



## STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION OF MACEWAN UNIVERSITY

### Agenda for the Students' Council Meeting of the Students' Association of MacEwan University December 20, 2023 at 6:00pm via Zoom

---

#### **Voting Members:**

Gabriel Ambutong, President  
Jakob Cardinal, Vice President External  
Delaney Huhtala, Councillor  
Cierra Jacobs, Vice President Student Life  
Ian Kamenwa, Councillor  
Mayank Kaushik, Councillor  
Joseph A. La Torre, Vice President Governance and Finance  
Maade Okai, Councillor  
Nhi Phan, Councillor  
Nathan Poon, Councillor  
Inder Singh, Councillor  
Alem Tesfay, Councillor  
Joehn Torres, Councillor  
Chioma Uzor, Councillor

Stephan Vasquez, Vice President Academic  
Sonia Yusuf, Councillor  
Layal Zidan, Councillor  
Abby Beka, Councillor  
Katherine MacDonald, Councillor

*SAMU Officials and Council Support:*  
Timothy Jobs, Chair  
Darryl Kostash, General Manager  
Alan Honey, Governance Advisor  
Afroz Adam, Admin Support

---

Meeting called to order at 6:00pm.

<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 Amiskwaciwaskahikan 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 DECEMBER 20, 2023**

##### **2.2 MOTION**

**TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 15, 2023**

### **3. Presentations**

#### **3.1. Canadian Alliance of Student Associations**

### **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. Students' Council Operations Committee Work Plan**

##### **4.1.7. Audit Committee Work Plan**

##### **4.1.8. Executive Committee Work Plan**

##### **4.1.9. Governance Committee Work Plan**

##### **4.1.10. Finance Committee Work Plan**

##### **4.1.11. Strategy and Engagement Committee Work Plan**

##### **4.1.12.**

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

Minutes of November 8, 15, 29, and December 6, 2023 provided.

### **5. Question Period**

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

Zidan - President: CAUS: Does the stepping down impact your work when it comes to the ability to represent students voice?

PRES - No, CAUS's ability to represent the student voice will not be diminished. The Vice-Chair's position has already been filled. Athabasca University's Students' Union's President was recently elected as Vice-Chair.

Zidan – President: SAMU and MacEwan: Executives Meeting: What outcomes can we expect from this meeting? To what extent do macewan take steps towards these students concerns

PRES - The nature of these meetings makes it difficult to determine what we can expect from administration. Although we do our best to represent students, nothing is ever guaranteed. However, all conversations SAMU has with MacEwan's administration serve as advocacy avenues, providing more opportunities for the Student Voice to be heard.

- To provide context, prior meetings have led to administration being made aware of student concerns around affordability. As a result of SAMU's affordability advocacy, some actions taken by MacEwan after our meetings has included the following:
  1. Ponoka Campus nursing students being provided access to free, clean drinking water.
  2. Tuition for international students being set at 2% (matching the provincial maximum of 2% for domestic students), despite administration being able to charge up to 10%.
  3. Waiving of the Mandatory Non-Instructional Sports and Wellness Fee for the upcoming Winter Term. In the announcement administration sent an email to all students, it was stated that, "We are taking this action for the upcoming term in response to students' concerns about affordability." This decision results in a reduction of \$1.2 million in student fees, a clear indication of our success in our advocacy.
  4. Increased Scholarships, Awards, and Bursaries (SABs) by \$1 million.

5. Freezing rates as MacEwan Residence.

- In terms of our previous meeting, we were able to gain information on SABs, which we intend to use to inform our advocacy. Whether it be removing barriers, extra requirements, or advocating for increased funding. We also intend to follow-up with administration on some priorities such as mental health (which the VPSL will be taking the lead on) and budget allocation discussions (which the VPGF will be taking the lead on).
- The extent to which MacEwan takes action varies, but ongoing advocacy by SAMU provides much needed context and pressures to ensure that administration listens to the Student Voice.

