



## STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION OF MACEWAN UNIVERSITY

**Minutes for the Students' Council Meeting of the  
Students' Association of MacEwan University  
September 20, 2023 at 6:00pm in Council Chamber**

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### **Voting Members:**

Gabriel Ambutong, President  
Abby Beka, Councillor  
Jakob Cardinal, Vice President External  
Freja Cartujano, Councillor  
Jayden Depeel, Councillor  
Cierra Jacobs, Vice President Student Life  
Joseph A. La Torre, Vice President Governance  
and Finance  
Nhi Phan, Councillor  
Nathan Poon, Councillor  
Sasha Ryzhova, Councillor  
Rayyah Sempala, Councillor  
Joehn Torres, Councillor  
Chioma Uzor, Councillor

Stephan Vasquez, Vice President Academic  
Sonia Yusuf, Councillor  
Layal Zidan, Councillor  
vacant, Councillor  
vacant, Councillor  
vacant, Councillor

### *SAMU Officials and Council Support:*

Timothy Jobs, Chair  
Darryl Kostash, General Manager  
Alan Honey, Governance Advisor

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Meeting called to order at pm.

<Intros>

### **1. Treaty 6 Land Recognition**

We would like to acknowledge that this meeting of the Students' Association of MacEwan University is taking place on the traditional territories of the people of the Treaty 6 region in Central Alberta.

The Students' Association of MacEwan University is situated in the centre of what we call the city of Edmonton, which is called Amiskwaciy Waskahikan or Beaver Hill House in Nehiyawewin (Cree). This is the traditional home of the Nehiyaw (Cree) and Michif (Métis), and meeting place for many Indigenous peoples including the Nakawe (Saulteaux), Siksika (Blackfoot), Nakota Sioux (Stoney) and other nations.

### **2. Approvals**

#### **2.1 MOTION**

***TO APPROVE THE AGENDA FOR SEPTEMBER 20, 2023***

#### **2.2 MOTION**

***TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF AUGUST 16, 2023***

### **3. Presentations**

#### **3.1. 2022-2023 SAMU Audit – MNP**

Vpgf -

**4. For Information**

**4.1. Reports**

**4.1.1. President**

**4.1.2. Vice President Academic**

**4.1.3. Vice President External**

**4.1.4. Vice President Governance & Finance**

**4.1.5. Vice President Student Life**

**4.1.6. 2022-2023 Audited Financials**

**4.1.7.**

**4.2. Executive Committee Minutes**

Minutes of August 2, 9, 16, and 30, 2023 provided.

**5. Question Period**

**5.1. Written Questions**

**5.2. Oral Questions**

Topics include:

**6. In Camera Period**

**6.1**

**7. Motions & Business Orders of the Day**

**7.1. 2022-2023 Councillor of the Year Vote**

Vpsl –

**7.2. 2022-2023 SAMU Audit**

***MOTION TO ACCEPT THE 2022-2023 AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FROM MNP  
VPGF/***

Vpgf –

Favour:

Oppose:

7.3.

**8. Consultation**

8.1

**9. Evaluation**

9.1

**10. Recognition**

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**11. Adjournment**

***MOTION TO ADJOURN***

Next Meeting Date: October 18, 2023

Meeting adjourned at pm.



## STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION OF MACEWAN UNIVERSITY

**Agenda for the Students' Council Meeting of the  
Students' Association of MacEwan University  
August 16, 2023 at 6:00pm in Council Chamber**

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### **Voting Members:**

Gabriel Ambutong, President  
Abby Beka, Councillor  
Jakob Cardinal, Vice President External  
Freja Cartujano, Councillor  
Jayden Depeel, Councillor  
Cierra Jacobs, Vice President Student Life  
Joseph A. La Torre, Vice President Governance  
and Finance  
Nhi Phan, Councillor  
Nathan Poon, Councillor  
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Stephan Vasquez, Vice President Academic  
Sonia Yusuf, Councillor  
Layal Zidan, Councillor  
vacant, Councillor  
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### *SAMU Officials and Council Support:*

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### **2. Approvals**

#### **2.1 MOTION**

***TO APPROVE THE AGENDA FOR AUGUST 16, 2023***

***ZIDAN/VPSL***

***CARRIED***

#### **2.2 MOTION**

***TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF JULY 19, 2023***

***BEKA/ZIDAN***

***CARRIED***

### **3. Presentations**

### **4. For Information**

#### **4.1. Reports**

##### **4.1.1. President**

ESA meeting; CASA visit.

#### **4.1.2. Vice President Academic**

#### **4.1.3. Vice President External**

#### **4.1.4. Vice President Governance & Finance**

#### **4.1.5. Vice President Student Life**

#### **4.2. Executive Committee Minutes**

Minutes of July 12, 19, and 26, 2023 provided.

### **5. Question Period**

#### **5.1. Written Questions**

Phan – For the President:

##### *NIAC x CASA x SAMU*

What insights did you and the VPE gain from the discussion of how to appoint Indigenous student representative? Will that be helpful for our (SAMU) work in bringing Indigenous students together?

Pres – A. The VPE and I gained valuable insights from the “NIAC Delegate One-pager” which was provided during the meeting. We also had an opportunity to ask clarifying questions. Here are some of the most important initial “Steps to Follow” discussed:

- 1 Learn about local Indigenous communities.
- 2 Consider your capacity and history of your student union.
- 3 Consult local indigenous leadership (In SAMU’s case, kihêw waciston)

B. Yes, insights gained from the meeting will undoubtedly help with our advocacy efforts as it relates to NIAC. Meeting with NIAC’s leadership and learning about the importance of ensuring Indigenous self-determination ensures that local Indigenous communities are properly represented.

##### *SAMU + MacEwan: Exec meeting*

1 Could you provide more details on how the update on Spring, Summer, and Fall terms will affect students?

Pres - Dr. Craig Monk (Provost and Vice-President, Academic) provided an update on enrollment numbers. The student experience is only be impacted when enrollment targets are not reached. However, as per the last update, targets are being met. From a high-level perspective, there is no significant impact on the current student experience.

2 Is the \$15k Food Pantry Donation result from the negotiation effort of last year?

Pres - The donation did not stem from negotiations. It was a result of last year’s advocacy efforts and partnership with MacEwan. During a “SAMU + MacEwan: Exec Meeting,” MacEwan was informed of challenges with the pantry. As a result, different departments did food drives, donation drives, and SAMU received the recent \$15K donation.

##### *CASA Policy and Strategy Conference*

1 What were the situations that lead AUSU to ask SAMU's president to represent them during the conference? How does this impact your ability to represent SAMU's voice at the same time?

Pres – A. AT CASA, VPEs serve as Primary Delegates and Presidents serve as Secondary Delegates. Primary Delegates have voting rights, while Secondary Delegates do not. The role of Secondary Delegates during Plenary is to support their VPE and to act on behalf of their respective institutions in the event that their Primary Delegate is unable to participate. AUSU's VPE, Manmeet Kaur, hold a position at CASA's Board of Directors and thus represents CASA's interests. AUSU's President Naju Syed therefore serves as AUSU's Primary Delegate and represents AUSU's interests.

AUSU's President has a scheduling conflict with the conference date. In the interest of amplifying the collective voice, SAMU continually fosters positive relationships with other Students' Associations. AUSU asking me to represent them, rather than asking a different delegate, reflects SAMU's success in bullet 2.3 (Continue to build collaborative relationships with other Students' Associations and organizations to enhance the collective student voice with all government levels) of SAMU's Strategic Plan.

