent who choose(s) to submit their position orally, shall make such submissions at the commencement of the Hearing. The Complainant or Appellant shall present their submission first, followed by the Respondent.
32. Members of the Judicial Board may ask questions of the parties making written or oral submissions so as to obtain or seek the necessary clarification of issues or obtain such further and other information that they consider necessary to adjudicate the Complaint or Appeal

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Judicial Board be permitted to conduct Hearings in accordance with its interpretation of the procedures until formal amendments to the Governance and Operations Manual can be proposed to and duly enacted by the UMSU Board of Directors.

Moved by Judicial Board

Rohan Sethi, on behalf of the UMSU Judicial Board, motivates the motion.

Motion carried.

7. New Business

8. Reports of the Executive

a. President

UMSU President, Tracy Karuhogo, provides a summation of her written report, submitted to the Board of Directors as part of the November 30, 2023 Board meeting package.

b. VP Advocacy

UMSU VP Advocacy, Liam Pittman, provides a summation of his written report, submitted to the Board of Directors as part of the November 30, 2023 Board meeting package.

c. VP Community Engagement

UMSU VP Community Engagement, Divya Sharma, provides a summation of her written report, submitted to the Board of Directors as part of the November 30, 2023 Board meeting package.

d. VP Finance & Operations

UMSU VP Finance & Operations, Vaibhav Varma, provides a summation of his written report, submitted to the Board of Directors as part of the November 30, 2023 Board meeting package.

e. VP Student Life

UMSU VP Student Life, Christine Yasay, provides a summation of her written report, submitted to the Board of Directors as part of the November 30, 2023 Board meeting package.

9. Reports of the Community Representatives

a. Accessibility Students' Representative

No Report.

b. Black Students' Representative

No Report.

c. Indigenous Students' Representative

Indigenous Students' Representative, Ishkode Catcheway, provides a summation of her written report (attached to these minutes).

d. International Students' Representative

International Students' Representative, Andrea Nguyen, provides a summation of her written report (attached to these minutes).

e. Racialized Students' Representative

Racialized Students' Representative, Allisther De Castro, provided a written report submitted to the Board of Directors as part of the November 30, 2023 Board meeting package.

f. 2SLGBTQIA+ Students' Representative

2SLGBTQIA+ Students' Representative, Alex Rana, provides a summation of his written report, submitted to the Board of Directors as part of the November 30, 2023 Board meeting package.

g. Women-Identifying Students' Representative

Women-Identifying Students' Representative, Witta Irumva, provides a summation of her written report, submitted to the Board of Directors as part of the November 30, 2023 Board meeting package.

10. Reports of the Committees

a. Executive

Executive Committee reports that the UMSU offices will be closed from Saturday, December 16, 2023 until Tuesday, January 2, 2024, for the holiday break. They will open up again on Wednesday, January 3, 2024.

b. Finance

Finance Committee reports that committee members evaluated UMSU ventures applications, with the hope to have a student business start in January. Vaibhav delivered the new fiscal update presentation to the committee and will be presenting it to the Board at the December 14 meeting. Finance Committee reviewed and approved the budget amendments to come forward to the Board. The committee will be working with the Governance Committee following the motion passed at the December 9 Board of Directors meeting to have the committees work together to align UMSU's governing documents with its accounting practices.

c. Governance

Governance Committee reports that they appreciate the Board for approving the changes to the Elections Manual. Now the committee will

start working on the Governance and Operations Manual. Michael thanks Chris Yendt from the UMGSA for their discussion about the GSA's role on the UMSU appeals committee.

d. Judicial Board

Motion - to enter closed session of Board Members and UMSU Staff.

Moved by *Rohan Sethi*, seconded by *Avery Groeneveld*.

Motion carried.

e. Member Services

Member Services Committee reports that their last meeting of the calendar year is on Monday.

f. Selections

Selections Committee reports that they have filled the Judicial Board vacancy.

11. Reports of Board Members

12. Announcements

- a. Victoria Romero announces that she is organizing a vigil for the National Day of Action in remembrance of Violence Against Women on December 6th at 4pm outside of University Centre.
- b. Victoria Romero also announces that today the Government of Canada launched a new suicide crisis line. The number is 988 and it is available 24/7, bilingual, and culturally sensitive, and accepts phone calls and texts.
- c. Lauren announces her appreciation for Board Members having such good attendance this year, and reminds members of the next meeting taking place on December 14, 2023

13. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 10:36pm.



Advantages of Ranked Choice Voting



Presented by Victoria Romero, student-at-large



Introduction

As the University of Manitoba Students' Union (UMSU) continues to evolve and adapt to the diverse and ever-changing landscape and needs of its student body, it becomes increasingly pivotal to revisit and enhance the mechanisms through which student representatives are elected. The need to evolve and enhance our voting system has been brought further into the light following the happenings of the 2023 UMSU General Election. The purpose of this report is to propose the adoption of a more inclusive and representative voting system – the implementation of Ranked Ballot Voting for UMSU general elections.

The selection of a voting system is not merely a technical choice; it profoundly impacts the representation and inclusivity of the student body in the decision-making process. UMSU, as an institution committed to advocating for the interests of its diverse student population, holds the responsibility of ensuring that the electoral system resonates with the pluralistic nature of the students it serves. A voting system that best represents the myriad of voices within the student community is paramount in fostering an environment of fairness, equity, and inclusivity.

We must remember that the UMSU Governance Committee was tasked to look into methods of electoral reform as the result of UMSU Board consensus that there is a strong need for change in the way UMSU facilitates its elections. The calls for change did not solely ask for a change to the appeals/complaint process, but also to the method in which our votes are counted and tallied. Ranked Ballot Voting *aligns with the core values of inclusivity and fair representation that UMSU is founded on, ultimately fostering a more robust, engaging and reflective student government.*

“[UMSU CRO] Robert recommended the governance committee “continue to restructure the election,” with suggestions such as ranked ballots”

Improved Representation

a. Elimination of Vote Wasting Concerns: In traditional voting systems, such as First Past the Post, voters might feel compelled to choose a more 'popular' candidate instead of their true favorite to ensure their vote counts. However, with ranked ballots, voters can list their genuine first-choice candidate without the fear of their vote being wasted, as their subsequent preferences come into play if their first choice doesn't succeed.

b. Reduced Need for Tactical / "strategic" Voting: Ranked Ballot voting allows voters to rank candidates based on their genuine preferences. Voters can vote for their favorite candidate as the first choice without concern for electability, fostering a more honest and transparent representation of their desires.

c. Promoting a Diverse Range of Candidates: With the ability to express genuine preferences, students are more inclined to vote for candidates who genuinely align with their beliefs and values. This results in a more diverse pool of candidates being elected, better reflecting the multifaceted nature of the student body.