Zidan - Executives:

Can I have more clarification on MacEwan Committees – Teaching Awards Sub-Committee and the appointment of VPA to it

Exec(?) –

Huhtala - I notice that some committees have no training periods. Are there any planned initiatives to implement training for these committees?

VPGF - Currently, we have a focus on budget training for the Finance Committee because they will be shown budget presentations from all the SAMU departments to then recommend the next fiscal year's budget to Council. Training for other committees is something we will look into, as it is important to give Councillors as much support and training as they need in other committees.

Huhtala - For Pres: I'm sorry to hear of the 2% tuition increase. Do we know what this is in response to (inflation, cut funding, etc.)? If so, can we use this information to create a plan for avoiding tuition increases in the future?

PRES – Post-Secondary Institutions, including MacEwan, rely on 3 main sources of funding (grants, domestic student tuition, and international student tuition). Government grants account for 45%, while domestic and international tuition accounts for 43%, the rest is covered by ancillary service revenue and investments. To answer your question about funding cuts, institutions like MacEwan risk reductions in grant funding from the government when they do not opt for the 2% is the domestic tuition cap set by the provincial government. In terms of international student tuition fees (which is not regulated by the provincial government), MacEwan decided that this 2% increase was reasonable, in order to fund operating expenses for next year. SAMU disagrees with this increase because MacEwan has consistently had surpluses in recent years, making it difficult to justify the need for an increase in international student tuition. It is unclear if it is going to be feasible to avoid tuition increases, but we are taking steps to improve our institutional advocacy planning, capacity, and efficacy.

Tesfay – Pres: First, I applaud you for voting against the motion that would cause tuition increases for both domestic and international students. Second, item 2.4 of your report mentioned a discussion focused on student life. The topic of support for students impacted by global conflicts was brought up in that discussion. What was the result of that conversation, and in what ways will MacEwan and SAMU support those students?

PRES – MacEwan has not indicated any specific targeted supports, and I cannot speak on behalf of MacEwan. But SAMU intends to further look into internal, institutional, and community-based supports. So far, have been increasing marketing of supports, but we feel that there is still further work to be done. SC will be updated as necessary.

Phan - VPE: When's the busiest time of the year for VPE and why?

VPE –

Phan – Vpe: The joint advocacy from Quebec: What's the chance of the government re-proposing the increase again in the future? What can SRC do about this potential?

APSN: What are some of the highlights of the conversations with presidents from across provinces?

VPE –

Phan – Vpe: How can the waiver on the 20-hour limit for int' students be a win if they double the financial proof to apply for a study permit from 10k to more than 20k?

VPE –

Phan - Pres: Macewan Board of Gov Meeting: Thank you for the informative report. What is the correlation between the increase in tuition and in SABs

PRES - The correlation between tuition increases and SABs is an operational matter and does not concern SC at this time. When looking at SABs SAMU's advocacy primarily looks at student need vs SABs supplied.

Phan - Can you provide the statistics on tuition increase for domestic and international students in the past 4 years?

PRES - No, a breakdown of this information is currently not relevant to SC. However, the statics and other data regarding tuition increases have been used to inform SAMU's advocacy. At a high-level, we've seen tuition increase by more than 30% over the last 4 years.

Phan – Pres: SAMU+Mac Exec meeting: What was the discussion on the feasibility of transferring some of MacEwan's surplus funds into SABs?

PRES - In the interest of improving MacEwan's awareness of student concerns, they want to hear more from SAMU. It was noted that there has already been an increase in Scholarships, Awards, and Bursaries (SABs) by \$1 million, but the feasibility of transferring some of MacEwan's current surplus funds into SABs is unclear. However, SAMU intends to continue to advocate towards administration when it comes to mid-year injection of surpluses.

Phan – Pres: Did Macewan mention whether their decision (regards the above issues) is impacted by the new development of the Business building?

PRES - They mentioned that accumulated surpluses will be directed to capital investments such as the School of Business building. But they did not mention whether their decision is directly impacted by the development of the School of Business building.

