

Executive Report: November 23, 2015 – January 18, 2016



# UWSA

THE UNIVERSITY OF WINNIPEG  
STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION

Executive Report  
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UWSA Executives:

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## **Executive Summary**

The December and January Executive Report marks the transition towards a forward gazing phase of the executive term. The major project of expanding the UWSA Daycare has been announced and smaller projects are coming to a head. The 2016 General Election begins in just over a week and will mark a new era of fairer, more transparent elections and referenda.

The announcement from the province that we've secure the last of our funding needed to expand the UWSA Daycare fulfills a major organizational goal for the year. We now have the resources available to pursue an addition to the current facility that holds 32 spaces, including 20 for infants. This will help reduce the number of waitlisted children and allow more student parents to pursue a post-secondary education at the University of Winnipeg.

Snowed In was a roaring success welcoming students back to school. The Pop Tart giveaways and Instagram contests helped promote the Friday night dance party and drag show. A ball hockey tournament on Spence saw Kinesiology and Athletic Therapy students narrowly defeated by a challenging collective of non-Kin students. Soup and stew rounded out a solid close to a week that featured hot chocolate and hot apple cider on a daily basis. Our hardworking Events and Communications team was integral to making this week possible.

Day-to-day operations have seen coffee begin to flow at index, and barring minor issues that may arise, will soon be next to printing as the staple service. Awareness of the printing service is spreading quickly as index becomes known widely as the cheapest place for printing on campus.

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](http://theuwsa.ca) or email [uwsa@theuwsa.ca](mailto:uwsa@theuwsa.ca) for information, open session minutes, etc.

### **Internal Meetings**

November 23: VPIA, Manager of Special Projects and Outreach, Communications Coordinator, and Events Coordinator held a Grass Routes meeting with the Alana from the Campus Sustainability Council

November 23: Bylaws and Policy Committee meeting

November 26: Board of Directors Meeting

November 27: Finance and Operations Committee meeting

November 30: UPass meeting with VPIA, President, GM, and Retail Manager

December 1: President meets with GM re UWSA Mission Statement.

December 1: President meets with Manager of Special Projects & Strategic Initiatives re Meal Exchange

December 2: Communications meeting with entire exec, GM and Communications Coordinator and Manager of Special Projects & Strategic Initiatives

December 3: PACE fees and health plan billing meeting with the President, VPIA, General Manager and Business Manager

December 3: VPEA meets with Special Projects Coordinator re Merchants Corner and Housing Registry

December 3: Executive meet w GM, SP, Bike Lab coordinator re Student Engagement and second term plans.

December 7: Student Poverty Campaign meeting attended by VPIA, President, and Foodbank Coordinator.

December 7: VPEA meets with SP to discuss Canada 150 Application

December 8: Student Outreach and Goal Setting meeting with EXEC, GM, and Manager of Special Projects and Strategic Initiatives

December 8: VPEA meets with SP to discuss Merchants Corner

December 9: Executive Committee Meeting

December 9: Bike Lab update meeting with exec, Bike Lab Coordinator and Manager of Special Projects and Strategic Initiatives

December 10: Office Holiday Lunch

December 14: UWSA audit 2015 meeting with external auditor Simon Hall, VPIA, President, GM and Business Manager

December 14: DMC meeting attended by VPIA, GM, and VPSA

December 15: index branding meeting with VPIA, President, Communications Coordinator and Retail Manager

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December 15: DivestUW Campaign Mapping Meeting with DivestUW and Council of Canadians.

December 16: Snowed In check in with exec, Events Coordinator and Communications Coordinator.

December 17: VPEA meets with SP to discuss 150 application.

December 18: VPEA meets with SP to discuss Merchants Corner

January 11: Student Life Committee

January 12: DMC meeting attended by VPIA, GM, VPSA and President.

January 12: Grass Routes meeting w SP, CSO office, Events.

January 12: VPEA and UWASC Female Co-President attended CFSMB provincial executive meeting with S

January 13: Special General Meeting

January 14: the VPIA and Communications Coordinator met to discuss the Good Food Box communications strategy

January 14: the VPIA and Manager of Special Projects and Strategic Initiatives met to discuss the Student Support Program communication strategy for winter term.

January 14: VPEA meets with SP to review 150 application.

January 15: Finance and Operations Committee meeting

### **External Meetings**

November 23-25: President attends CFS AGM.

November 23: VPIA and Status of Women Director met with MB Status of Women and Jan Byrd re: Sunrise Memorial Panel planning

November 23: VPIA attended the Integrated Academic and Research Planning Committee meeting.