Ranked Ballot voting encourages a broader range of candidates to run for election, and empowers students to support candidates who may represent minority or underrepresented groups. Individuals from various backgrounds, ideologies, and perspectives feel encouraged to participate in the electoral process, as they are assured that their candidacies won't fragment votes or be marginalized due to the 'spoiler effect' often seen in other voting systems.

Ensuring Majority Support with Ranked Choice

Ranked ballot voting ensures that the winning candidate secures majority support by requiring candidates to obtain more than 50% of the votes. This process involves voters ranking candidates in order of preference. If a candidate receives an absolute majority (more than 50%) of first-choice votes, they are immediately declared the winner. However, if no candidate achieves an outright majority in the initial count, the candidate with the fewest votes is eliminated, and their votes are redistributed based on the voters' next preference. This process continues until one candidate secures the required majority.

This system guarantees that the elected candidate has not only garnered a significant number of first-choice votes but also demonstrates broader acceptability among voters' subsequent preferences. Thus, the winning candidate isn't just the one most liked by a smaller segment of voters, but the one who has the broadest support across the electorate. This approach stands in contrast to a plurality system, where a candidate might win with less than a majority, potentially leaving a large portion of voters dissatisfied.

Promoting Consensus & Cooperation among Student Leaders

a. Inclusive Decision-Making: Candidates running for student leadership roles recognize the need to appeal not only to their core supporters but also to a broader audience. *They are incentivized to reach out beyond their traditional base and earn support from a wide spectrum of voters. As a result, successful candidates are those who can build coalitions and consensus among diverse student groups and stakeholders on campus.*

b. Reduced Polarization: *By encouraging candidates to reach out to a more extensive array of voters, the ranked ballot system discourages extreme or polarizing campaign strategies. Candidates are more likely to adopt moderate and inclusive positions rather than divisive ones to attract a wider range of supporters.*

c. Post-Election Collaboration: *After the election, the winning candidate, having secured broader support, is more likely to engage in cooperative decision-making and seek consensus-based solutions. They are accountable to a larger portion of the electorate, encouraging a leadership style that is considerate of diverse perspectives and more open to collaboration with rival candidates and their supporters.*

d. Building Trust and Legitimacy: *A candidate who wins through a ranked ballot system, having received majority support, is seen as more legitimate by the student body. This legitimacy fosters trust in the election process and in the leaders elected through this method, enhancing the overall functioning of the student union.*

Reduced Negative Campaigning

Although negative campaigning is already outlawed by UMSU election bylaws, there is no harm in the added benefits that ranked Ballot voting brings, in terms of discouraging negative campaigning. Ranked ballot voting inherently discourages negative campaigning by requiring candidates to appeal to a broader audience.

a. Broad Appeal for Multiple Preferences: With ranked ballots, candidates understand that they need to be not just the first choice for a select group of voters but also the second or third choice for a broader segment. This necessity for multi-tiered support urges candidates to focus on their own qualities and the value they bring to the role. *Negative campaigning tends to alienate potential second or third choice voters, leading candidates to avoid such strategies.*

b. Fostering a More Positive and Respectful Election Process: *The ranked ballot system design naturally encourages candidates to engage in more positive, issues-based campaigning rather than negative strategies. It creates an environment where candidates must appeal to a broader audience and maintain a respectful and inclusive approach, ultimately contributing to a more positive, constructive, and respectful election process within the University of Manitoba Students' Union.*

Concern #1 Lack of Student Awareness and Potential Decrease in Voter Turnout

One of the concerns raised by the UMSU Governance Committee (at the October 12th, 2023 UMSU Board of Directors meeting) is that students may not be well-informed about ranked ballot voting, leading to a potential decrease in voter turnout due to confusion. It is indeed crucial to ensure that students are well-informed about any changes in the voting system. However, with effective communication and education, this concern can be mitigated.

Solutions to Concern #1:

- **Education Campaign:** UMSU could implement a comprehensive educational campaign leading up to the election. Most UMSU campaigns run a duration of one week, however, in order to ensure that we are doing enough to educate students, this campaign could possibly be run over the course of a few months. This campaign could include informative materials, online resources, and possibly even workshops explaining how ranked ballot voting works. By proactively engaging with students and providing them with the necessary information, we can enhance their understanding of the system.
- **Collaboration with Student Groups:** Collaborate with student organizations, clubs, and societies to raise awareness and educate their members about ranked ballots. These groups can serve as advocates for the new system, increasing its visibility and credibility among students.
- **Engagement Initiatives:** Initiatives such as town hall meetings, presentations at UMSU Board of Directors Meetings, debates, and Q&A sessions to address students' concerns and questions about ranked voting. By creating open forums for discussion, students can voice their concerns and receive clarification on any issues they may have.

Concern #2 Negative Campaigning and Manipulation of Results

The second concern brought forward by the UMSU Governance Committee, (in the October 12th, 2023 BOD meeting) is that ranked ballot voting may lead to an uptick in negative campaigning, where candidates aim to secure second-choice votes rather than genuine support. This concern can be addressed by emphasizing the principles of fairness and cooperation in election campaigns.