Phan - VPGF: What are some of the highlights of the committees that you chair (Governance + Finance), for example: how's the work different/similar to the prior year or new focuses for the upcoming 2024 year?

VPGF - For the committees I chair, we have only met so far to discuss the TOR, work plan and planned training for one of the committees. The work of the committee will be similar to years past – such as the Finance Committee recommending the next fiscal year's budget to Council, SCOC reviewing Remuneration of Elected Representatives, and the Governance Committee reviewing policies that ensure its relevance.

Phan - VPSL: Thanks for adding the cushion to the main stairs area! How will this affect SAMU's budget?

VPSL – This would be considered an operational question in nature. However, you can rest assured that the cost is within the budget and will not have any negative effects.

Phan – Vpsl: Congrats on the win at the water situation on the Ponoka campus! What were the solutions or steps that MacEwan took to rectify the situation? Why haven't they done it earlier? Will this free access to clean water be permanent?

VPSL – Thank you! I do not have the answer on what they did on their side, other than they were able to connect the proper people to care for the cost. I cannot speak to why it was not done earlier – likely because of budget changes and a possible miscommunication on their end. We hope this will be a permanent change, I can't see why they would change it in the future, but we are taking the necessary steps to ensure that future executives are checking in with the Ponoka students and know what needs to be monitored.

Phan - for anyone: How long will the expense of \$28,000 for The Griff intend to last (1 year or more, one-time expense or renewable)?

VPGF - Your question is operational in nature; however, from my understanding of your question and the way you phrased it, it is a one-time expense.

## **5.2. Oral Questions**

### **6. In Camera Period**

#### **6.1 Honourary Membership**

**MOTION TO GO IN CAMERA**

Pres –

Speakers List:

**MOTION TO GO OUT OF CAMERA**

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

#### **7.1. Honourary Membership**

**MOTION TO GRANT HONOURARY MEMBERSHIP TO JOY SHAW**

**VPGF/**

Speakers List:

**7.2.**

**8. Consultation**

**8.1**

**9. Evaluation**

**9.1**

**10. Recognition**

-

**11. Adjournment**

***MOTION TO ADJOURN***

Next Meeting Date: January 17, 2023

Meeting adjourned at pm.



# STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION OF MACEWAN UNIVERSITY

## Minutes for the Students' Council Meeting of the Students' Association of MacEwan University November 15, 2023 at 6:00pm in Council Chamber

---

### Voting Members:

Gabriel Ambutong, President  
Jakob Cardinal, Vice President External  
Delaney Huhtala, Councillor  
Mayank Kaushik, Councillor  
Joseph A. La Torre, Vice President Governance and Finance  
Maade Okai, Councillor  
Nhi Phan, Councillor  
Nathan Poon, Councillor  
Inder Singh, Councillor  
Alem Tesfay, Councillor  
Joehn Torres, Councillor  
Chioma Uzor, Councillor  
Stephan Vasquez, Vice President Academic

Sonia Yusuf, Councillor  
Layal Zidan, Councillor  
vacant, Councillor  
vacant, Councillor

*SAMU Officials and Council Support:*  
Timothy Jobs, Chair  
Darryl Kostash, General Manager  
Alan Honey, Governance Advisor

### Absent:

Cierra Jacobs, Vice President Student Life  
Ian Kamenwa, Councillor

---

Meeting called to order at 6:00pm.

<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 Amiskwaciwaskahikan 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 NOVEMBER 15, 2023**

**KAUSHIK/UZOR**

**MOTION** **TO AMEND THE AGENDA TO INSERT COUNCILLOR REINSTATEMENT AS THE FIRST ITEM UNDER MOTIONS & BUSINESS ORDERS OF THE DAY SECITON**

**PRES/HUHTALA**

**CARRIED**

**CARRIED**

**2.2 MOTION**

**TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF OCTOBER 18, 2023**

**VPGF/ZIDAN**

**CARRIED**

**3. Presentations**

**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**

PD session reminder – tomorrow 11am-1pm.