At the conference, two Plenaries were held. At the Opening Plenary held on the first day of the conference, the SAMU's VPE was unable to attend due to flight delays. Therefore, I served as the Primary Delegate on behalf of SAMU and did not represent AUSU. My priority lies with SAMU members. On the last day of the conference, SAMU's VPE served as SAMU's Primary Delegate, while I represented AUSU. I accepted AUSU's request because their interests during plenary aligned with SAMU's interests. Therefore, representing AUSU only served to amplify SAMU's voice.

B. SAMU's voice was never hindered during the conference.

2 What are the main points that CASA members provide the Gov of Canada representatives regarding CSFAP?

Pres - CASA members highlighted the importance of the program in ensuring that students' financial needs are met. A few key challenges that were noted:

1. There are still plenty of students who lack adequate funding to pay for post-secondary education.
2. Many students are subjected to additional barriers that prevent them from accessing post-secondary education.
3. Students often experience difficulty repaying student loans.
4. Issues surrounding awareness of supports, financial literacy, and ease of access.
5. Lack of consultation with student leaders.

Phan – For the VP Academic:

*AI2 Working group*

Will the report be available for the public?

Vpa - The report will be made to the public once it is approved by the Committee for Teaching and Learning. As long as there are no addendums or errata, it may be released after October 16<sup>th</sup>.

What are some of the next steps after the AI ethics and guidelines get submitted to the Committee on Teaching and Learning?

Vpa - After approval, the working group's report will be reassessed in the following term. The reassessment will be to counter future concerns that may arise, such as ChatGPT-5, new genAI models, genAI detection tools, ect.

*OER*

I wonder if there exists positive/negative feedbacks data on the implementation of these Open Educational Resources in MacEwan?

Vpa - A positive feedback would be to inspire more sessional instructors to decide to use more OERs in their classes, which in turn could cause a cultural shift among the faculty. I'm hoping I can inspire that change at the New Faculty Orientation event later this month.

*FFAC Dean - SAMU*

Do you think student groups play a role in increase campus engagement between different faculties? If so, were this topic part of the discussion? If not, what possible ideas that the dean and SAMU are looking to work on?

Vpa - Yes, they do. The more we get students to move around campus the more community events

and campus services they learn that they can access. It was a topic of discussion with the Dean. We have entered talks to see if an exception could be made for nursing students so they may attend more SAMU/MacEwan Committees as members or join the Students' Council. Talks are ongoing, but the Dean of Nursing has been very proactive in addressing shared concerns and goals.

Phan – For the VP External:

#### *Project BHG*

I am excited for your project! What outreach strategy are you doing to increase awareness about this event?

Vpe - Glad to hear that there is excitement! I hope to see you there. Utilizing SAMU's marketing resources (Online postings and physical posters) as well as utilizing partner institutions outreach capabilities, which primarily involve an email list of students have been the main outreach strategies to increase awareness for the Beaver Hills Gathering.

#### *CASA Update*

1 Out of seven recommendations, which one(s) are most likely to succeed and why do you think so?

Vpe - Thank you for your question. In a perfect world, every ask that CASA makes would come true. It is important to recognize that CASA can only recommend and advocate on behalf of students at the federal level. The final decision, and how those decisions are put forth, ultimately does reside in the hands of the government.

The first recommendation, to permanently set Canada Student Grant maximums at \$4,200 per year and maintain weekly loan maximums at \$300/week has opportunity to come to fruition as the increase was discussed by the Liberal party as a platform priority, as well, the increase to \$4200 was made this past year and student need has not decreased in that same time frame. Maintaining a level of \$4200 per year for Canada Student Grant maximums and maintaining a weekly loan maximum of \$300 per week is a feasible and realistic ask of the federal government.

2 What are the Fed government standpoints on international students' work restrictions?

Vpe - Government of Canada's International Education Strategy for 2019-2024. linked below. Will have a detailed list of the Federal governments' standpoints on International students work restrictions.

<https://www.international.gc.ca/education/strategy-2019-2024-strategie.aspx?lang=eng>

Further in depth information from the Government of Canada on International Students work restrictions is linked below.

<https://www.canada.ca/en/immigration-refugees-citizenship/services/study-canada/work.html>

International students can work up to 20 hours per week. You can work more than 1 job to make up these hours as long as you continue to meet the conditions of your study permit.

From November 15, 2022, until December 31, 2023, you can work more than 20 hours per week off campus while class is in session if you meet certain requirements:

If you applied for a study permit (or extension) **on or before October 7, 2022**

If you applied for a study permit extension **after October 7, 2022.**

Phan – For the VP Governance and Finance:

#### *GovWeek Planning*

How different is this year's GovWeek from prior years'? Are there any improvements you wish to work on?

Vpgf - The biggest difference for this year's GovWeek will be its pre-promotion. In other words, the marketing campaign before the event. I plan on having a stronger social media campaign to promote not only the event but the prizes that students may be able to win by attending the GovWeek events through all our social media channels. For prizing this year, students will be able to potentially win 1 of 2 \$500 tuition credit; this will hopefully incentivize students to attend the GovWeek events.

Aside from the nominations tabling, campaigning 101, and How to Build your platform, and Students Council meeting, a new event will be the Councillor Q&A held in the SAMU Lounge. This event will be the last event where students will be able to drop-by and ask a councillor any questions, and afterwards, they will receive a free Vietnamese Sub.

Phan – For the VP Student Life:

*Tim Tang, Mental Health working group*

From last year, I have noticed an increasing presence of mental health resources and its promotion around campus. Does the committee collect data on how it has helped students and how accessible are the resources (such as the app) to students?

Vpsl - In spring 2022, the SMHWG sent out a survey titled "American College Health Association National College Health Assessment III". This was available to all MacEwan students to fill out online and they surveyed questions pertaining to the use of resources on campus through questions like:

- Have you used the current campus health center in the past 12 months?
  - 24% of respondents said 'yes'
- I have visited my current campus health and/or counseling center in the past 12 months
  - 40% of respondents said 'yes'

I am not sure which 'app' you are referring to, but the work of the Student Mental Health Working Group is to collect data on how best to inform supportive resources for faculty and staff when helping struggling students.

## **5.2. Oral Questions**

Topics include: Legal plan opt outs; Beaver Hills Gathering; new faculty orientation;

\* Cartujano & Phan arrive at 6:05pm.

\* Sempala arrives at 6:06pm.

## **6. In Camera Period**

## **7. Motions & Business Orders of the Day**

## **8. Consultation**

## **9. Evaluation**

## **10. Recognition**

## **11. Adjournment**

**MOTION TO ADJOURN**

**ZIDAN**

**CARRIED**

Next Meeting Date: September 20, 2023

Meeting adjourned at 6:13pm.





## Students' Council Report

### President

**September 20th, 2023**

Council,

Please see the report on my work as President from August 17<sup>th</sup> to September 14<sup>th</sup>.

### **Executive Summary**

- Council of Alberta University Students (CAUS) Counterparts Conference
- Advanced Education Student Leaders' Orientation
- MacEwan University Board Retreat

### **Student Voice**

*The Student Voice is amplified by SAMU.*

#### CAUS Counterparts Conference

*2.3 Continue to build collaborative relationships with other Students' Associations and organizations to enhance the collective student voice with all government levels.*

The VPE, VPGF, and I went to Lethbridge to attend the CAUS conference. At conference, we attended presentations on Indigenous Trauma Workshop, Government



Relations, Indigenization and the University of Lethbridge Students' Union, and a speech from Minister Neudorf (Minister of Affordability and Utilities). We also set our priorities and policy asks for the year. At a high-level, the central priority areas include affordability, mental health, honouring treaties. If you are interested in learning about the specific policy asks, please let me know so I can provide additional information.

### Advanced Education Student Leaders' Orientation

*2.3 Continue to build collaborative relationships with other Students' Associations and organizations to enhance the collective student voice with all government levels.*

I, along with SAMU's Advocacy Coordinator, went to the University of Calgary for the Student Leaders' Orientation. The agenda included a session with Honourable Rajan Sawhney (Minister of Advanced Education), overviews and status updates on various programs, and presentations from Alberta Graduate Provincial Advocacy Council (ab-GPAC), Alberta Students' Executive Council (ASEC), and CAUS.