Solutions to Concern #2:

- **Campaign Guidelines:** Establish clear campaign guidelines and rules that discourage negative campaigning. UMSU already has a number of policies, guidelines and rules for campaign material and content, which work to ensure a fair and equal election process - including rules against negative campaigning. The UMSU election bylaws are robust, but there is always room to expand. Make it explicit that candidates should focus on their own strengths, qualifications, and vision, rather than attempting to manipulate the ranking preferences of voters. Penalties for violations can also be included to enforce these guidelines.
- **Monitoring and Enforcement:** Implement a monitoring system to detect and prevent negative campaigning. Address any violations promptly to maintain the integrity of the election process. The UMSU CRO, elections committee, and the UMSU Judicial Board already serve a role of monitoring and enforcement, and existing mechanisms such as the complaint procedure add additional accountability and ensure that anyone can report a violation they may witness or encounter with a candidates' campaign.
- **Public Awareness:** Educate the student body about the principles of ranked voting and its aim to promote cooperation and consensus. By fostering a better understanding of the system's goals, UMSU can work together with students to prevent manipulation of results.

Case Studies

The following student unions use Ranked Choice Voting

- University of Regina Students Union (URSU)

utilizes "Electronic voting...URSU uses a ranked ballot system incorporating instant runoff and preferential voting methodology. Voters are instructed to select their top 3 candidates for each position. So the voter themselves chooses the top 3 candidates for each position."

student population: 16,000 undergraduate

- The Waterloo Undergraduate Student Association (WUSA) utilizes Ranked Ballot voting for their executive elections.

"candidates need to get 50% +1 of the vote. In order to accomplish this we have a system of Instant Runoff Voting. If a candidate does not reach the 50% +1 threshold on the first vote the candidate with the lowest number of votes is eliminated and their votes are redistributed. Then, we look at the second choice for voters of the eliminated candidate and redistribute their votes accordingly. This is done until there is a winner."

student population: 34,549 undergraduate

- University of Alberta Students Union (UASU)

uses Ranked Ballot. "Preferential ballot allows you to rank the candidates for a given position based on your preferences. For each race there is also a "None of the Above" option, which can be ranked in the same way you would a candidate.

Candidates ranked below the "None of the Above" option will not be eligible to take office. In races where a joke candidate wins a seat, that seat will be considered vacant."

student population: 31,123 undergraduate

Case Studies

University of Manitoba - Commerce Students Association (CSA)

The Commerce Students' Association (CSA) utilizes an instant-runoff system (which utilizes a ranked ballot).

CSA has not had any major issues with their voting system which utilizes a ranked ballot system. The use of a ranked ballot system in CSA elections demonstrates that this voting system is not only feasible for student elections, but that it is a feasible voting system for student elections at the University of Manitoba. Due to CSA's use of a ranked ballot voting process, there is already a significant number of students (eligible to vote in the UMSU General Election) who have voted with this system, and therefore understand how to use a ranked ballot voting system. Currently, there are approximately 1600 undergraduate students who are members of the CSA.

Ranked Choice Voting *not only enhances representation but also fortifies the integrity of the UMSU electoral process*, emphasizing fairness and inclusivity as core principles for the betterment of student governance.

The implementation of Ranked Voting stands as a promising step forward in aligning the UMSU electoral system with the pluralistic nature of the student community, ensuring a more inclusive, representative, and transparent framework for student leadership.

Thanks!



Advantages of Implementing Ranked Ballot Voting for UMSU General Elections

Introduction

As the University of Manitoba Students' Union (UMSU) continues to evolve and adapt to the diverse and ever-changing landscape and needs of its student body, it becomes increasingly pivotal to revisit and enhance the mechanisms through which student representatives are elected. The need to evolve and enhance our voting system has been brought further into the light following the happenings of the 2023 UMSU General Election. The purpose of this report is to propose the adoption of a more inclusive and representative voting system – the implementation of Ranked Ballot Voting (RCV) for UMSU general elections.

The selection of a voting system is not merely a technical choice; it profoundly impacts the representation and inclusivity of the student body in the decision-making process. UMSU, as an institution committed to advocating for the interests of its diverse student population, holds the responsibility of ensuring that the electoral system resonates with the pluralistic nature of the students it serves. A voting system that best represents the myriad of voices within the student community is paramount in fostering an environment of fairness, equity, and inclusivity.

We must remember that the UMSU Governance Committee was tasked to look into methods of electoral reform as the result of UMSU Board consensus that there is a strong need for change in the way UMSU facilitates its elections. The calls for change did not solely ask for a change to the appeals/complaint process, but also to the method in which our votes are counted and tallied.

As we delve into the proposal for adopting Ranked Choice Voting, it is essential to understand the significant impact a more sophisticated and accommodating voting system can have on the electoral process. This report aims to illuminate the benefits of implementing Ranked Ballot Voting for UMSU elections, demonstrating how this system aligns with the core values of inclusivity and fair representation that UMSU is founded on, ultimately fostering a more robust, engaging and reflective student government.

Thank you for considering this proposal, which endeavors to uphold the principles of democratic representation and diversity within the University of Manitoba Students' Union electoral framework.

Benefits of Ranked Ballot voting

1. Improved Representation

- a. Elimination of Vote Wasting Concerns:** In traditional voting systems, such as First Past the Post, voters might feel compelled to choose a more 'popular' candidate instead of their true favorite to ensure their vote counts. However, with ranked ballots, voters can

list their genuine first-choice candidate without the fear of their vote being wasted, as their subsequent preferences come into play if their first choice doesn't succeed.

- b. Reduced Need for Tactical / "strategic" Voting:** Ranked Ballot voting allows voters to rank candidates based on their genuine preferences. Voters can vote for their favorite candidate as the first choice without concern for electability, fostering a more honest and transparent representation of their desires.
- c. Promoting a Diverse Range of Candidates:** With the ability to express genuine preferences, students are more inclined to vote for candidates who genuinely align with their beliefs and values. This results in a more diverse pool of candidates being elected, better reflecting the multifaceted nature of the student body.

Ranked Ballot voting encourages a broader range of candidates to run for election. Individuals from various backgrounds, ideologies, and perspectives feel encouraged to participate in the electoral process, as they are assured that their candidacies won't fragment votes or be marginalized due to the 'spoiler effect' often seen in other voting systems. This ultimately leads to a more inclusive representation within the student government.

Ranked Ballot voting empowers students to support candidates who may represent minority or underrepresented groups. This ensures that the election results reflect the broader spectrum of student opinions, creating a more inclusive and representative student leadership.