**4.1.5. Vice President Student Life**

**4.1.6. Students' Council Operations Committee (In Camera)**

**4.1.7. Chief Returning Officer**

**4.1.8. Governance Investigations and Reinstatement Committee (In Camera)**

**4.2. Executive Committee Minutes**

Minutes of October 18, 20, 25, and November 2, 2023 provided.

**5. Question Period**

**5.1. Written Questions**

**5.2. Oral Questions**

Topics include: Academic Standing Policy re. nursing program; work integrated learning in nursing program; international student tuition; Grammerly Go tool; AI working group;

\*Torres arrives at 6:07pm.

**6. In Camera Period**

**MOTION TO GO IN CAMERA**

**VPGF/ZIDAN**

**CARRIED**

**6.1 Councillor Vacancy**

**6.2 Councillor Reinstatement**

**MOTION TO GO OUT OF CAMERA**

**TORRES/ZIDAN**

**CARRIED**

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

**7.1. Councillor Reinstatement**

**MOTION TO REINSTATE ABBY BEKA AS COUNCILLOR FOR A TERM ENDING OCTOBER 31, 2024**

**PRES/VPGF**

Favour: Pres, Vpe, Huhtala, Kaushik, Vpgf, Okai, Phan, Poon, Singh, Tesfay, Torres, Uzor, Vpa, Yusuf, Zidan

**CARRIED**

**7.2. Councillor Vacancy**

**MOTION TO APPOINT KATHERINE MACDONALD AS A COUNCILLOR FOR A TERM ENDING OCTOBER 31, 2024**

**VPGF/ZIDAN**

Favour: Pres, Vpe, Huhtala, Kaushik, Vpgf, Okai, Phan, Poon, Singh, Tesfay, Torres, Uzor, Vpa, Yusuf, Zidan, Beka

**CARRIED**

**7.3. Strategy and Engagement Committee**

Nominees: Okai, MacDonald, Uzor, Singh, Torres

**MOTION TO APPOINT COUNCILLORS OKAI, SINGH, AND TORRES TO THE STRATEGY AND ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE**

**VPGF/PRES**

Favour: Pres, Vpe, Huhtala, Kaushik, Vpgf, Okai, Phan, Poon, Singh, Tesfay, Torres, Uzor, Vpa, Yusuf, Zidan, Beka, MacDonald

**CARRIED**

**7.4. Audit Committee**

Nominees: Zidan, Poon, Yusuf

**MOTION TO APPOINT COUNCILLORS ZIDAN, POON, AND YUSUF TO THE AUDIT COMMITTEE**

**VPGF/KAUSHIK**

Favour: Pres, Vpe, Huhtala, Kaushik, Vpgf, Okai, Phan, Poon, Singh, Tesfay, Torres, Uzor, Vpa, Yusuf, Zidan, Beka, MacDonald

**CARRIED**

**7.5. Finance Committee**

Nominees: Yusuf, MacDonald, Tesfay, Phan

**MOTION TO APPOINT COUNCILLORS MACDONALD AND PHAN TO THE FINANCE COMMITTEE**

**VPGF/OKAI**

Favour: Pres, Vpe, Huhtala, Kaushik, Vpgf, Okai, Phan, Poon, Singh, Tesfay, Torres, Uzor, Vpa, Yusuf, Zidan, Beka, MacDonald

**CARRIED**

## **7.6. Students' Council Operations Committee**

Nominees: Huhtala, Poon, Torres, Yusuf

**MOTION TO APPOINT COUNCILLORS HUHTALA AND POON TO THE STUDENTS' COUNCIL OPERATIONS COMMITTEE**

**VPGF/SINGH**

Favour: Pres, Vpe, Huhtala, Kaushik, Vpgf, Okai, Phan, Poon, Singh, Tesfay, Torres, Uzor, Vpa, Yusuf, Zidan, Beka, MacDonald