### MacEwan University Board Retreat

*2.4 Foster Positive relationships with MacEwan University to better serve students.*

I, along with our Board of Governors Student Representative, attended a 2-day retreat held in MacEwan. The agenda included a presentation on cybersecurity in Post-Secondary Institutions (PSIs), MacEwan's position in the post-secondary sector, the strategic vision, the future of PSIs, MacEwan's place in Edmonton's downtown economy, and a walk through the Campus Block Party.

### **Closing Remarks**

I appreciate you taking the time to read my report. I try to ensure that I only report on high-level items that are relevant to council. If you have any questions or concerns,



please reach out. I am always happy to clarify or elaborate either virtually or in-person.  
Thank you!

Kind regards,

Gabriel Ambutong (He/Him)

SAMU President 2023-2024

[sapresident@macewan.ca](mailto:sapresident@macewan.ca)

## Students' Council Report

### Vice President Academic

**September 20<sup>th</sup>, 2023**

Happy Fall council!

I hope that you are enjoying this cwispy fall, the huge burst of vitality the new students are bringing, and the slow churning of the calendar from summer to autumn. We have so much going on at once it feels brilliant and blinding. For example, our team finished the Meet SAMU event, Fall Fest, Peer Support training, visiting the Ponoka campus, and so much more. However, I'm certain we can make it one day at a time.

Please see below for my report...

### **Executive Summary**

- Don't Go Textbook Broke Tabling Event
- SSJOC
- Roxanne Tootosis Memorial Event
- New Faculty Orientation
- SAMU Consultation for Registrar Search
- Calendar Advisory Group



## **Student Voice**

*The Student Voice is amplified by SAMU.*

### SAMU Consult on Registrar

*Strat Bullet Point (ex. 2.4, 3.4)*

As a part of the procedure for the cycling of the Registrar, The VPGF and I were consulted on our perspectives and concerns for students. While we are in the preliminary stages of finding who will be the head of the Registrar, we have kept students' needs and wants at the forefront of advocacy. We highlighted the results of the past few Student Spring surveys as well as new concerns, like Sunday exams. As the search continues, we will make certain that these issues remain on the forefront.

## **Student Supports**

*Student supports provided by SAMU are responsive to unique and evolving needs*

### Don't Go Textbook Broke OER Event

*Strat Bullet Point (3.1, 3.2)*

Textbooks, tuition, and living expenses are all things that keep on increasing in price. As apart of reducing those costs we have multiple projects aimed at confronting it piecemail. The Don't Go textbook Broke Event was aimed at sharing tools and services that could drastically reduce the cost of textbook expenses for students. With the help of the Library, we highlighted several services such as the *Print on Demand* service, rentals, borrowing, e-books, and free PDFs. We had a huge amount of engagement and I am looking forward to repeating this event next term as well.



## SSJOC

### *Strat Bullet Point (3.3)*

SSJOC presented some keynotes over the past year and some new goals, including cyber security, streamlining operations, and the ERP report. Due to our highlighted concerns and advocacy, we will potentially be able to avoid having two Sunday exams in the 2024/2025 fall semester. In addition, the Textbook Transparency project has been added to the ERP task list. The Textbook Transparency project is slated to be completed by Summer 2024, however, the dates may shift to shorten this timetable. Talks are ongoing with stakeholders to investigate what supports may be available to shorten the timetable

## Calendar Advisory Group

### *Strat Bullet Point (3.1)*

We discussed the possibility of a 3-year degree for certain programs. However, there are multiple angles to this consideration such as: being able to do a 3-year degree is rare due to class schedules, the amount of stress it puts on a student, and what president this sets for other degrees. These concerns were highlighted and the discussion item ended.

## Roxanne Tootoosis Memorial Event

### *Strat Bullet Point (3.4)*

As a show of solidarity, I attended a celebration of life event for the late Roxanne Tootoosis, MacEwan's Indigenous Knowledge Keeper. While I did not know her personally, her affect on or community, campus, advocacy, and relationships is still deeply felt. I am happy to see the glow of her work even though she is not with us today.

## New Faculty Orientation

### *Strat Bullet Point (3.3)*

Teaching students about cheaper options for textbooks extends beyond tabling events. To ensure that the momentum of OERs continues to flow I worked with the library to produce information packages for our new sessional, new professors, and staff that are joining our community. By teaching of these options early and often we can be sure to promote savings for students by sharing this knowledge with allies in the professoriate.

### **Closing Remarks**

Phew, what a month. While this work keeps us busy it feels so invigorating to see our projects begin to flower and then bear fruit. I am looking forward to sharing those boons with you all as the year progresses into winter then daybreak of spring.

Until then, have a fantastic September!

Cheers,

Steph!



**STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION  
OF MACEWAN UNIVERSITY**

## **Students' Council Report**

### **Vice-President External**

**Date of Meeting Sept 20<sup>th</sup>, 2023.**

Hello Council!!

Here is a summary of the work of the VPE portfolio from what was previously reported up until Sept 14<sup>th</sup>.

#### **Executive Summary**

- **AFN (Assembly of First Nations)**
- **CASA update**
- **CAUS update**
- **ESA (Edmonton Student Alliance)**





## **Student Experience & Engagement**

*The overall student experience is enhanced by the opportunities provided by SAMU*

**N/A**

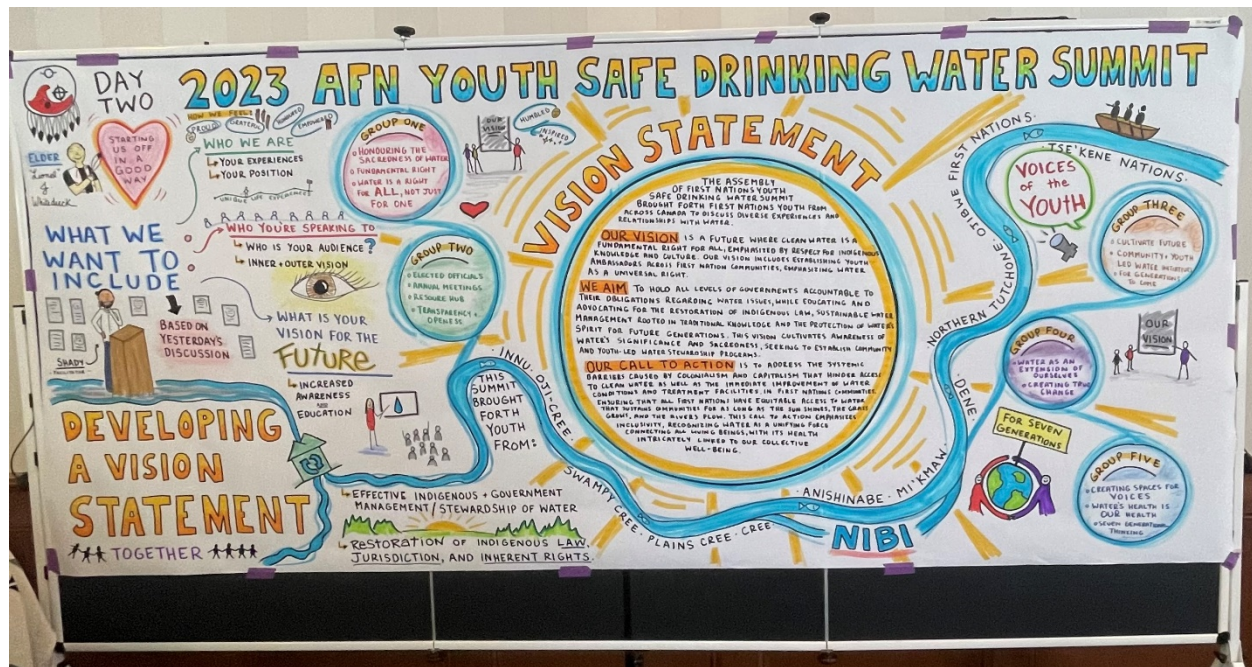
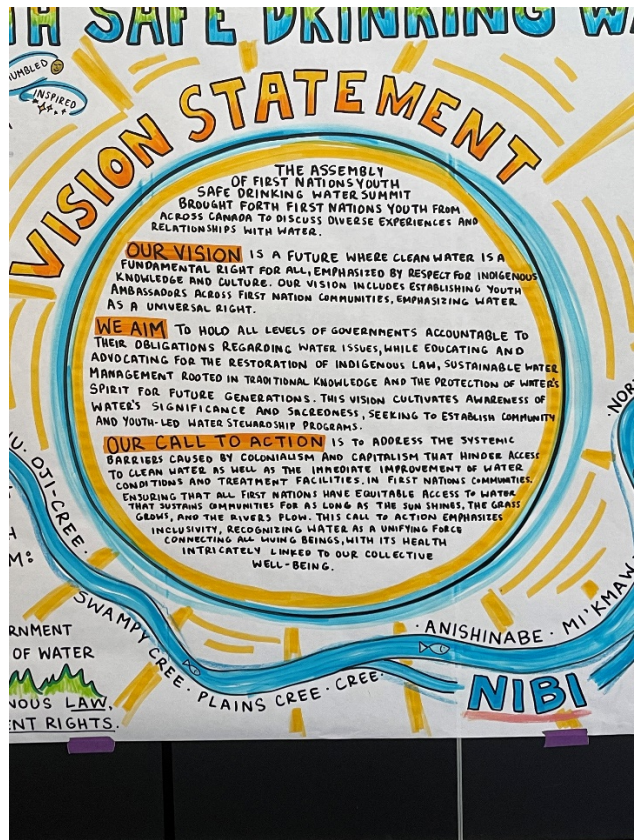
## **Student Voice**