2. Ensuring Majority Support with Ranked Ballots:

Ranked ballot voting ensures that the winning candidate secures majority support by requiring candidates to obtain more than 50% of the votes. This process involves voters ranking candidates in order of preference. If a candidate receives an absolute majority (more than 50%) of first-choice votes, they are immediately declared the winner.

However, if no candidate achieves an outright majority in the initial count, the candidate with the fewest votes is eliminated, and their votes are redistributed based on the voters' next preference. This process continues until one candidate secures the required majority.

This system guarantees that the elected candidate has not only garnered a significant number of first-choice votes but also demonstrates broader acceptability among voters' subsequent preferences. Thus, the winning candidate isn't just the one most liked by a smaller segment of voters, but the one who has the broadest support across the electorate. This approach stands in contrast to a plurality system, where a candidate might win with less than a majority, potentially leaving a large portion of voters dissatisfied.

3. Promoting Consensus and Cooperation among Student Leaders:

Ranked ballot voting promotes consensus and cooperation among student leaders for several reasons.

a. Inclusive Decision-Making: Candidates running for student leadership roles recognize the need to appeal not only to their core supporters but also to a broader audience. They are incentivized to reach out beyond their traditional base and earn support from a wide spectrum of voters. As a result, successful candidates are those who can build coalitions and consensus among diverse student groups and stakeholders on campus.

b. Reduced Polarization: By encouraging candidates to reach out to a more extensive array of voters, the ranked ballot system discourages extreme or polarizing campaign strategies. Candidates are more likely to adopt moderate and inclusive positions rather than divisive ones to attract a wider range of supporters.

c. Post-Election Collaboration: After the election, the winning candidate, having secured broader support, is more likely to engage in cooperative decision-making and seek consensus-based solutions. They are accountable to a larger portion of the electorate, encouraging a leadership style that is considerate of diverse perspectives and more open to collaboration with rival candidates and their supporters.

d. Building Trust and Legitimacy: A candidate who wins through a ranked ballot system, having received majority support, is seen as more legitimate by the student body. This legitimacy fosters trust in the election process and in the leaders elected through this method, enhancing the overall functioning of the student union.

4. Reduced Negative Campaigning

Although negative campaigning is already outlawed by UMSU election bylaws, there is no harm in the added benefits that ranked Ballot voting brings, in terms of discouraging negative campaigning. Ranked ballot voting inherently discourages negative campaigning by requiring candidates to appeal to a broader audience.

a. Broad Appeal for Multiple Preferences: With ranked ballots, candidates understand that they need to be not just the first choice for a select group of voters but also the second or third choice for a broader segment. This necessity for multi-tiered support urges candidates to focus on their own qualities and the value they bring to the role. Negative campaigning tends to alienate potential second or third choice voters, leading candidates to avoid such strategies.

b. Fostering a More Positive and Respectful Election Process:
The ranked ballot system's design naturally encourages candidates to engage in more positive, issues-based campaigning rather than negative strategies. It creates an environment where candidates must appeal to a broader audience and maintain a respectful and inclusive approach, ultimately contributing to a more positive, constructive, and respectful election process within the University of Manitoba Students' Union.

Case Studies

Ranked Ballot voting has been a popular method of voting used by student unions across the country. Ranked Ballot voting has provided a fair and equitable election process, with minimal

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issues for the student unions that have chosen to adopt it as their voting system. The following are some examples.

A. University of Manitoba - Commerce Students' Association (CSA)

The University of Manitoba Commerce Students' Association (CSA) utilizes (as per the Constitution of the Commerce Students Association, March 20th 2023, which can be found at <https://www.aspercsa.com/about/constitution/>) an instant-runoff system (which utilizes a ranked ballot). The rules for the CSA Ranked Ballot voting are as follows:

"8.18 Voting Process"

(a) All CSA Elections will be conducted by electronic voting method. Only the CRO and DRO may have access to set up and monitor the electronic voting system during the course of an election.

(b) The CRO must use the electronic voting platform provided by UMSU unless it is not available or not suitable. A successful vote brought by motion at a duly convened CSA General Council Meeting at least two weeks prior to the voting period will allow a different platform to be used for a given election.

(c) President, VPI, Advocacy Representative and First Year Representative candidates running uncontested shall be elected by a "yes"/"no" vote. Successful candidates must receive at least one hundred (100) "yes" votes and at least 75% "yes" votes.

(d) Voting for all contested positions shall be conducted using instant-runoff voting. For each position, voters will rank their choices in order of preference.

(e) Vote counting for contested President and VPI positions will be conducted electronically as follows:

(i) Ballots are initially counted for each elector's top choice.

(ii) If a candidate secures more than half of the votes in the first round, the candidate wins.

(iii) If a candidate does not secure more than half of the votes in the first round, the candidate in last place is eliminated and removed from consideration.

(iv) The highest ranking remaining choices are then counted again.

(v) The process repeats itself until one candidate receives more than half of the votes in a particular round.

(f) Vote counting for contested Advocacy Representative and First Year Representative positions will be conducted electronically as follows:

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- (i) Ballots are initially counted for each elector's top choice.*
- (ii) If a candidate secures more than half of the votes in the first round, the candidate wins.*
- (iii) If a candidate does not secure more than half of the votes in the first round, the candidate in last place is eliminated and removed from consideration.*
- (iv) The highest remaining choices are then counted again.*
- (v) The process repeats itself until only three candidates remain. At this point, the two candidates with the highest number of votes will win the election."*

The Commerce Students' Association has not had any major issues with their voting system which utilizes a ranked ballot system. The CSA electoral process has facilitated fair, equitable and democratic elections with this voting system. The use of a ranked ballot system in CSA elections demonstrates that this voting system is not only feasible for student elections, but that it is a feasible voting system for student elections at the University of Manitoba.

Due to CSA's use of a ranked ballot voting process, there is already a significant number of students (eligible to vote in the UMSU General Election) who have voted with this system, and therefore understand how to use a ranked ballot voting system. Currently, there are approximately 1600 undergraduate students who are members of the CSA.