**CARRIED**

## **7.7. Governance Committee**

Nominees: Zidan, Kamenwa, Yusuf, Tesfay, Phan

**MOTION TO APPOINT COUNCILLORS ZIDAN, YUSUF, TESFAY, AND PHAN TO THE GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE**

**VPGF/ZIDAN**

Favour: Pres, Vpe, Huhtala, Kaushik, Vpgf, Okai, Phan, Poon, Singh, Tesfay, Torres, Uzor, Vpa, Yusuf, Zidan, Beka, MacDonald

**CARRIED**

**8. Consultation**

**9. Evaluation**

**10. Recognition**

**11. Adjournment**

**MOTION TO ADJOURN**

**ZIDAN**

**CARRIED**

Next Meeting Date: December 20, 2023

Meeting adjourned at 7:17pm.



## **Students' Council Report**

### **President**

**December 20th, 2023**

Council,

Please see the report on my work as President from November 9<sup>th</sup> to December 13<sup>th</sup>.

### **Executive Summary**

- Council of Alberta University Students (CAUS)
- MacEwan Board of Governors Meeting
- SAMU and MacEwan: Executives Meeting

### **Student Voice**

*The Student Voice is amplified by SAMU.*

#### CAUS

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

The most notable item in the November 24<sup>th</sup> meeting was the announcement noting the Vice-Chair stepping down from their leadership position.

#### MacEwan Board of Governors Meeting

President's Report to Students' Council

Submitted on December 13<sup>th</sup>, 2023

Page 1 of 3



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

The Board of Governors is the highest governing body at MacEwan University. As SAMU President, A motion for the recommended Tuition and Fees for 2024/25 was approved. The recommendation is as follows: 2% tuition increase for domestic students (the maximum increase permitted by the provincial government), 2% tuition increase for international students (provincial government does not regulate increase limits, but the price of their tuition is guaranteed for the standard duration of their program), and no new/increases in mandatory non-instructional fees (MNIFs). The motion passed. Acting in my capacity as a Board Member, while carrying the perspective and experiences of a student, I voted against the motion, noting that students, the institution's largest stakeholder, cannot afford any form of increases on the cost of education.

**SAMU and MacEwan: Executives Meeting**

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

These quarterly meetings provide a platform for SAMU's executive team to touch base with MacEwan administration on various arising student concerns. The agenda included a presentation and question period on Scholarships, Awards, and Bursaries (SABs), Student Features in the School of Business Building, and a discussion on Student Life on campus. Most of the discussion focused on Student Life, which encompassed Supports for students impacted by global conflicts, a follow-up on the Student Mental Health Fee's impact, and the feasibility of injecting MacEwan's surplus funds mid-year into SABs and institutional supports for students. These items on Student Life are currently being investigated by both SAMU and MacEwan's administration. I will be sure to update Students' Council as needed.



### **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 External**

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

Hello Council! I hope you are doing well.

Here is a summary of the work of the VPE portfolio up until Dec 14<sup>th</sup>.

### **Executive Summary**

**APSN (Alberta Post-Secondary Network) Reception**

**CAUS: Advocacy Week**

**Joint Advocacy Win**

**CASA: Advocacy Week**

### **Student Experience & Engagement**

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

**N/A**

Roles Report to Students' Council

[Date Report's Submitted]

Page 1 of 5



## **Student Voice**

*The Student Voice is amplified by SAMU.*

### **APSN (Alberta Post- Secondary Network) Reception**

The APSN is the accumulation of the presidents of the post-secondary institutions in our province. I had the opportunity to speak with many university presidents from across the province about the similarities of our advocacy and how to best learn from one another. We also discussed the different regional issues students face while attending PSI's.



(Left-Right)

Dr. Annette Trimbee, Chair of ASPN. President of MacEwan University

Ryan Osterberg - Manager, Communication &



CAUS meeting with Scott Sinclair, Parliamentary Secretary for Indigenous Policing.