November 23: VPSA and VPIA attended the Board of Regents meeting

November 24: VPSA attended Senate Appeals

November 24: VPIA had a phone meeting with Transit about the sale of the transit e-cards

November 25: VPIA, General Manager, HP Coordinator, and Business Manager attended a meeting with Financial Services re: health plan accounts

November 25: VPIA and VPSA attended the Senate Student Services Committee meeting

November 27: President meets with Chris Minaker.

December 1: VPIA and Status of Women director attended a Sunrise Memorial Panel planning meeting

December 1: VPSA attended Senate Appeals

December 2: President attended UW Alternative Budget Meeting

December 2: President met with Chair of CFSMB.

December 3: President and VPEA attended Divest UW meeting.

December 3: President and VPEA attended Canada 150 meeting.

December 4: President met with Bike Lab General Coordinator and UW Sustainability Office Director re Active Transportation Strategy.

December 4: President met with PSAC rep Shelley Jamieson.

December 7: President attends an interview of the VPA as part of the review committee.

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December 7: President, VPIA, VPEA, Foodbank Coordinator and Manager of Special Projects and Strategic Initiatives meet regarding a student anti-poverty campaign.

December 8: President meets with UWFA President.

December 8: Exec, GM & Communications coordinator meet about student outreach strategy.

December 8: VPSA attended Senate Appeals

December 8: VPEA meets with Karen Collins from Rhetoric and Writing Department regarding ICR Consultations.

December 9: President attends Senate Executive.

December 9: VPEA Meets w SP to discuss MERN Event.

December 9: VPEA meets w

December 10: President attends UW Alternative Budget Meeting

December 10: VPEA attends DivestUW meeting.

December 11: President & VPEA attend Manitoba Student Aid Annual Meeting

December 11: VPEA attends campus Sustainability Meeting

December 11: VPEA attends Indigenous Leadership Summit Planning meeting w Wab Kinew, Sarra Dean, UWASC Female Co-President, Hanwakan Whitecloud,

December 15: VPSA attended Senate Appeals

December 15: VPIA and President had a phone meeting with Michael from Meal Exchange re: a food in/security campaign on campus.

December 15: VPEA attends IRAC meeting.

December 16: VPIA and VPSA attended the Senate Student Services committee meeting

December 16: President & VPEA attend Divest UW meeting.

December 17: President attends Day Table Bookings meeting.

December 17: VPIA, President, General Manager, and Health Plan Coordinator met with Marnie Elliot and Susan Kreyssig from Greenshield

December 17: UWSA exec attended UW Senate meeting

December 18: VPEA & President met with Andraea Sartison from UW Events re Canada 150 application.

December 18: President met with Executive Director Student Life.

January 4: Bill 3 Prep meeting with President, VPIA, CFS-MB Chairperson, and Women's Commissioner from CFS-MB.

January 4: IWD planning meeting attended by VPIA and Status of Women Director.

January 5: VPSA attended Senate Appeals

January 7: VPEA attends Senate Honorary Degrees and Fellowship Committee

January 7: VPEA meets with Cheyenne Henry from UIC Department to discuss MERN Seminars

January 9: President and VPSA attended Wesmen Indigenous Days basketball games

January 11: VPEA meets w Lawyer Joelle Pastora Sala about UWSA by-laws and policies

January 11: Bill 3 consultation with the province attended by VPIA, VPEA, and the President, along with the Status of Women director, and reps from CFS-MB, UMSU, and Red River College Students' Union

January 11: VPSA met with Chair of Environmental Studies and Science to discuss AP Credits.

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January 11: IWD planning meeting attended by VPIA and Status of Women Director.

January 12: VPSA attended Senate Appeals

January 12: VPSA attended Board of Regents Governance and Community Relations Committee

January 13: Student Planning demo with TSC attended by VPIA and the Communications Coordinator

January 14: VPSA visited ELP students during their lunch break

January 15: VPSA met with CKUW Station Manager to discuss Fun Drive

January 15: President and VPEA met with Director of Campus Sustainability re Divestment engagement process.

January 15: VPEA meets with DivestUW, ASC Female Co President, Students and CSO Office to discuss Risk Assessment student consultation and engagement process.

January 18: the VPIA attended the Board of Regents Finance Committee meeting

January 18: the VPIA and the Status of Women Director attended the IWD planning meeting

January 18: VPEA met with Chief Operating Officer of City of Winnipeg, AVP Research, Geography Chair Marc Vachon, CSO Office and Experiential Learning Coordinator to discuss CityStudio project.

## **Services**

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:**

Student Foodbank usage continues to rise, with at least five new registrants every week. Our Foodbank has a good reputation for being a welcoming and safe environment.

