



UWSA

THE UNIVERSITY OF WINNIPEG
STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION

Executive Report
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UWSA Executives:

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Executive Summary

This report covers the period of July 1, 2015 to July 31, 2015 and is the third submitted to the 2015-2016 UWSA Board of Directors. Contained in the report is the summary of meetings both internal and external, media overview, reports on solidarity and advocacy work, and services updates.

July saw us achieve a significant breakthrough in that we finally succeeded in ending unnecessary duplication in health insurance coverage for international students. Effective September 1, 2015, international graduate and undergraduate students on study terms longer than six months will be fully covered by a combination of Manitoba health benefits and the UWSA Health Plan. Guard.me will no longer be mandatory for students in these categories. Total savings per student amount to \$258.72.

We've also been working to improve service delivery in a number of other areas. For instance, we undertook a strategic visioning exercise for the UWSA Foodbank in order for us to identify next steps for the service. Including a potential relocation to Riddell Hall. Implementation of the U-Pass program for Fall 2016, procurement of additional microwaves and development of a housing registry all received attention during this reporting period.

Planning also continued for our major fall term campaigns- on the federal election and fossil fuel divestment. We're working with various partners including the faculty association and Canadian Federation of Students to make sure that student issues like tuition fees, debt and unemployment are election issues.

Finally, we rebranded our back to school festival from "O-Week" to "Roll Call" to differentiate us from activities at other universities. An exciting three days of live music, culture, games and free food is being prepared for September 9-11.

In solidarity,
Your UWSA executive team,

Peyton Veitch, President
Kevin Settee, Vice-President External Affairs
Emily Epp, Vice-President Internal Affairs
Jesse Blackman, Vice-President Student Affairs

Internal

The Internal section is dedicated to the work of the organization done by either UWSA staff, volunteers, Directors and/or Executive Directors that affects the day-to-day business of the UWSA.

Internal Committees

The UWSA Board of Directors maintains four regularly meeting subcommittees: Finance and Operations Committee (major financial decision-making body, health plan and service decision-making), Student Life Committee (events, student groups, student funding requests), Campaigns and External Relations Committee (lobbying/political decision-making body), and Executive Committee (managerial committee). Additionally, the UWSA holds quarterly Bylaws and Policy Committee Meetings where bylaws and policies are reviewed. Meeting notices are posted on campus and online. Please visit theuwsa.ca or email uwsa@theuwsa.ca for information, open session minutes, etc.

Internal Committees

July 6: VPSA met with JDC West and Events Coordinator and Communications Coordinator to discuss JDC West and Roll Call

July 6: VPSA met with Wesmen Athletic Director to discuss the gym and campus community

July 7: VPSA attended Appeals Committee Meeting

July 8: Executive Committee Meeting

July 8: VPIA met with Manager of Special Projects, and the Communications Coordinator to talk about food safety supports and branding.

July 8: VPSA met with the University of Winnipeg Cheerleading team's founder about student group status

July 8: President and VPSA met with Manager of Special Projects to discuss student art and conference funding opportunities.

July 9: VPIA and President met with the Foodbank Coordinator, and Manager of Special Projects to discuss the Foodbank's strategic goals, and long term vision.

July 13: VPIA met with General Manager to edit job descriptions.

July 13: Executive Committee Meeting

July 13: President met with BASA President to talk about Senate.

July 13: Budget revision meeting with VPIA, Business Manager, and General Manager

July 14: VPSA met with General Manager of the RecPlex and Manager of the Duckworth Facilities to discuss Positive Space and programming

July 14: Student Life Committee

July 14: VPSA attended Appeals Committee Meeting

July 15: VPSA met with a Positive Space Advisory Group

July 16: Finance and Operations Committee meeting

July 20: VPSA met with BASA to discuss the benefits of Student Member Group Status

July 21: VPSA and President met with Universities of Manitoba Ski and Snowboard (UMSNOW) to discuss UMSNOW

July 21: UWSA Board of Directors meeting

July 29: Roll Call update meeting with Events Coordinator and Executive.

July 29: LGBT* Centre Coordinator Interview with VPIA, LGBT* Director.

July 30: Women-Trans Spectrum Centre Coordinator Interview with VPIA and General Manager.

Executive Report: July 1, 2015- July 31, 2015

July 30: Executive Committee meeting.

External Meetings

July 2: President and VPEA met with Dr. Trimbee to discuss promoting intra-faculty dialogue on indigenization.

July 2: VPIA, President, Health Plan Coordinator, General Manager met with TSC, Financial Services, the Registrar, ISS, and Grad Studies to discuss UWSA gaining access to graduate students accounts to better administer the health plan.

July 2: President and VPEA met with members of CFSMB and MARL about student housing rights.

July 9: President met with Sustainability Office Director to discuss the divestment risk assessment

July 13: VPIA met with Sherman Kreiner to discuss the UWinnipeg Commons and emergency housing options.

July 13: President met with UWFA President Richard Jochelson to discuss campaign partnerships.

July 14: President met with UW senior admin & several UWSA directors to talk about the need for predictable and affordable international student fees.

July 14: VPIA and VPSA met with CKUW and Diversity to discuss CKUW broadcasting in Diversity spaces.

July 17: President met with UW Faculty Association President to discuss co-hosting a debate and mentorship opportunities.

July 21: Executive, and Communications Coordinator met with Uniter folks.

July 23: President met with PSAC Staff Rep to discuss opportunities for collaboration.

July 23: VPEA attended UIC Focus Group with Cheyenne Henry.

July 24: General Manager and VPIA met with TSC to discuss expanding services to UWSA.

July 24: VPEA attended MMBT and met with community to discuss future events with UWSA.

July 27: VPIA met with the Sexual Misconduct Committee to look at the University's plans for promo material, training, and UWSA's role.