## **CAUS Advocacy Week**

At the provincial level, CAUS, the Council of Alberta University Students had our advocacy week. Priorities for CAUS for the 2023/2024 school year are as follows:

- Affordability
- Mental Health
- Honoring Treaties
- Reducing Sexual and Gender-based violence

I'd be happy to sit down and discuss the specific ask that goes alongside each of the priorities with any Student Councilor who desires to see a more in-depth look into each of CAUS's priorities.



CAUS meeting with  
Advanced Education  
Minister – Rajan  
Sawhney.

## **Additional Joint Advocacy Win**

I would also like to highlight a joint advocacy win from out in Quebec. The Bishops University Student Representative Council (SRC) reached out asking for support from student associations from across the nation as Quebec' provincial governments proposed a massive increase to tuition for Canadian out-of-province students from \$8992 to \$17000. CAUS answered the call and signed a letter of support in October. On Dec 14<sup>th</sup>, 2023, an announcement was made that there will be no tuition increases for out-of-province & International students! Our voice is strengthened together and together we can make positive change for students!



## **CASA Advocacy Week**

At the federal level, CASA, the Canadian Alliance of Student Associations had our advocacy week. Priorities for 2023/2024 are as follows.

- Relieving Cost of Living Pressures on Students
- Supporting On-Campus Student Mental Health
- Unlocking Canada's Housing Supply
- Increasing Indigenous Access to Post-Secondary
- Investing in the Future of Canada's Research & Development
- Solving Today's Labor Market Needs (**International Student Working Hours**)
- Preserving Educational Fair Dealing.

I'd be happy to sit down and discuss the specific ask alongside each of the priorities with any SC member or group of SC members who desire to see a more in-depth look into each of CASA's priorities.

## **A win for international students!**

On December 7<sup>th</sup>, the Honorable Marc Miller, Minister of Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada (IRCC) made an announcement surrounding the International Student Program.

IRCC has extended the waiver on the 20-hour limit for off-campus work while class is in session until April 30, 2024. This extension will allow international students to work more than 20 hours off-campus through the remainder of the school year and until August 31, 2024. This announcement aligns with recent recommendations and data shared by CASA with the minister. CASA thanks the minister for making a decision that reflects the success of the pilot to date, the financial concerns of international students, and the importance of protecting international students from exploitation.

## **Student Supports**



*Student support 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.*

## **Closing Remarks**

Thank you for taking the time to read my report and being an engaged Students Council!

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

Your friend,

Jakob Cardinal.



## **Students' Council Report**

### **Vice President Governance & Finance**

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

Jolly Greeting Council!

I cannot believe that it is already winter break – probably because there isn't enough snow to emphasize that its winter. I look forward to taking some time this break to rest and, hopefully, fingers crossed, go snowboarding. This month was filled with some wins for the Executive Committee all around, and preparation for the busy winter semester.

Nonetheless, you can find my report from November 9<sup>th</sup> – December 14<sup>th</sup>.

### **Executive Summary**

- Winter Term Sport & Wellness Fee
- Committee Meetings
- SAMU Budget

### **Student Experience & Engagement**

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



## **Student Voice**

*The Student Voice is amplified by SAMU.*

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

#### **Winter Term Sport & Wellness Fee**

There was an email from the MacEwan administration that was sent to all students which said that in response to students' concerns on affordability, they waived the sport and wellness fee for the winter semester. This was due to the Executive Committee continually voicing that students are in an affordability crisis in meetings we had with the MacEwan administration through multiple avenues, such as the Tuition/MNIFs consultations, P/VP (Presidents, Vice Presidents) meetings, to name a few. Ultimately, this is a win and a step in the right direction for our institutional 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.*

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



Students' Council Operations Committee (SCOC) Meeting

SCOC met this month to review the TOR and approve the work plan.

Governance Committee Meeting

The Governance Committee met this month to review the TOR and approve the work plan.