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### **AFN (Assembly of First Nations)**

Before the summer came to an end, I had the opportunity to visit Quebec City to be a part of a National Youth Water Summit put on by the Assembly of First Nations (**AFN**). The National Youth Water Summit brought together 40 youth (18-29 years old) from varying nations from across the country to discuss the ongoing systemic & institutional issues facing Indigenous populations across the nation. Specifically, access to reliable & clean drinking water. Reliable access to clean drinking water is a daily issue of varying severity faced by any student who does not permanently reside in the city. MacEwan's very own Ponoka campus has issues acquiring reliable & clean drinking water for its students. These issues are multiplied exponentially when individuals or families who do not have institutional supports are faced with the challenges of acquiring clean & reliable drinking water.

Throughout the summit I was able to voice my thoughts and opinions effectively to ensure that Treaty 6 issues were represented. Below is a photo of the final Vision Statement (A visual note taker was present throughout the summit, below is what came out of day 2), note the Treaty 6 influence under "OUR CALL TO ACTION". "As long as the sun shines, the grass grows and the rivers flow". This is directly from Treaty 6, and I am happy to have been so involved with creating an advocacy document that intends to land on parliament hill.





Below is additional information to further Students Council's understanding of the mandate of the AFN and its structure.

What is the AFN?

The Assembly of First Nations is a national Aboriginal advocacy organization acting through the direction of First Nations governments and their citizens. It exists to fulfill the goal of correcting the past and current injustices committed in the founding of Canada and in the ongoing exploitation of land and resources.

The AFN is a Chiefs organization who is committed to securing the rightful position of the First Nation Peoples in Canada's future, in partnership with the provincial and federal governments, and advancing First Nations self-determination.

In addition to exercising self-determination under First Nations structures and mechanisms, the AFN exists to promote the "restoration and enhancement" of the Crown-First Nations relationship and to ensure that it is mutually beneficial to the First Nations people.

**Structure of the AFN.** Based on the Charter of the Assembly of First Nations, which was adopted in July 1985. The principal elements of the AFN are; the First Nations Chiefs-in-Assembly, the Executive Committee; the AFN Secretariat. The AFN National Youth Council, the AFN Women's Council, and the Council of Elders.

The Executive Committee is made up of the ten Regional Chiefs (one for each province), the National Chief, and the Chairpersons of the Youth, Women, and Elder Councils. The First Nations Chiefs-in-Assembly are comprised of all Chiefs from across Canada. The AFN Secretariat is comprised of various administrative personnel and policy analysts that support the work of the Executive Committee, First Nations leaders, and communities. The AFN Youth, Women, and Elder Councils are comprised of representatives from each region throughout Canada.

## **CASA UPDATE**

- The executive committee had the opportunity to discuss student priorities and give a tour to CASA's interim Executive Director, Wasiimah Joomun. In the weeks since, Wasiimah Joomun has been hired as the new Executive Director for the organization. With unrivaled experience from her time as the Member Relations Officer, CASA's Board of Directors and the SAMU Executive team are





excited for her to take on the role of Executive Director. We look forward to continuing the promotion of an efficient and beneficiary relationship between our organizations, for the students.



## CAUS UPDATE

At the provincial level, our focus has been on the recent provincial report on campus gender-based and sexual violence, MacEwan students are calling on the provincial government to act on the three asks put forward by post-secondary students at colleges, polytechnics and universities in Alberta. The three asks, from SAMU's official statement & stance on the issue are as follows.

**Along with our colleagues at the Council of Alberta University Students (CAUS) , SAMU is calling on the provincial government and the Advanced Education Minister to:**

- 1. Create a ministry-led Sexual and Gender-Based Violence in Alberta Post-Secondary Education Working Group**, with representatives from the Council of Alberta University Students, the Alberta Students' -based organizations, such as a representative from the Association of Alberta Sexual Assault Services.
- 2. Dedicate funds to existing work both on prevention and support for survivors at Alberta's post-secondaries**, including additional funding for the expansions of on-campus/institutional services, and the development of these services at institutions where they may not already exist.



3. **Sponsor a province-wide campaign around consent education at Alberta's post-secondaries.** Such a campaign would highlight what consent looks like in a variety of different contexts, using easy-to-understand language, and would also highlight the fundamental importance of consent more broadly.

### **Edmonton Student Alliance (ESA)**

- The Edmonton Student Alliance (**ESA**) is made up of 8 member institutions representing post-secondary students within Edmonton. The Students Association of MacEwan University (**SAMU**), University of Alberta Students Union (**UASU**), University of Alberta Graduate Students Association (**UAGSA**), Concordia Graduate Students Association (**CGSA**), Concordia Students Association (**CSA**), Students Associations of Norquest College (**SANQC**), NAIT Students Association (**NAITSA**) and The Kings University Students Association (**TKUSA**).
- I have recently been elected by the various member institutions to sit as the Chair of the ESA to represent all post-secondary students in our city. I look forward to the next council report when I can report back on the Edmonton Student Alliances top priorities for the year, as well as the next steps for joint municipal advocacy.

### **Student Supports**

*Student supports provided by SAMU are responsive to unique and evolving needs*

N/A



## **Strengthening SAMU Operations**

*SAMU is an innovative and sustainable organization with an engaging work environment*

N/A

## **Closing Remarks**

The student experience is informed by the student voice, and I always welcome yours! Please do not hesitate to contact me via email at [savpstudentlife@macewan.ca](mailto:savpstudentlife@macewan.ca) or schedule an appointment.

Thank you I appreciate your time,  
Jakob Cardinal.



## Students' Council Report

### Vice President Governance & Finance

September 20<sup>th</sup>, 2023

Greetings Council!