### **Good Food Box**

The Good Food Box is taking a break for the month of January, and we are waiting to hear from the Winnipeg Food Share Co-op about when it will be back up and running. We have a communications strategy in place to help improve the program's usage.

### **ISIC**

The ISIC printer is happily in the main Office, where the Office Administrator can print cards, and explain how it relates to the Health Plan. Students can also get a card online.

### **Soap Dish**

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Soap Dish was hugely successful and we were able to put together 42 hygiene packages that were distributed to students in need. Thanks to everyone who contributed!

### **Winter Wear Drive**

VPSA is working with International Student Services and the Aboriginal Student Services Centre to collect winter wear for distribution to students in need.

### **Health Plan**

Greenshield is working on adding plan options for PACE students on 14 month study terms in advance of their membership in the UWSA (pending approval at the upcoming AGM). Our Health Plan Coordinator engaged in outreach efforts to students the first week of winter term classes.

## **Lobbying**

### **International Students:**

We have been involved with providing input in to a consultation session hosted by the University to solicit feedback from international students on a broad range of topics/issues that will be brought to the Board of Regents in the form of a report. At the time of writing, the event has been postponed (likely to January) until further notice.

### **Student Charter:**

Following discussions at the Senior Executive level, the President and VPSA met with University Registrar Colin Russell to talk about final edits and revisions to the Charter. We are now quite close to a document that will be amenable to all and are currently making some alterations to the Charter before sending it back to Colin.

### **Budget Consultation:**

We're working with the University to implement a budget consultation process for fall 2016. The Office of Institutional Analysis will help develop a survey instrument that is as comprehensive as possible.

### **Board of Regents Governance Proposal:**

With the support of UWFA, we have put forward a proposal for the Board of Regents to conduct more of its business, including regarding the University's budget, in open session. This will improve the accountability and transparency of the Board to members of the public and University community. The President will be working with the Senior Advisor to The UW President regarding further development of this proposal.

### **Disclosure:**

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The President and VPSA have reviewed a draft disclosure form presented by the University Registrar. The form includes all of the elements asked for by the UWSA and it will be reviewed by the University's General Counsel prior to implementation.

**Tutoring Promotion:**

Inherent to the University's commitment to access and excellence are support services. The Writing Centre has along, yet little known history of teaching students the tools they need to succeed at the University level. The VPSA has been giving classroom presentations to Academic Writing courses to this effect.

**UW Alternative Budget:**

Along with UWFA, AESES and CFS-MB, the UWSA is participating in an alternative budget project at the University of Winnipeg. The initiative will use a highly consultative process to produce a draft operating budget for the UW that reflects democratic principles and student, staff, & faculty priorities. The first public consultation took place on November 25<sup>th</sup>, and has been followed in the New Year with tabling on January 7<sup>th</sup> and January 13<sup>th</sup>.

**Spence Cycling Light/Active Transportation Infrastructure**

A working group involving Bike Lab & EcoPIA has been struck to develop a strategy for lobbying the city on adding a cycling light to Spence Street.

## **Projects**

**Merchants Corner Satellite Office:**

The fundraising committee for the Merchants Corner initiative has requested an advance of our previously pledged \$75,000 contribution to the project. Fundraising efforts for the facility have exceeded expectations to date. Community engagement and consultations will continue to happen simultaneously with Student Engagement/Consultations and UWSA information gathering sessions.

**Housing Registry:**

No new updates at this time.

**Advocacy:**

December and January have been heavy month for academic and non-academic advocacy. Case work has helped support nearly 20 students over the period this report covers.

**U-Pass:**

We are still waiting on Winnipeg Transit to send us the draft agreement. We have impressed upon them the short timeline we are working with and have given them a last possible date we need the agreement by in order to implement for Fall 2016.



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**Divestment:**

We are working with CFS-MB on a climate justice action next week. President continues to attend risk assessment meetings- the risk assessment terms of reference have been adopted and the process is moving forward.

**Printing in Richardson:**

VPSA has met with the Director of Printing Services and made arrangements with TSC for a computer and printer to be installed in the SoSA lounge. Funding has been secured.

**UWSA Daycare Expansion:**

The province announced that the UWSA Daycare will be among the 5 daycare centres receiving funding. The announcement was made in the UWSA Daycare, and was attended by the Minister responsible for the Status of Women, the Premier, and various other supporters. We're thrilled that the province has recognized the pressing need for more childcare spots, and has help make post-secondary education more accessible.

**Bulman Student Centre Room Set-up:**

New couches have been installed in our student rooms. There are now more public seating spaces and tables throughout the Bulman.