Finance Committee Meeting

The Finance Committee met for the first time this month to review the TOR and approve the work plan.

*4.4 Act as financial and environmental stewards and implement effective practices to enhance sustainability*

SAMU Budget

In preparation for the SAMU budget that will be presented to Council during the March 2024 Council meeting, I and other departments have started to work on budgeting for each department, and as part of your role at Council, one of the most important items we approve is the annual budget. And so, we will have budget training available to Council early winter semester and I highly recommend, if you are able to attend, to go to this training; there will be an email sent out early winter semester confirming the training date.

**Closing Remarks**

Please do not hesitate to email me or set up a meeting if you have any further questions or if you would like me to elaborate on anything.

May your holidays be bright, and your New Year's be filled with future insight. Have a great break everyone; I will see you all in the New Year.



STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION  
OF MACEWAN UNIVERSITY

Kind Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Joseph A. La Torre". The signature is fluid and cursive, with "Joseph A." on the first line and "La Torre" on the second line.

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**

**12-20-2023**

Salutations my fellow councilors! ❄️🎄⛄

Please see below my report of activity in office from November 9- December 13.

### **Executive Summary**

- Brain Freeze Festival
- Healthy Relationships Week Planning Committee
- Meeting with Chandelle Rimmer, Interim AVP Students
- Student Mental Health Working Group – Consultation Sub-committee
- Ponoka Campus Visit Update
- Mental Health Week Planning Committee
- Cushions for SAMU Wood Stairs

### **Student Experience & Engagement**

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

#### Cushions for SAMU Wood Stairs



*1.1 – Put the finishing touches on the SAMU building, enhancing the safe and intentional spaces for students to gather, relax and study.*

Following many concerns from students, via our online feedback form, we understood that students are in need of more lounging spots on campus. Within the SAMU building, we have limited space to add a lounge but through discussion among EC and working with our GM, VPGF and myself were able to secure a project to add cushions to the wooden part of the main stairs. This will hopefully encourage more opportunities to lounge in SAMU and protect the wood structure, making it last longer.

## **Student Voice**

*The Student Voice is amplified by SAMU.*

### Meeting with Interim AVP Students, Chandelle Rimmer

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

Following the departure of the former AVP students, I was able to connect with Interim AVP Students, Chandelle Rimmer, about the opportunities available to strengthen the relationship SAMU has with Student Affairs. The meeting was extremely valuable to ensuring a continued connection between counterparts – SAMU's VPSL and AVP Students. We discussed how to best streamline communications of MacEwan events and opportunities for students, a project Chandelle is planning to work on in her 18-month term, and she invited me to be a part of the Student Affairs Leadership meetings in the new year as another connection point to updates on MacEwan's side.

### Ponoka Campus Visit Update

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



Following our September 13 visit to the Ponoka Campus, we were made aware of several issues students at Ponoka are facing which impact their student experience. One of these issues was free access to clean drinking water. Due to the location of the Ponoka Campus for Psychiatric Nursing being in a rural area and attached to the Centennial Centre for Mental Health and Brain Injury, the students did not have access to water fountains, thus leaving the students to pay for their own water cooler. Through our advocacy efforts and working on positive relationships with MacEwan administration, we were able to rectify this situation and the students at Ponoka no longer pay for their water. We've ensured the students have free access to clean drinking water.

## **Student Supports**

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

### Mental Health Week Planning Committee

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

Mental Health Week will be hosted January 22-26, 2024 with activities across campus. The Student Mental Health Working Group has collaborated with this initiative to host focus groups and receive passive feedback on mental health on campus. Further details will be announced by the end of next week (Dec. 22) in the link below. Since mental health is a priority for us at SAMU and the second biggest concern for students, following affordability, we are working hard to promote and make this week a success. If you can, please consider attending events and engaging with activities. I will be following up with you all once details are released. Check out this link:

<https://www.macewan.ca/campus-life/mental-health/news-events/>



Healthy Relationships Week Planning Committee

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

I was invited to be part of the Healthy Relationships Week planning committee. We have been meeting to develop details of the week, which will run February 12-16, including a resource fair with both internal and external community engagement, and other events that will be finalized in the new year. We are focusing on the theme “Fill Your Cup” and have been discussing ways to break down masculine stigma to encourage more engagement with our masculine facing student population. We are excited to have a full week of benefits over Valentines Day week and I will share details with you as soon as they are finalized.