B. University of Regina Students Union (URSU)

The University of Regina Students Union (URSU) utilizes (as per URSU Election and Referendum Bylaws Section 3.1.10) "Electronic voting...URSU uses a ranked ballot system incorporating instant runoff and preferential voting methodology. Voters are instructed to select their top 3 candidates for each position. So the voter themselves chooses the top 3 candidates for each position."

The URSU began using ranked ballot voting in 2019. After a motion was presented with the language "*BE IT RESOLVED that URSU adopts an Alternative Voting System (Ranked Ballot) in time for the 2019 Winter General Election.*" The motion to adopt Ranked Ballot was approved on October 28, 2018 - with the General Election being held during March (voting usually falls during the second week of March), similar to the timing of the UMSU General Election.

The University of Regina Students Union serves a comparable population to the University of Manitoba Students Union - 16,000 undergraduate students.

The rules for the URSU Ranked Ballot voting are as follows:

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“Electronic voting is the preferred method of voting for the URSU. A secure voting technology must be used. A link to the voting platform shall be placed in a prominent location on the URSU Homepage and URSU Elections page during the voting period. URSU uses a ranked ballot system incorporating instant runoff and preferential voting methodology. Voters are instructed to select their top 3 candidates for each position. So the voter themselves chooses the top 3 candidates for each position.

To determine the results:

- If one candidate has a majority of votes, they win that position.*
- If they do not, the candidate with the least number of votes is eliminated. The voters who had ranked that candidate the highest will now have votes changed to their second-highest preferred candidate.*
- If one candidate now has a majority of votes, they win that position.*
- If they do not, the process continues until a winner has been declared. All candidates will have an opportunity to review the ballot not less than seventy-two hours before the voting period begins. Any candidate who has concerns about the layout of the ballot may address those concerns in writing to the CRO for consideration.*

The following criteria must be met when developing the layout of the ballot:

- The name of the candidates for a constituency shall be listed in alphabetical order, by last name*
- Only the legal names of candidates, or reasonable derivations thereof, shall appear on the ballot, as approved by the CRO.*

Votes shall be destroyed within five calendar days of the election results being ratified by the Board of Directors.”

C. Waterloo Undergraduate Student Association (WUSA)

The Waterloo Undergraduate Student Association (WUSA) utilizes (as per https://vote.wusa.ca/how_to_vote) Ranked Ballot voting for their executive elections. As listed on their website, the following is the process for the WUSA Ranked Ballot voting system.

“Instead of just voting for one person per executive position, you will be able to rank the candidates when you vote. Under the new voting system, candidates need to get 50% +1 of the vote. In order to accomplish this we have a system of Instant Runoff Voting. What this means is that if a candidate does not reach the 50% +1 threshold on the first vote the candidate with the lowest number of votes is eliminated and their votes are redistributed. This is where the ranked ballot comes in. We look at the second choice for voters of the eliminated candidate and redistribute their votes accordingly. This is done until there is a winner.

Example:

There are 33 votes. In order to win a candidate needs to get 17 votes.

First Round:

Candidate A – 13

Candidate B – 7

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Candidate C – 6

Candidate D – 7

Candidate C has the lowest number of votes and is eliminated. Their votes are redistributed according to the 2nd choice indicated by the voter. Candidate D and Candidate A both get 3 votes.

Second Round:

Candidate A – 16

Candidate B – 7

Candidate D – 10

We now eliminate Candidate B. Their votes are also redistributed, in this case Candidate A gets 0 votes and Candidate D gets 17.

Third Round:

Candidate A – 16

Candidate D – 17

Candidate D is the winner.

In our voting system your ballot will allow you to click and drag to rank the candidates from top to bottom.”

In order to ensure students are aware of the voting process, the WUSA keeps their elections website (https://vote.wusa.ca/how_to_vote) active year round, so at any point in time students are able to familiarize themselves with the process. This is something UMSU could choose to do if Ranked Ballot voting is pursued.

The WUSA serves a larger student population than UMSU - in Fall 2022 there were 34,549 undergraduate students enrolled, as per <https://www.uwaterloo.ca> . Waterloo University is also a member of the U15, just as the University of Manitoba is. This demonstrates that Ranked Ballot voting is feasible for populations as large, and larger than the UM undergraduate student population.

C. University of Alberta Students' Union (UASU)

The University of Alberta Students' Union uses a Preferential Ranked Ballot. Here is an outline of the UASU Preferential Ranked Ballot system, as per their website (<https://su.ualberta.ca/governance/elections/voters/>):

“A preferential ballot allows you to rank the candidates for a given position based on your preferences. Your first choice for the position should be marked with a 1, your second choice with a 2, and so on.

For each race there is also a “None of the Above” option, which can be ranked in the same way you would a candidate. Candidates ranked below the “None of the Above” option will not be

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eligible to take office. In races where a joke candidate wins a seat, that seat will be considered vacant. In each race, please rank each candidate according to your preference by filling in the appropriate ranking circle for him/her."

The UASU has the above explanation posted on their website in both English and French; a solid yet simple way to ensure students can access this information.

The UASU serves a larger student population than UMSU - in 2018/19 there were 31,123 undergraduate students enrolled at the University of Alberta, as per <https://www-ualberta-ca.uml.idm.oclc.org/about/facts.html> . The University of Alberta is also a member of the U15, just as the University of Manitoba is. This demonstrates that Ranked Ballot voting is feasible for populations as large, and larger than the UM undergraduate student population.

Concerns Raised

Concern 1: Lack of Student Awareness and Potential Decrease in Voter Turnout

One of the concerns raised by the UMSU Governance Committee and specifically, by the UMSU VPFO (at the October 12th, 2023 UMSU Board of Directors meeting) is that students may not be well-informed about ranked ballot voting, leading to a potential decrease in voter turnout due to confusion. It is indeed crucial to ensure that students are well-informed about any changes in the voting system. However, with effective communication and education, this concern can be mitigated.

Education Campaign: The most effective way to combat confusion and misinformation is to utilize the wide reach and resources of UMSU to educate the UM student body. UMSU could implement a comprehensive educational campaign leading up to the election. Most UMSU campaigns run a duration of one week, however, in order to ensure that we are doing enough to educate students, this campaign could possibly be run over the course of a few months. This campaign could include informative materials, online resources, and possibly even workshops explaining how ranked ballot voting works. By proactively engaging with students and providing them with the necessary information, we can enhance their understanding of the system.