Now that the school year is in full swing, it's great to see campus livelier again, and filled with the busyness that the Fall semester brings. I most excited for all the events SAMU has in store for students, and some of the events that the Executive Committee will be holding, too.

Here is my report from August 11<sup>th</sup> – September 14<sup>th</sup>.

#### **Executive Summary**

- Tuition/MNIF Meetings
- Governance Committee



## **Student Voice**

*The Student Voice is amplified by SAMU.*

*2.4 Foster positive relationships with MacEwan University to better serve students.*

### Tuition/MNIF Meetings with MacEwan

Every year MacEwan is required to consult with SAMU on tuition and MacEwan Non-Instructional fees; the reason for this is due to the Tuition and Fees Regulations laid out by the Post-Secondary Learning Act. We've had two meetings so far; the first was introductions and confirming the timeline of the consultation; and the second meeting was where the President and I stated SAMU's principles, which includes SAMU being the official voice of students and that we do not support any tuition increases. Also, during the meeting, MacEwan stated theirs as well, such as how their Strategic Vision informs their spending. Although we make recommendations to MacEwan during these meetings, they do not need to adhere to them. There will be two upcoming meetings left before the consultation is finished and we will continue to advocate what's in the best interest for students.

## **Student Supports**

*Student supports provided by SAMU are responsive to unique and evolving needs.*

## **Strengthening SAMU Operations**

*SAMU is an innovative and sustainable organization with an engaging work environment.*





*4.5 Foster a professional and supportive work environment that lives the organizational values and delivers a culture of excellence*

#### Governance Committee

The newly named 'Governance Committee' met for the first time to do introductions, discuss the committee's Terms of Reference, and its previous work plan.

#### **Closing Remarks**

Thank you for taking the time to read my short report. Make sure to enjoy the leaves changing and take those seasonal Fall photos.

#### **Kind Regards,**

Joseph A. La Torre, (He/Him)

VP Governance and Finance, SAMU 2023/2024

[savpoperations@macewan.ca](mailto:savpoperations@macewan.ca)



## Students' Council Report

### Vice President Student Life

09-20-2023

Greetings Council! 😊

Welcome back to another busy fall on campus! 📅 Please see below my report of office activity from August 11- September 14. 🧐

#### Executive Summary

- International Student's Orientation
- Ponoka Campus Visit
- Ending Sexual Violence Week Planning (ESVW)
- Peer Support Training

#### Student Experience & Engagement

*The overall student experience is enhanced by the opportunities provided by SAMU*

##### International Student's Orientation

*1.2 – Increase student awareness of SAMU and its opportunities through strong communications and engaging marketing and branding.*

I have been in good communication since my term began with Nataliya Oliferchuk, Manager of International Student Services, for ways for SAMU to partner with the office to provide better information to students regarding available support and visibility. SAMU's President, VP Academic, and I were lucky enough to attend the international student's orientation and provide a presentation of SAMU's programs,

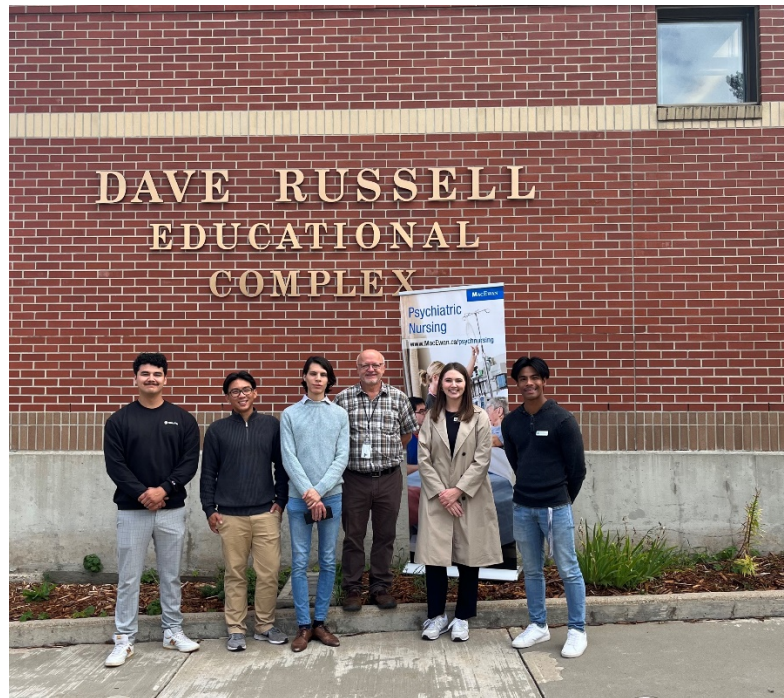
services, and general info on how to reach us and connect with SAMU. (Special thanks to Layal for taking some pics!)



### Ponoka Campus Visit

*1.2 – Increase student awareness of SAMU and its opportunities through strong communications and engaging marketing and branding.*

I have also been involved in communications with Ken Kustiak, Dean of Ponoka's Psychiatric Nursing Campus, regarding the demographic of students and how we can create a presence of support to students in Ponoka. Your entire Executive Committee, along with the company of Megan Viens, SAMU's Director of Programs and Services, were pleased to travel down to the Centennial Centre for Mental Health and Brain Injury to table for first- and second-year students of the program. We all worked hard to make sure we had relevant information for this student population along with some SAMU swag and snacks!



## **Student Supports**

*Student supports provided by SAMU are responsive to unique and evolving needs*

### Ending Sexual Violence Week Planning (ESVW)

*3.3 – Strengthen collaborations and partnerships with MacEwan University to expand supports and resources for students.*

Sexual Violence Awareness Week (SVAW) has been rebranded as Ending Sexual Violence Week (ESVW). As you are all aware, I sit on this planning committee for the events taking place during the week of October 2-6. We have solidified some fantastic events taking place throughout the week that I hope to see many of you, and your friends at:

- Art Gallery in SAMU's Lookout Monday – Thursday
- Tuesday October 3<sup>rd</sup> 2:30-4pm "The Trouble with Girls in the Lab: The Unacceptable Costs of Gender-Based Violence in the Sciences" Keynote



Speaker Imogen Coe will be presenting in the Kule Theatre (Catch your entire Executive Committee there)

- Wednesday October 4<sup>th</sup> 10-11am Teachings of Indigenous Matriarchy in kihêw waciston Gathering Room (Room 9-115)
- Wednesday October 4<sup>th</sup> 1-4:30pm Drop-In Crafting to Honour our Indigenous Matriarchs in kihêw waciston Gathering Room (Room 9-115)
- Thursday October 5<sup>th</sup> 12:30-1:50pm Breaking Down the Man Box – a workshop on perceived toxic masculinity (Room 7-184)
- Friday October 6<sup>th</sup> 10am – 1pm Drop-in Self-Care Space with Peer Heath Education Team, MAVEN, and PAWSS (Room 7-146)

## **Strengthening SAMU Operations**

*SAMU is an innovative and sustainable organization with an engaging work environment*

### Peer Support Training

*4.5 – Foster a professional and supportive work environment that lives the organizational values and delivers a culture of excellence.*

Along with our VP Academic, I attended SAMU's Peer Support training. As my portfolio oversees programs and services, it was a wonderful opportunity to understand how Peer Support looks in the room with clients and to appreciate the work of Annette Kelm, Student Services Manager, and Janet Guenter, Peer Support Assistant. We worked through how best to support students with a variety of scenarios like addiction and harm reduction, interpersonal relationships, abuse, how to talk about suicide, supportive listening, and referral resources. This was such a great 4 day training where we were able to be interactive and leave best prepared to handle these conversations with students who come to us for help.



**STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION  
OF MACEWAN UNIVERSITY**

### **Closing Remarks**

The student experience is informed by the student voice, and I always welcome yours!

