

Executive Report: October 24, 2015 – November 20, 2015



# UWSA

THE UNIVERSITY OF WINNIPEG  
STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION

Executive Report  
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UWSA Executives:

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Vice-President Internal Affairs Emily Epp, Vice-President Student Affairs Jesse Blackman

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## **Executive Summary**

November's passing draws attention to the values of the University of Winnipeg Students' Association. This month has demonstrated the vibrancy of student life with incredible participation in the CKUW Student Radio Marathon, the commitment to good working conditions and fair wages with the successful unionization of the Communications Coordinator and Part-Time staff into Manitoba Government and General Employees' Union, and our participation in the Government of Manitoba's press conference on Sexual Misconduct Policies on campus in Manitoba illustrates our commitment to reducing barriers to education beyond financial obstacles.

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**

October 27, Cycling Light Meeting  
October 29, BoD Meeting  
November 2, Consent Culture Committee  
Nov 10, Meeting w/ CKUW station manager

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Nov 12, Grassroutes Mtg  
Nov 13, Local 8 delegation mtg  
Nov 18, SnoWeek check-in  
Nov 18, Executive Committee  
Nov 20, Fun Class meeting

### **External Meetings**

Oct 26, VPSA met with UW Human Resources regarding military protest  
Oct 27, VPSA attended Senate Student Appeals Committee  
Oct 27, Elections Manitoba Meeting  
Oct 27, VPSA participated in JDC West's Chillen for Charity  
Oct 27, VPSA met with WCCR Board Chair  
Oct. 29, UW Alternative Budget Meeting  
Oct. 29, PACE UWSA membership meeting  
Oct 30, VPSA met with RecPlex GM and others regarding intramurals  
Oct. 30, Bulman Air Quality mtg  
Oct 30, VPSA met with BASA representatives  
Oct. 30, International Students Consultation Planning Meeting  
Nov 2, Health Plan Billing issue meeting  
Nov 3, VPSA attended Senate Student Appeals Committee  
Nov 3, Accessibility meeting  
Nov 5, VPSA met with Marnie Loewen about uwinnipeg.ca  
Nov 5, Pres, VPSA, and VPIA met with Diversity  
Nov 5, VPSA met with Institutional Analysis Office about retention  
Nov 6, VPSA met with ELP  
Nov 9, meeting w/ Rob Altemeyer MLA  
Nov 9, Senate Exec  
Nov 10, CKUW Student Radio Marathon  
Nov 10, VPSA attended Senate Student Appeals  
Nov 12, Divestment Risk Assessment  
Nov 12, CKUW Space  
Nov 12, VPSA met with Jason Yang about Business and Economics tutoring program  
Nov 13, VPSA met with Dr. Fiona Green about course syllabi  
Nov 13, MB delegation meeting  
Nov 16, meeting w/ Councillor Gilroy  
Nov 16, VPSA attended Pedagogy and Space Event  
Nov 17, VPSA attend Senate Student Appeals Committee  
Nov 17, meeting w/ Colin Russell  
Nov 17, VPSA attend WCCR Board Meeting  
Nov 18, VPA review committee  
Nov 18, GICs meeting  
Nov 19, VPSA met with Campus Housing  
Nov 19, Mouseland Press Meeting  
Nov 20, UW Senate

## **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**

Vani (Retail Manager) and Emily will be meeting soon to discuss how to promote the Good Food Box better. The program continues to be under-utilized and we'd love to see more students using it.

### **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.

### **Soap Dish**

The UWSA is hosting Soap Dish, a drive looking to collect new hygiene items from students to donate back to fellow students. There are bins around campus for you donate your items!

### **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.

## **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.

**Disclosure**

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.

**UW Alternative Budget**

Along with UWFA, AESES and CFSMB, 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 session is taking place on November 25 in the HIVE.

**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**

**Indigenous Credit Requirement:**

On November 20, the UW Senate unanimously approved the ICR criteria and implementation plan. Congratulations to ICR advisory committee members (and UWSA directors) Kevin Settee, Sadie Phoenix-Lavoie, and Morgan Brightnose for their integral roles in this accomplishment.

**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.

**Housing Registry:**

No new updates at this time.

**U-Pass:**

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We are waiting on Winnipeg Transit to send us the draft agreement. We expect to receive it in the next few weeks.

**Divestment:**

We are working with CFSMB 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.

**Daycare Expansion:**

Following our application to the Family Choices Building Fund, the province requested five additional pieces of information (including a floor plan and site plan) for the proposed expansion. We were able to provide all five requested items prior to the deadline they established. With the announcement of 12,000 new childcare spaces in the recent provincial government Throne Speech, with Universities specifically singled out as sites for them, we are highly optimistic that we will obtain the requested funding.

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

The draft Space Usage Protocol has not yet been reviewed by the Student Life Committee.

**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:**

Renovations on the Photo Club darkroom are set to begin soon. Photo Club's membership is growing and new faces are a common sight at their Monday meetings.

**Gym Buddies:**

Plans for a full, official launch are slated for January.

## **Solidarity & Events**

**Thrive Week:**

November 16-20 was Thrive Week. A number of events were very popular, including the flu shot clinic, Photo Club and EcoPIA exhibit, and dogs on campus.

**Photo Club & EcoPIA Exhibition:**

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Showed the incredible potential of art to be the medium for environmental discussion.

**Bike Lab Fundraiser:**

Members of the executive attended this fundraiser to support Bike Lab programming enhancements and its financial resilience.

**Calling All Cool Cats:**

Members of the executive attended this Women-Trans Spectrum Centre fundraiser to show support for the incredible work of the Centre and its membership.

**Homo Hop:**

Members of the executive attended this LGBT\* Centre fundraiser to show support for the incredible work of the Centre and its membership.

**Student Ideas & Coffee:**

Members of the executive attended this evening presentation of students' work hosted by students from the Department of Rhetoric, Writing and Communications on November 12.

**Throne Speech:**

President attended on behalf of the UWSA. Highlights included a commitment to fund 12,000 new childcare spaces, legislation on combatting sexual violence at universities, investment in new mixed-use student housing, and more up-front student aid.

**Certification Celebration:** Full time staff, part-time staff and executives gathered to mark the occasion of MGEU Local 433's formation. This new local serves the UWSA's almost 30 part-time employees.

**Shoal Lake Panel:** Members of the executive attended this event on November 5 where community members and allies discussed the impact of water diversion on Shoal Lake #40 and the need for the construction of the Freedom Road.

**Trans Day of Remembrance:**

Members of the executive attended this event on November 20 in solidarity with the Trans community to remember the loss of 271 people killed by transphobic violence around the world this year.

**Media**

Media appearances for the month included Uniter coverage of part-time staff unionization, Manitoban article re Fall Reading Week at University of Manitoba, Free Press coverage of Liberal student grants policy, CTV & CBC coverage of sexual violence legislation, various outlets on indigenous credit requirement.