Collaboration with Student Groups: Collaborate with student organizations, clubs, and societies to raise awareness and educate their members about ranked ballots. These groups can serve as advocates for the new system, increasing its visibility and credibility among students.

Engagement Initiatives: Consider implementing engagement initiatives such as town hall meetings, presenting at UMSU Board of Directors Meetings, debates, and Q&A sessions to address students' concerns and questions about ranked voting. By creating open forums for discussion, students can voice their concerns and receive clarification on any issues they may have.

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Online Platforms: Utilize UMSU's website and social media channels to provide easily accessible information about ranked voting. This approach can help reach a wider audience and encourage informed participation.

By combining these efforts, UMSU can ensure that students are well-informed about the Ranked Ballot system, ultimately promoting a smooth transition and higher voter turnout.

Concern 2: Negative Campaigning and Manipulation of Results

The second concern brought forward by the UMSU Governance Committee, and specifically the UMSU VPFO (in the October 12th, 2023 BOD meeting) is that ranked ballot voting may lead to an uptick in negative campaigning, where candidates aim to secure second-choice votes rather than genuine support. This concern can be addressed by emphasizing the principles of fairness and cooperation in election campaigns:

Campaign Guidelines: Establish clear campaign guidelines and rules that discourage negative campaigning. UMSU already has a number of policies, guidelines and rules for campaign material and content, which work to ensure a fair and equal election process - including rules against negative campaigning. The UMSU election bylaws are robust, but there is always room to expand and there is always the ability to bolster the security, accountability, and equity measures that are in place. Make it explicit that candidates should focus on their own strengths, qualifications, and vision, rather than attempting to manipulate the ranking preferences of voters. Penalties for violations can also be included to enforce these guidelines.

Monitoring and Enforcement: Implement a monitoring system to detect and prevent negative campaigning. Address any violations promptly to maintain the integrity of the election process. The UMSU CRO, elections committee, and the UMSU Judicial Board already serve a role of monitoring and enforcement, and existing mechanisms such as the complaint procedure add additional accountability and ensure that anyone can report a violation they may witness or encounter with a candidates' campaign.

Public Awareness: Educate the student body about the principles of ranked voting and its aim to promote cooperation and consensus. By fostering a better understanding of the system's goals, UMSU can work together with students to prevent manipulation of results.

Incorporating these measures will help ensure that the transition to ranked ballot voting is accompanied by a positive and respectful campaigning environment that aligns with the principles of the system.

Conclusion

The adoption of Ranked Ballot Voting (RBV) for the UMSU General Elections promises a transformative and more equitable electoral process. RBV ensures that the winning candidate secures majority support, fostering a more collaborative and cooperative environment among student leaders and students at large alike. This broad-based approach to campaigning and

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decision-making cultivates an inclusive and consensus-driven leadership within the University of Manitoba Students' Union.

Ranked Ballot Voting's ability to minimize strategic voting behaviors empowers students to express their authentic preferences without concerns of wasted votes. This significant shift enables a diverse array of candidates to be elected, better reflecting the true diversity of the student body. Consequently, the proposed change not only enhances representation but also fortifies the integrity of the UMSU electoral process, emphasizing fairness and inclusivity as core principles for the betterment of student governance.

The implementation of Ranked Ballot Voting stands as a promising step forward in aligning the UMSU electoral system with the pluralistic nature of the student community, ensuring a more inclusive, representative, and transparent framework for student leadership.

Please feel free to reach out to me if you have any questions, concerns or comments.

Thank you so much,

Victoria Romero, *student-at-large*
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University of Manitoba Students' Union
Budget Summary
For the year ending April 30, 2024

		Original Budget 2023-24	Amended Budget 2023-24
Revenue			
General	Fees	\$ 1,704,880	\$ 1,810,809
	Operational Revenue	488,070	302,978
		<u>2,192,950</u>	<u>2,113,787</u>
Businesses (Net)	GPA's	304,961	304,961
	IQ's	16,257	16,257
	Degrees	51,117	51,117
	VWSC	67,098	67,098
	UMCycle	(16,175)	(16,175)
		<u>2,616,207</u>	<u>2,537,044</u>
Total Revenue		2,616,207	2,537,044
Expenses			
Governance/Executive	Personnel	408,327	389,927
	Administration	127,500	195,900
	Student Services	333,000	296,500
Operational	Personnel	700,445	700,445
	Administration	54,200	54,200
	Professional	146,500	146,500
	Occupancy	53,000	53,000
	Retained Earnings	30,000	-
Departmental	Marketing	420,510	396,210
	Service Centre	304,362	304,362
		<u>2,577,844</u>	<u>2,537,044</u>
Total Expenses		2,577,844	2,537,044
Net Surplus/(Deficit)		\$ 38,363	\$ -