Please hesitate to contact me via email at [savpstudentlife@macewan.ca](mailto:savpstudentlife@macewan.ca)

Cheers,

Cierra Jacobs (she/her)

VP Student Life, SAMU 2023/2024



**Minutes for the Executive Committee Meeting of the  
Students' Association of MacEwan University  
August 2nd, 2023 @ 2:00pm**

**Voting Members:**

Gabriel Ambutong, President  
Stephan Vasquez, VP Academic  
Jakob Cardinal, VP External  
Joseph A. La Torre, VP Governance & Finance  
Cierra Jacobs, VP Student Life

**Resource Officials:**

Darryl Kostash, General Manager  
Alan Honey, Governance Advisor

**Recording Secretary:**

Shannon Marshall, Executive Coordinator

1. Call to Order: 2:36 pm

2. Approval of Agenda:

**VPSL/VPGF  
CARRIED**

3. Approval of Minutes for: July 26th, 2023

**VPGF/VPA  
CARRIED**

TOPIC		DISCUSSION	ACTION/MOTION
1.	Debrief for the Calgary Stampede.	As presented	
2.	Debriefing Note: Town Hall 202: Format and Topics	Discussed	
3.	Project Updates (Standing Item)		
4.	Outstanding Action Items	NIC retreat funding for next budget cycle, VPGF	
5.	VP Academic's Report	OER planning and research AI items Fee Fact Meeting Provost reappointment	
6.	VP External's report	NIC delegate, tour and meet the team Mentorship program with CASA	
7.	VP Governance and Finance's Report	Governance Committee meeting Governance Performance Information Team	
8.	VP Student Life's Report	SEC BBQ need prize idea for top three and bottom three Sexual Violence Awareness week, rough outline for the week completed	

9.	President's Report	Meeting with NIC 1 <sup>st</sup> year mentorship video	
10.	General Manager's Report	N.E.T. with EPS Safety in the Community presentation later in August New Visas have arrived Please do Visa reports on time Larrissa back to work on the EC Transition Project Core Strengths – Conflict management discussion ongoing, more details to follow Q4 review done, SAMU looking good MacEwan residence full	
11.	Recognition		

#### 4. Adjournment

**CARRIED**

Time: 3:24 pm.





Minutes for the Executive Committee Meeting of the  
Students' Association of MacEwan University  
August 9, 2023 @ 2:00pm

**Voting Members:**

Gabriel Ambutong, President  
Stephan Vasquez, VP Academic  
Jakob Cardinal, VP External  
Joseph A. La Torre, VP Governance & Finance  
Cierra Jacobs, VP Student Life

Alan Honey, Governance Advisor

**Recording Secretary:**

Alan Honey, Governance Advisor

Guests:

Cam Whiting, Finance

**Resource Officials:**

Darryl Kostash, General Manager

1. Call to Order: 2:00 pm

2. Approval of Agenda:

**VPA/VPE**

**CARRIED**

TOPIC		DISCUSSION	ACTION/MOTION
1.	Quarterly Finance Update	Whiting provides Q4 budget update.	
2.	Indigenous Student Rep appointment		<b>MOTION</b>  <b>TO APPOINT KATRINA KOE AS THE INDIGENOUS STUDENT REP, CONTINGENT ON CONFIRMING THEIR GOOD ACADEMIC STANDING, FOR A TERM ENDING APRIL 30, 2024</b>  <b>VPA/VPE CARRIED</b>
3.	Youth Water Summit	Vpe – believe this is an event that the Vpe & NIAC rep should attend on a yearly basis.	<b>MOTION</b>  <b>TO APPROVE AN EXPENSE OF UP TO \$1900.00 FROM G/L 525400 FOR THE VPE TO ATTEND THE YOUTH SAFE DRINKING WATER SUMMIT SCHEDULED FOR AUGUST 28-29, 2023</b>  <b>VPA/VPSL CARRIED</b>
4.	Project Updates (Standing Item)		
5.	Outstanding Action Items		

6.	VP External's report	Met with Katrina Coe re. Indigenous Student Rep position. Beaver Hills Gathering update.	
7.	VP Governance and Finance's Report	Tabled.	
8.	VP Student Life's Report	Met with Megan Simon re Tactical Plan.	
9.	President's Report	ConEd meeting coming up.	
10.	VP Academic's Report	ConEd – student refugee update. OER research. AI2 Working Group meeting.	
11.	General Manager's Report	ConEd meeting. EDO/OPA update. P/T employees started. Splash & Bash update. Facilities meeting next week. Conflict Resolution PD opportunity. Safewalk update.	
12.	Recognition		

### 3. Adjournment

Time: 3:10 pm.



Minutes for the Executive Committee Meeting of the  
Students' Association of MacEwan University  
August 16, 2023 @ 2:00pm

**Voting Members:**

Gabriel Ambutong, President  
Stephan Vasquez, VP Academic  
Jakob Cardinal, VP External  
Joseph A. La Torre, VP Governance & Finance  
Cierra Jacobs, VP Student Life

**Resource Officials:**

Darryl Kostash, General Manager  
Alan Honey, Governance Advisor

**Recording Secretary:**

Alan Honey, Governance Advisor

1. Call to Order: 2:04pm
2. Approval of Agenda:  
**VPGF/VPA  
CARRIED**
3. Approval of Minutes: August 2 & August 9, 2023  
**VPSL/VPGF  
CARRIED**

TOPIC		DISCUSSION	ACTION/MOTION
1.	Budget Overages	Whiting – these are items to be approved for end of year. Notes are within the document.	<b>Motion</b>  To approve a budget overage of \$2902 in G/L 500150, \$151 in G/L 585300, \$5205 in G/L 550600, \$2476 in G/L 510200, \$4058 in G/L 510600, \$540 in G/L 520000, \$51 in G/L 585000, \$2939 in G/L 501900, \$57519 in G/L 502400, and \$2685 in G/L 599830  <b>Vpgf/vpa Carried</b>
2.	Maintenance Fund	Gm – Additional furniture required for building & upgrade our composting.	<b>Motion</b>  To approve an expense, from the Maintenance Fund, of up to \$26,550.00 for the SAMU Furniture Plus Ups (Project 1) purchase and up to \$5000.00 for the Composting setup (Project 2) purchase  <b>Vpgf/vpa Carried</b>

3.	Approval of EC time off	Gm – will create process, likely with Exec Coord.	<b>MOTION</b>  <b>TO TASK THE GENERAL MANAGER WITH DEVELOPING A PROCESS FOR MANAGING THE APPROVALS OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBER TIME OFF REQUESTS</b>  <b>PRES/VPSL CARRIED</b>  Action: GM to report back to EC on the process at the September 6, 2023 EC meeting
4.	SRP	Vpa – refugee student will be arriving soon. We will be getting a card and asking EC to sign prior to providing it to student.	
5.	Project Updates (Standing Item)		
6.	Outstanding Action Items		
7.	VP Governance and Finance's Report	SC training meeting. SCOC meeting update.	
8.	VP Student Life's Report	International students meeting.	
9.	President's Report	Student Leaders Orientation update.	
10.	VP Academic's Report	Counterpart meeting update. SARG.	
11.	VP External's report	ESA meeting update. Play-on steering committee meeting. Visit with CASA. SEC BBQ. Met with SAC student music program rep.	
12.	General Manager's Report	ConEd meeting. SG update. P/t staff are adjusting to new positions well.	
13.	Recognition		

#### 4. Adjournment

Time: 2:39pm.