July 27: President attended divestment risk assessment oversight committee meeting.

July 27: President attended Its No Secret organizing meeting.

July 27: Meeting with Ashley Richard to plan Treaty 2 Commemoration.

July 28: Mtg w Wii ChiiWaakanak Learning Centre coordinator Nick Tanchuk on involving students in UWinnipeg.

July 29: VPEA met with CityStudio crew at fools and horses.

July 30: President attended a meeting with senior admin/campus stakeholders regarding moving UW services to the Rice Building

Services

Executive Report: July 1, 2015- July 31, 2015

The UWSA provides many services to both students and community members, ranging from our Bike Lab to our health plan. Below is a summary of the developments of our services.

Food Bank

We have been looking at different projects or strategic moves for the Foodbank. We have begun the process of talking to the University about moving the Foodbank to Riddell Hall permanently to improve visibility, usage and decrease stigmatization. We have had to do some volunteer management, and are working to ensure the Foodbank is a positive space for all involved.

Good Food Box

Good Food Box will resume in September.

Health Plan

There were no new developments on TSC's end for Health Plan Software, so meetings stalled for the month of July. The project is ongoing.

We succeeded in finally removing international students of study terms greater than 6 months from Guard.Me! International students, both full-time and part-time, here on study terms greater than 6 months, will now only be on our Greenshield health plan. Their plan will have additional coverage (AD&D, repatriation), resulting in their plan costing \$41.28 more than the domestic plan. This will save international students \$256.80 a year! We are working quickly with different University administration departments to ensure this change happens as quickly and smoothly as possible.

ISIC

We received two new ISIC printers from CFS national. One is in Infobooth, the other is in the Health Plan Office.

SafeWalk

We are currently interviewing applicants.

Student Support Program

Funding distribution guidelines were created and approved by the Finance and Operations Committee. These guidelines provide a recommended monthly budget for the programs distribution to ensure that the budget doesn't get depleted unevenly. These are guidelines, and can be exceeded if deemed necessary and appropriate.

Bike Lab

Bike Lab budget revision has finished. The Lab is investigating alternate revenue streams.

Lobbying

Disclosure

The University has committed in principle to allowing a limited amount of student information to be disclosed to the UWSA so that they can be contacted in instances of academic misconduct.

U-Pass Park and Ride Proposal

A student designed proposal on expanded park and ride opportunities following the introduction of the U-Pass was passed on to a member of Winnipeg's City Council for review.

Federal Election Day Academic Amnesty

We are working with the Registrar and UW senior admin to ensure that students who choose to vote on election day (October 19) are granted academic amnesty.

Projects

Microwaves

Microwaves have been purchased! 10 microwaves are on their way. We will have a total of 4 in Riddell, 4 in the Buffeteria, 2 in Duckworth, 1 in the Recplex, 1 in Richardson, and 1 in Buhler.

Online Positive Space Training Module:

VPSA has attended advisory meetings and has drafted situations.

Indigenous Credit Requirement: The Indigenous Requirement Advisory Committee has given an update and the current course list will be expanded and new courses will potentially be developed to meet the demand of students that will be required to take the course. Further information sessions and focus groups will take place during the 2015-2016 school year to engage faculty and students. Focus on course curriculum to be developed based on Truth and Reconciliation Commission Executive Summaries 94 Calls to Action.

Merchants Corner Satellite Office: UIC had consultations with students to figure out needs, VPEA took part in those sessions. A development committee is overseeing the financial management of resources and VPEA is sitting on that committee.

Housing Registry: Housing Registry plans consultations are on going with West Broadway Housing Coordinator and the Winnipeg Rental Network to develop online housing registry and potential map. Developing relationship with landlords through community housing coordinators is in the works.

U-Pass

Executive Report: July 1, 2015- July 31, 2015

We have been meeting with Winnipeg Transit and appropriate university departments to ensure that the U-Pass program is fully and properly implemented for Fall 2016.

Divestment: UWSA coordinated with CYCC or Canadian Youth Climate Coalition to talk about plans heading into the school year. UWSA will host information sessions on divestment and host webinar for students across Canada on what we are doing to get UWinnipeg administration to divest from fossil fuels.

The first meeting of the Divestment Risk Assessment Oversight Committee, comprised of student, faculty and admin representatives met this month. President Peyton Veitch was in attendance.

Daycare Expansion:

We are working on securing the necessary financial contributions from the University and Province to fund a 36 space expansion to our UWSA Daycare. Multiple UWSA staff and exec are involved in ensuring that application requirements are met in time for the September 15 provincial funding deadline.

Lockhart Renovations and Index:

Construction is proceeding on schedule for an August completion.

Federal Election 2015: UWSA will partner with AYO! Aboriginal Youth Opportunities will host sessions every Monday free period in the HIVE to engage students, faculty and administration with candidates and federal elections experts.

UWSA is working closely with CFSMB to coordinate the implementation of the Its No Secret campaign on campus. We are also working to hold a number of election related events including a results party at the Good Will, an “experts panel” and an all candidates debate in partnership with UWFA and the UW Alumni Association.

Gym Buddies:

VPSA met with Wesmen Athletic Directors, General Manager of the RecPlex, and Manager of the Duckworth gym to discuss Positive Space, Wesmen Code of Conduct, and programming.

Media

Executive Report: July 1, 2015- July 31, 2015

July 17, 2015 – Globe and Mail – VPEA interviewed for UIC merchants corner. Link - <http://www.theglobeandmail.com/news/national/transforming-a-notorious-winnipeg-neighbourhood-into-a-hub-for-education/article25588407/>

VPEA appeared in APTN National for UIC and Merchants Corner.

VPEA appeared in Global News for Merchants Corner.