Operations		2021/2022	2022/2023	2022/23	2023/2024	2023/2024
		Actual	Budget	Dec 22	Budget	Budget Amendment
Revenue						
Revenue						
5000-11	Union Fees	1,464,056	1,550,000	934,274	1,514,309	1,514,309
5001-11	Governance Fee Transfer	(396,000)	(480,000)	(264,000)	(480,000)	(480,000)
5003-11	Sustainability Fee		70,000		69,071	0
5015-11	Operating Account Interest	50,264	38,100	40,904	30,000	34,908
5020-11	Rental Income				0	0
5030-11	UMFM Administration Fee	10,000	10,000	6,400	9,600	9,600
5031-11	Manitoban Administration Fee	5,603	6,000	3,769	6,000	6,000
	Miscellaneous	11,586		165,943	90,020	120,020
5040-11	Wage Subsidy	226,086			0	0
		1,371,595	1,194,100	887,290	1,239,000	1,204,837
Expenses						
Personnel						
7000-11	Salaries and Benefits	581,948	650,000	426,119	665,945	665,945
7001-11	Assistants		2,500		2,500	2,500
7005-11	Staff Training		2,000		5,000	5,000
7006-11	Professional Development	56	5,000	432	2,000	2,000
7007-11	Conferences		2,500		5,000	5,000
7010-11	Staff Appreciation	11,403	10,000	1,343	20,000	20,000
		593,407	672,000	427,894	700,445	700,445
Administration						
7100-11	Office Supplies	11,306	7,500	12,570	10,000	10,000
7101-11	Parking/Transportation	7,249	10,000	3,258	10,000	10,000
7102-11	UMSU Van	6,489	1,000	713	1,500	1,500
7105-11	Bank Charges/Exchange	6,644	10,000	8,121	12,000	12,000
7110-11	Computers	8,012	10,000	3,033	0	0
7115-11	Job Vacancies	1,460	1,000	250	500	500
7116-11	Photocopying	619	500	4,202	1,000	1,000
7117-11	Postage	1,001	2,500	915	1,500	1,500
7118-11	Telephone	13,443	13,000	7,590	14,000	14,000
7119-11	Memberships	2,661	2,000	1,212	2,000	2,000
7125-11	General Business Expense (GM discretionary fund)		500	1,548	1,500	1,500
7130-11	Courier	169		64	200	200
		59,053	58,000	43,475	54,200	54,200
Professional						
7150-11	Legal	56,824	10,000	4,451	25,000	25,000
7160-11	Audit	32,892	36,000	46,935	36,000	36,000
7170-11	Insurance	117,617	100,000	52,046	85,000	85,000
7175-11	Professional Fees	213	5,000	244	500	500
7180-11	U Pass	14,060	1,000		0	0
		221,606	152,000	103,676	146,500	146,500
Occupancy						
7200-11	Repairs & Maintenance	3,788	1,500	1,176	3,000	3,000
7400-11	Security	5,000	25,000	28,910	50,000	50,000
		8,788	26,500	30,087	53,000	53,000
Retained Earnings						
7900-11	Allocation	2,500	50,000	17,500	30,000	0
		2,500	50,000	17,500	30,000	0
Total Operations		486,241	235,600	264,658	254,854	250,691

1 Sustainability Fee is not a revenue for UMSU, it should be strictly for sustainable initiatives.

2 Projected higher interest income as prime rate went up.
Recognize \$30,000 as revenue from DPDC Self
Serve as the business is now closed, while
about 20% of the total payable remains for

3 possible claims.

4 Discontinue R/E allocation to recoup governance and businesses' deficits.

Governance		2021/22	2022/23	2022/23	2023/24	2023/24
		Actual	Budget	Dec 22	Budget	Budget Amendment
Revenue						
Governance Revenue						
5001-15	Governance Fees	396,000	480,000	264,000	480,000	480,000
	Endowment funding				0	-
	Service Group Fees				0	-
	Hampers (E.Fund)				30,000	- 1
	Hampers (Donations)				5,000	- 2
	Hampers (UofM)				10,000	- 3
		396,000	480,000	264,000	525,000	480,000
Expenses						
Executive Personnel						
8000-15	Executive Salaries & Benefits	190,587	208,000	138,359	214,618	214,618
8002-15	Parking/Transit	3,193	5,000	1,365	4,500	4,500
8003-15	Executive Discounts		1,000		0	-
8004-15	Executive Transition	2,305	2,500	1,852	2,000	2,000
		196,085	216,500	141,576	221,118	221,118
Governance Personnel						
8050-15	Salaries and Statutory Benefits	132,591	117,000	94,564	163,609	163,609
8055-15	Assistants	2,850	3,000	850	0	2,000 4
8060-15	Parking/Transit	1,028	2,000	1,356	2,700	2,700
8061-15	Professional Development	622	1,000		500	500
8062-15	Travel/Meetings/Conferences	97	1,200		0	-
		137,188	124,200	96,770	166,809	168,809
Executive/Council Meetings & Training						
8070-15	Executive	2,791	5,000	2,337	3,000	3,000
8071-15	Council	1,937	7,500	7,052	8,400	8,400
8072-15	Committee	630	2,500	69	2,000	2,000
8073-15	Council Retreat	7,446	7,000	4,194	5,000	5,000
8075-15	Retreat, UMSU Skills, Appreciation		2,000		2,000	2,000
		12,804	24,000	13,652	20,400	20,400
Administration						
8021-15	Professional Fees		10,000	728	5,000	5,000
8022-15	Travel/Meetings/Conferences	13,538	17,500	27,722	30,000	30,000
8023-15	Office Supplies	534	3,000	1,929	0	2,000 5
8024-15	Telephone	9,023	10,000	4,760	0	6,000 6
8030-15	External Advocacy	10,366	5,000	7,931	5,000	5,000
8270-15	Participatory Budget	(500)			0	-
8301-15	Community Support	1,866	5,000	2,422	5,000	5,000
8302-15	Campaigns	6,895	5,000	7,003	7,500	7,500
8303-15	CASA	57,576	56,000	59,534	60,000	60,000
8310-15	CFS project					40,000 7
		99,298	111,500	112,029	112,500	160,500
Elections and Winter Referenda						
8500-15	CRO/DRO	9,800	10,000		10,000	10,000
8501-15	Poll Clerks		500		0	-
8502-15	Administration	6,516	10,000	221	2,500	2,500
8505-15	Candidate Reimbursements	1,089	2,500		2,500	2,500
		17,405	23,000	221	15,000	15,000
Total Expenses		462,780	499,200	364,249	535,827	585,827
Governance Administration		(66,780)	(19,200)	(100,249)	(10,827)	(105,827)

Governance		2021/22 Actual	2022/23 Budget	2023/24 Budget		
Funding Revenue						
5003-15	Community Group Fees	117,831	125,000	75,193	121,500	121,500
5002-15	Endowment Funding	150,000	150,000	100,000	175,000	175,000
		267,831	275,000	175,193	296,500	296,500
Student Services						
8210-15	Peer Tutoring	380		221	0	-
8250-15	Student Club Support	48,935	54,000	24,673	54,000	52,000 8
8251-15	Food Hampers		7,000		45,000	16,500 9
8252-15	Foodbank	30,000	15,000		15,000	15,000
8253-15	Inner City Social Work		5,500		0	-
8255-15	Hardship	20,334	20,000	20,510	30,000	35,000 10
8256-15	CIF		96,000	5,340	114,000	114,000
	Accessability Centre			177	0	-
8310-15	CFS project			101,570		- 11
8271-15	International Student Services	706		412	0	-
8300-15	General Sponsorship	22,551	30,000	10,915	30,000	24,000 12
8305-15	Student Transit Subsidy	3,097		(43)	0	
8025-15	Participatory Budget		25,000		25,000	20,000 13
8100-15	Travel Grants		20,000		20,000	20,000
		126,003	272,500	163,775	333,000	296,500
Governance Student Services		141,828	2,500	11,418	(36,500)	-
Total Governance		75,048	(16,700)	(88,831)	(47,327)	(105,827)

Hampers donation should not be recognized as UMSU revenue, the donations received will be allocated to a payable account and eventually paid out to the students.