**Minutes for the Executive Committee Meeting of the  
Students' Association of MacEwan University  
August 30, 2023 @ 2:00pm**

**Voting Members:**

Gabriel Ambutong, President  
Stephan Vasquez, VP Academic  
Jakob Cardinal, VP External  
Joseph A. La Torre, VP Governance & Finance  
Cierra Jacobs, VP Student Life

**Resource Officials:**

Darryl Kostash, General Manager  
Alan Honey, Governance Advisor

**Recording Secretary:**

Shannon Marshall, Executive Coordinator

1. Call to Order: 2:01 pm
2. Approval of Agenda:  
**VPA/VPGF  
CARRIED**
3. Approval of Minutes: August 16, 2023  
**VPA/VPGF  
CARRIED**

TOPIC		DISCUSSION	ACTION/MOTION
1.	Student Groups	<p><i>MacEwan Music Club</i> Vpgf – hesitant on approving this. Needs a more specific mandate. Vpe – believe this will foster a better relationship with SAMU &amp; the music department. Gm – you can ask for more info if everyone needs it's needed. Vpa – this is a rebranding of the SG. Feel like we should give them the benefit of the doubt – have faith that our staff will ensure the club has a chance to be successful. Vpsl – don't see an issue with some ambiguity in this application. Gm – this is an opportunity for the group &amp; it's members to grow &amp; learn. Mandate is short but it's dialed into what they want to do.</p> <p><i>MacEwan Real Estate Club</i></p> <p><i>Live Music Club</i></p> <p><i>MacEwan University Vietnamese Students Alliance</i></p>	<p><b>MOTION</b></p> <p><b>TO APPROVE THE MACEWAN MUSIC CLUB, THE MACEWAN REAL ESTATE CLUB, AND THE MACEWAN UNIVERSITY VIETNAMESE STUDENTS ALLIANCE</b></p> <p><b>VPA/VPE CARRIED</b></p> <p><b>MOTION</b></p> <p><b>TO CLOSE THE LIVE MUSIC CLUB</b></p> <p><b>VPE/VPGF CARRIED</b></p>
2.	Student Groups procedure	Vpgf – Gm, SG staff, etc have done an extensive review and provided some recommended updates for approval here today.	<p><b>MOTION</b></p> <p><b>TO APPROVE THE STUDENT GROUPS PROCEDURE</b></p>

		Vpgf – Pres provided feedback on definitions of Meetings & Events. The need for approvals of every event could be cumbersome. Vpsl – not concerned – SGs would only need one form for a recurring event. GM – recurring events still need diligence around them. Vpe – want to ensure there is an appeal process.	<b>VPGF/VPA CARRIED</b>
3.	NSO	Vpgf – looking for feedback on what slide we want in background for while we're speaking.	
4.	Project Updates (Standing Item)		
5.	Outstanding Action Items		
6.	VP Student Life's Report	Met with Megan Simon re. Student Tactical Plan feedback. Met with Careers & Experience Office.	
7.	President's Report	Tabled.	
8.	VP Academic's Report	Committee appointments. Project planning work. Peer Support Training. Calendar Advisory Group meeting. Attended Roxanne's (KW) memorial yesterday. NFO today.	
9.	VP External's report	CAUS Counterparts conference. AFN Youth Water Summit.	
10.	VP Governance and Finance's Report	CAUS Counterparts. Registrar consultation meeting. Tuition & MNIFs pre-meeting.	
11.	General Manager's Report	HR update. Gearing up for next week – first week of class. Website update ongoing.	
12.	Recognition		

#### 4. Adjournment

Time: 3:02pm.



**STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION  
OF MACEWAN UNIVERSITY**

**STUDENTS' COUNCIL MEETING SUBMISSION**

**AGENDA ITEM INFORMATION**

Meeting Date	Submitted By
September 20, 2023	Cierra Jacobs, Vice-President Student Life

Agenda Title	Item
	2022-2023 Councillor of the Year Vote
Action Requested	<input type="checkbox"/> Motion <input type="checkbox"/> Consultation Item

**AGENDA ITEM DETAILS**

Motion Title	
Background Information	<p>Each year we recognize a councillor as the Councillor of the Year. A call for nominations went out via email on August 31, 2023 with a deadline of September 11, 2023 to submit.</p> <p>The following councillors were nominated: Abby Beka, Layal Zidan, Freja Cartujano.</p> <p>Attached you'll find the reasons that each councillor was nominated as well as a copy of the Councillor of the Year Award Terms of Reference. Please review all the documents so you are prepared to vote at this Students' Council meeting.</p> <p>We will present the award to the winner at the October 18, 2023 Students' Council meeting.</p>
Alternative Considerations	
Risk Management Considerations	
Strategic Alignment	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Attached Strategic Alignment Checklist is complete
Implications	

Related Documents	Councillor of the Year Award Terms of Reference
Follow Up Action	
Review History	



## Strategic Alignment Checklist

**Vision:** All students benefit from a vibrant student life and a culture of empowerment.

**Mission:** SAMU builds a positive student experience by creating a place to engage and connect, being a champion for all students and providing opportunities that allow them to get the most out of their educational journey.

Focus Areas	Not consistent	N/A	Consistent
<b>Student Experience &amp; Engagement</b>			
<b>The overall student experience is enhanced by the opportunities provided by SAMU.</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1.1 Put the finishing touches on the SAMU building, enhancing the safe and intentional spaces for students to gather, relax and study.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1.2 Increase student awareness of SAMU and its opportunities through strong communications and engaging marketing and brand	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1.3 Increase student engagement by offering relevant and meaningful events, programs, services, volunteer activities and employment opportunities for students	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1.4 Support Student Groups by offering networking opportunities, meeting space, outreach support and online platforms	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Student Voice</b>			
<b>The Student Voice is amplified by SAMU.</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2.1 Develop an Advocacy Plan and implement processes to strengthen SAMU's advocacy program.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2.2 Enhance awareness and interest in SAMU's democratic processes through education and encouraging student participation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2.3 Continue to build collaborative relationships with other Student Associations and organizations to enhance the collective student voice with all government levels	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2.4 Foster positive relationships with MacEwan University to better serve students	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Student Supports</b>			
<b>Student supports provided by SAMU are responsive to unique and evolving needs.</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3.1 Develop and deliver initiatives that are inclusive and are responsive to all student needs.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3.2 Evaluate and assess student supports to remain relevant and accountable to students	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3.3 Strengthen collaborations and partnerships with MacEwan University to expand supports and resources for students.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3.4 Enhance relationships with external organizations to leverage resources and supplement new and existing initiatives	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Strengthening SAMU Operations</b>			
<b>SAMU is an innovative and sustainable organization with an engaging work environment.</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
4.1 Review SAMU governance structures and make improvements to reduce duplication of efforts and delays in decision-making processes.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4.2 Document main policies and processes to support business continuity and transitions in leadership and staff.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4.3 Diversify revenue streams to reduce reliance on student fees.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4.4 Act as financial and environmental stewards and implement effective practices to enhance sustainability.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4.5 Foster a professional and supportive work environment that lives the organizational values and delivers a culture of excellence.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

## 2022-2023 Councillor of the Year Nominees

Name of Nominee	Reason(s) provided for Nomination
Abby Beka	1. Heavily involved. Embodies SAMU's core values. Real one.
Layal Zidan	<p>1. Layal has demonstrated her commitment to serving students' are every meeting. She is very active at meetings, always bringing up valuable questions and providing a unique perspective to current topics. I admire her strive to connect with students on a one-to-one level. I often see her volunteering within the MacEwan community. She also strives to make all council members feels included and valued. She is a friendly face I enjoy seeing at every meeting.</p> <p>2. Despite this is the first year on Council of Councillor Zidan, I want to recognize her passion, hardwork in her involvement in council, whether through asking questions or listening to students' voices. She goes above and beyond to her role as a student councillor to talk to multiple students during her campaign in an effort to gain a better understanding of the prevalent issue.</p>
Freja Cartujano	<p>1. She is an excellent mentor she is always available to help out answer any questions the new counselors may have.</p> <p>2. Councillor Cartujano demonstrates insightful questions and comments through out the 2 years she stays on council. Her work is clearly indicated in the Audit committee that she sit on for the last 2 years. She is also part of GFC, and exec of multiple students clubs. Councillor Cartujano is a great asset to SC.</p>
Nhi Phan	<p>1. I think she deserve to be councillor of the year because she asks very good questions. She's always asked either a verbal or written questions during Council meetings, and as part of her duty as a councillor is to keep the Executives accountable to what they do on a day-to-day basis, she fulfills that every meeting. Furthermore, she has always been friendly, kind and inclusive to to all members of Council.</p> <p>2. Her dedication to the other minority clubs within the school and always being prepared for council meetings. She is also always punctual and reliable.</p>
Sonia Yusuf	1. Councillor Yusuf has contribute greatly to all of the student council's meeting that she attends. She brought up interesting ideas with a unique perspectives. Her energy and enthusiam and dedication makes her a worthy candidate.