**Lockhart Renovations and index:**

A lease agreement has been signed and concluded with the University of Winnipeg, establishing the terms of our occupancy. Index continues to receive praise for its design and convenience, and a grand opening of coffee service will take place this January.

**Photo Club:**

There are no known barriers to the beginning of the Dark Room renovations. Photo Club's membership is growing and new faces are a common sight at their Monday meetings.

**By-Laws:**

The Membership of the UWSA voted to amend Section V of the By-Laws to update and clarify our elections and referenda. The changes move Policy to By-Law and include some minor restructuring to make elections and referenda fairer and more transparent.

**Canada 150:** The VPEA, with input from the ASC Female Rep, submitted a grant application as part of the University's application to Canadian Heritage for the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of confederation. Our portion of the application is for an Indigenous storytelling festival to be held in 2017. The festival will provide an opportunity for Indigenous to share and initiate discussion of critical stories from the past and present.

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**Grassroots Festival:** A call out for submissions for exhibits, workshops, discussions and film screenings went out on January 13<sup>th</sup>. The Grass Routes Festival will take place March 14-18 just after mid-term exams.

**Indigenous Credit Requirement:** The Office of Institutional Analysis is currently doing research on course capacity. Determining the course to student ratio to determine if the amount of courses that are currently offered meet the demand for the amount of students that are going to be required to take them. 2 communications videos are going to be worked on by IRAC, one internal for students, staff and administration, and one external for Winnipeg and Canada. The IRAC is also going to be working with the UWSA to create an International Students Welcome Gathering and Festival for new Canadians and international students.

**City Studio:** MOU was signed between the City of Winnipeg, UWSA and the University of Winnipeg. Plans to have a CityStudio project in Fall 2016 are commencing.

**Manitoba Education Research Network:** VPEA and Education Director are partnering with MERN and Faculty of Education to work on Student Research Seminars to highlight education research at the U of W.

## **Solidarity & Events**

**Montreal Massacre:** VPIA moderated the Sunrise Memorial panel discussion on sexualized violence on post-secondary education campuses. UWSA Status of Women director, and ASC Co-President were panelists, along with Alexa Potashnik and Alana Robert. VPIA and Status of Women director also attended the Montreal Massacre Memorial Luncheon at Union Centre, and participated as candle lighters.

**Wesmen Indigenous Day:** President & VPSA attended this basketball double header on January 9 honouring the contributions of indigenous athletes and acknowledging our presence on Treaty 1 territory. The event was a partnership between the Aboriginal Student Council and the Wesmen.

**Make Poverty History Campaign Launch:** President and VPEA attended the launch of Make Poverty History Manitoba' "K(NO)w Poverty" campaign. The campaign features six pillars including a minimum wage of \$15.53 per hour and increased investments in mental health, social housing, childcare, and EIA. It aims to raise public awareness about these issues and press political parties to support these proposals in advance of the provincial election.

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**CFS AGM:** President, ASC Female Rep, and UWSA Status of Women Director attended the 34<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting of the Canadian Federation of Students from November 22-25 in Gatineau, Quebec. The meeting featured discussions on a number of motions forwarded by Local 8 (all of which carried), and numerous workshops including discussions on combatting anti-black racism, indigenizing education, international student solidarity, student-worker solidarity, consent culture and more. President was elected incoming treasurer of CFS.

**UW Retirees:** President spoke at the UW Retirees Association's annual festive holiday luncheon on January 9 in Wesley Hall about the evolution of the student movement in general and the UWSA in particular.

**International Student Orientation:** VPEA and President attended this event on January 6 to meet new international students and speak with them about the services, supports and advocacy offered by the UWSA.

**Awards Night of Excellence:** President attended on January 13 to present awards to students on behalf of the UWSA.

**MEJC Climate Awareness Events:** VPEA attended a workshop on fossil fuel industry conducted by the Pembina Institute.

**SNA 247 SafeSpace:** VPEA attended funding announcement for 24/7 SafeSpace for MERC.

**Manitoba Government Climate Change Policy Announcement:** VPEA welcomed Manitoba Government into the University of Winnipeg to announce their climate change strategy. Shared some of the work UWSA is doing to combat climate change and shared 7 Fires Prophecy.

**Indigenous Education Blueprint:** VPEA and UWASC Female Co-President attended Indigenous Education Blueprint signed by all post-secondary institutions in Manitoba. Sadie shared her thoughts on the new agreement.

## **Media**

The VPIA was interviewed by *The Projector* (the student newspaper at RRC) about the Sexual Misconduct Protocol, and the ensuing campaign and training.

President was interviewed by the *Uniter* regarding provincial education funding and the new student services hub located in the Rice Building, and the *Manitoban* regarding the CFS AGM.

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