- 1 students.
- 2 Refer to note 1
- 3 Refer to note 1
- 4 Update budget based on previously approved amount.
- 5 Refer to note 4
- 6 Refer to note 4
CFS administrative expenses should be reclassified to governance admin as it is not student service related.
- 7 student service related.
- 8 Refer to note 4
- 9 Refer to note 4
- 10 Increase Hardship budget by \$5,000
- 11 Refer to note 7
- 12 Refer to note 4
- 13 Decrease Participatory Budget by \$5,000

Marketing

		2021/22 Actual	2022/23 Budget	2022/23 Dec 22	2023/24 Budget	2023/24 Budget Amendment
Revenue						
5310-26	Business Marketing Revenue		27,600	42,477	27,600	27,600
5311-26	Tabling Revenue		35,000	18,898	25,000	25,000
5320-26	General Revenue	375	900	336	5,000	5,000
		375	63,500	61,711	57,600	57,600
Personnel						
7000-26	Salaries & Benefits	187,620	250,000	117,896	251,610	251,610
7001-26	PT Salaries & Benefits	5,040	25,000	19,244	5,000	5,000
7005-26	Staff Training	446	5,000	3,898	1,500	1,500
7006-26	Professional Devleopment	1,308			0	0
7007-26	Volunteer Coordinator				0	0
7010-26	Volunteer Recruitment/Training/Apprec	460	2,500	671	3,000	3,000
		194,874	282,500	141,710	261,110	261,110
Administration						
7100-26	Office Supplies	19	1,000	140	1,000	1,000
7101-26	Parking/Transit	3,608	4,000	1,431	3,600	3,600
7102-26	Marketing Assets/Supplies	19,004	15,000	9,016	8,000	3,000
7105-26	Daytimer		(12,000)	29	0	0
7110-26	Computers & Website	4,965	10,000	2,037	11,700	11,700
7118-26	Telephone	3,169	3,000	1,382	4,000	4,000
7125-26	Promotional Items				25,000	25,000
		30,765	21,000	14,035	53,300	48,300
Programming						
7300-26	Fall Orientation	(709)	35,000	46,431	45,000	30,000
7301-26	Frosh Concert		40,000	85,350	0	0
7310-26	Winter Orientation	(454)	20,000	586	20,000	20,000
7315-26	Bannatyne Programming	481	15,000	2,352	7,500	7,500
7320-26	Residence Packages		15,000		8,000	8,000
7323-26	Speaker fees & honoraia	6,623		2,220	0	0
7330-26	Malpractice Social		(4,000)	14,641	(1,200)	(1,200)
7331-26	Event #2		5,000	2,530	5,000	5,000
7332-26	Event #3		5,000	4,219	5,000	5,000
7333-26	Event #4		5,000	300	5,000	5,000
7350-26	General Programming	10,112	20,000	23,934	15,800	7,500
		16,053	156,000	182,562	110,100	86,800
Total Expenses		241,692	459,500	338,306	424,510	396,210
Net Profit (Loss)		(241,317)	(396,000)	(276,596)	(366,910)	(338,610)

1 Marketing supplies were overbudgeted.

2 Fall Orientation expenses were overbudgeted.

3 General Programming spending was overbudgeted.



TO: _____UMSU Board of Director
FROM: ____Indigenous Representative, Ishkode Catcheway
DATE: ____November 28, 2023
RE: Report to the Board, November 30, 2023

New Updates

- All ISM events had amazing attendance
 - The Spray Paint Workshop filled up and we had about 15 people show up to the event
 - The ribbon skirt/shirt workshop filled up within one day of the post being out and we had about 16 attendees
 - The Indigenous Leaders Gala has about 80 tickets sold at the time of writing this report and 19 award recipients!
- The Traditional Knowledge Keepers Forum was amazing to just be surrounded by Elders and Knowledge Keepers.
- The Language Reclamation Summit was a 3-day event that I unfortunately could not attend every day. The day that I did attend I heard an inspiring speech from Dr. Barry Lavallee and to be surrounded by Anshinaabemowin was so good for the soul.

Continuing Updates

- IF YOU HAVE AN INDIGENOUS REP ON YOUR COUNCIL, PLEASE GET THEIR INFO TO ME!

External Events & Meetings Attended

- November 10, 2023: Spray Paint Night
- November 14, 2023: Ribbon skirt/shirt workshop
- November 15-16, 2023: Traditional Knowledge Keepers Forum
- November 17, 2023: New Buffalo Education Gathering
- November 21, 2023: Indigenous Film Screening
- November 22, 2023: Cultural Appreciation Days
- November 23-24: Winter Market at Migizii Agamik
- November 23, 2023: Going over nominations for the Indigenous Leaders Gala
- November 25, 2023: Language Reclamation Summit
- November 28, 2023: Indigenous Leaders Gala
- November 30, 2023: UMSU BOD

International Students Representative Nov 30th Report

Past/ current events

- Meeting with Tony Lau Selection Committee, EDI working group, Finance Committee, Cultural Appreciation Days Planning, Community Reps Coordinator
- Collaboration with SSA this Friday about Sports Event
- Prepare the presentation "What I wish I knew" for Asper First Year Committee

Upcoming events

- Plan for December Community Assembly
- Meeting with ISR from Faculty of Agriculture