**Councillor of the Year  
Terms of Reference****Award Description**

This award is presented to an outstanding Councillor, a person who has dedicated their time and energy to support student advocacy efforts, ensure good governance, engage with and consult students and other members of Students' Council, and demonstrate a commitment to the long-term success of SAMU.

One award is available each year. Presentation of the award occurs at the last Students' Council meeting of the elected year and the recipient will be acknowledged at SAMU's annual recognition event.

The successful nominee receives \$250 and a certificate of achievement.

**Eligibility**

Nominees must be current Councillors.

**Criteria**

Nominees show board-level engagement.

Nominees sit on one or more of the SAMU Standing Committees and/or Sub-Committees or MacEwan University committees.

Nominees consult with students.

Nominees demonstrate involvement in SAMU beyond Students' Council meetings.

Nominees consult with other members of Students' Council.

Nominees assist Councillors who are new to their roles.

**Nomination and Selection**

Any Students' Councillor may nominate a Councillor. Nomination forms and the award description are provided to all Students' Councillors. Councillors may not nominate themselves.

Completed nomination forms are submitted to the Governance Advisor.

The final selection decision is made by Students' Council. Students' Councillors determine the recipient by a secret ballot vote conducted at the September Students' Council meeting. Completed nominations are included in the agenda material for this meeting.

The Governance Advisor communicates the successful Councillor to the Awards Sub-Committee.

## 2022-2023 Councillor of the Year Nominees

Name of Nominee	Reason(s) provided for Nomination
Abby Beka	1. Heavily involved. Embodies SAMU's core values. Real one.
Layal Zidan	<p>1. Layal has demonstrated her commitment to serving students' are every meeting. She is very active at meetings, always bringing up valuable questions and providing a unique perspective to current topics. I admire her strive to connect with students on a one-to-one level. I often see her volunteering within the MacEwan community. She also strives to make all council members feels included and valued. She is a friendly face I enjoy seeing at every meeting.</p> <p>2. Despite this is the first year on Council of Councillor Zidan, I want to recognize her passion, hardwork in her involvement in council, whether through asking questions or listening to students' voices. She goes above and beyond to her role as a student councillor to talk to multiple students during her campaign in an effort to gain a better understanding of the prevalent issue.</p>
Freja Cartujano	<p>1. She is an excellent mentor she is always available to help out answer any questions the new counselors may have.</p> <p>2. Councillor Cartujano demonstrates insightful questions and comments through out the 2 years she stays on council. Her work is clearly indicated in the Audit committee that she sit on for the last 2 years. She is also part of GFC, and exec of multiple students clubs. Councillor Cartujano is a great asset to SC.</p>
Nhi Phan	<p>1. I think she deserve to be councillor of the year because she asks very good questions. She's always asked either a verbal or written questions during Council meetings, and as part of her duty as a councillor is to keep the Executives accountable to what they do on a day-to-day basis, she fulfills that every meeting. Furthermore, she has always been friendly, kind and inclusive to to all members of Council.</p> <p>2. Her dedication to the other minority clubs within the school and always being prepared for council meetings. She is also always punctual and reliable.</p>
Sonia Yusuf	1. Councillor Yusuf has contribute greatly to all of the student council's meeting that she attends. She brought up interesting ideas with a unique perspectives. Her energy and enthusiam and dedication makes her a worthy candidate.



**STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION  
OF MACEWAN UNIVERSITY**

**STUDENTS' COUNCIL MEETING SUBMISSION**

**AGENDA ITEM INFORMATION**

Meeting Date	Submitted By
September 20th, 2023	Joseph A. La Torre, Vice President Governance & Finance

Agenda Title	Item
	2022-2023 Audited Financial Statements
Action Requested	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Motion <input type="checkbox"/> Consultation Item

**AGENDA ITEM DETAILS**

Motion Title	Motion to accept the 2022-20223 Audited Financial Statements from MNP
Background Information	SAMU ensures that an audit is completed each fiscal year and that the results of the audit are presented to Students' Council. A motion to accept the audited financial statements will be put on the table at the same meeting that the audit results are presented to council so that it is formally acknowledged that the audit has been completed. As per the Official Reporting Mechanisms to SAMU Membership policy, that requirement is met by this submission.
Alternative Considerations	
Risk Management Considerations	n/a
Strategic Alignment	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Attached Strategic Alignment Checklist is complete
Implications	
Related Documents	Official Reporting Mechanisms to SAMU Membership policy.
Follow Up Action	n/a
Review History	n/a

## Strategic Alignment Checklist

**Vision:** All students benefit from a vibrant student life and a culture of empowerment.

**Mission:** SAMU builds a positive student experience by creating a place to engage and connect, being a champion for all students and providing opportunities that allow them to get the most out of their educational journey.

Focus Areas	Not consistent	N/A	Consistent
<b>Student Experience &amp; Engagement</b>			
<b>The overall student experience is enhanced by the opportunities provided by SAMU.</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1.1 Put the finishing touches on the SAMU building, enhancing the safe and intentional spaces for students to gather, relax and study.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1.2 Increase student awareness of SAMU and its opportunities through strong communications and engaging marketing and brand	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1.3 Increase student engagement by offering relevant and meaningful events, programs, services, volunteer activities and employment opportunities for students	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1.4 Support Student Groups by offering networking opportunities, meeting space, outreach support and online platforms	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Student Voice</b>			
<b>The Student Voice is amplified by SAMU.</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2.1 Develop an Advocacy Plan and implement processes to strengthen SAMU's advocacy program.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2.2 Enhance awareness and interest in SAMU's democratic processes through education and encouraging student participation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2.3 Continue to build collaborative relationships with other Student Associations and organizations to enhance the collective student voice with all government levels	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2.4 Foster positive relationships with MacEwan University to better serve students	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Student Supports</b>			
<b>Student supports provided by SAMU are responsive to unique and evolving needs.</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3.1 Develop and deliver initiatives that are inclusive and are responsive to all student needs.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3.2 Evaluate and assess student supports to remain relevant and accountable to students	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3.3 Strengthen collaborations and partnerships with MacEwan University to expand supports and resources for students.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3.4 Enhance relationships with external organizations to leverage resources and supplement new and existing initiatives	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Strengthening SAMU Operations</b>			
<b>SAMU is an innovative and sustainable organization with an engaging work environment.</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
4.1 Review SAMU governance structures and make improvements to reduce duplication of efforts and delays in decision-making processes.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4.2 Document main policies and processes to support business continuity and transitions in leadership and staff.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4.3 Diversify revenue streams to reduce reliance on student fees.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4.4 Act as financial and environmental stewards and implement effective practices to enhance sustainability.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
4.5 Foster a professional and supportive work environment that lives the organizational values and delivers a culture of excellence.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>