Brain Freeze Festival

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

The executive committee attended the Brain Freeze Festival on December 4<sup>th</sup>. As a part of the planning committee, I was eager to see how it turned out and what contributions were made. This festival has been a collaborative event between SAMU and MacEwan for the past three years, as we recognize how great of an opportunity it is for students to relax before finals and feel a part of the student community. We felt that student attendance was low and there were missed opportunities for activities. I'm happy to say that I will be following up with MacEwan to debrief the event and get further insight. If anyone attended and has feedback to give, please reach out to me!

Student Mental Health Working Group – Consultation Sub-committee

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



In our last Student Mental Health Planning Committee, the group decided to bring together a sub-committee to plan for student consultation. I am part of this sub-committee, and we are working with the Mental Health Week (January 22-26) initiative to launch the focus groups and gather feedback from students passively. We aim to have several bulletin boards up with prompts that students can anonymously answer, along with a QR code feedback form for students who don't want to write or want to offer longer responses to the prompts. The focus group dates and details will be released soon, as we hope to facilitate early in the winter semester to accommodate for students before exam season begins. I will be inviting you all to partake when the time comes, so be prepared to get involved!

### **Closing Remarks**

The student's voice informs the student experience, 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

**SCOC Workplan 2023-24**  
**For Information to Students Council**  
**Submitted: December 20<sup>th</sup>, 2023**

<b>Chaired By:</b>	Joseph A. La Torre, Vice President Governance and Finance			
<b>Committee Members:</b>	Delaney Huhtala, Councillor Nathan Poon, Councillor			
<b>Committee Mandate:</b>	Students' Council Operations Committee advises and reviews Students' Council, interviews and vets candidates for appointments made by Students' Council, and annually reviews the remuneration and compensation provided to Councillors, Executives, and other Students' Council appointments performing governance roles at SAMU.			
<b>Approved by Committee:</b>	November 30 <sup>th</sup> , 2023			
<b>Received by Council:</b>	December 20 <sup>th</sup> , 2023			
Task	Details	Stakeholders	Timeline	Status
Executive Committee Remuneration	<p>Discuss remuneration policy with respect to EC:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Discussion on CPI inflation of EC salary and determine EC remuneration.</li> <li>- Discussion on EC and coursework for sustainability.</li> </ul>	Executive Committee Students Council	December /January 2024	Initial Stages
Students' Councillor Remuneration	Review and discuss remuneration of councilors	Students Council Executive Committee	January/February	Ongoing
Chief Returning Officer (CRO) Evaluation Discussion	Discussion if the CRO should be evaluated after every election cycle.	Executive Committee/ Student's Council	January/February	Initial Stages
Chief Returning Officer (CRO) Appointment	Appoint the CRO for the 24/25 SAMU elections.	Executive Committee, Students' Council	April	Ongoing
Chair of Students' Council Appointment	Appoint the 24/25 Chair for Students' Council.	Students' Council, Executive	March/April	Ongoing

		Committee		
Evaluate the Chair of Students' Council	Evaluate the chair of Students' Council performance.	Students' Council, EC	March & August	Ongoing
Review the Students' Council's Operations	Review the meeting minutes and evaluations to report on and determine the effectiveness of Students' Council.	Students' Council, Executive Committee	As needed	Ongoing
Councillor Appointments	Appoint SAMU members to Student Councillor vacancies.	Students' Council, Executive Committee	As needed	Ongoing

**Audit Committee Workplan 2023-2024**  
**For Information to Students Council**  
**Submitted: December 13, 2023**

<b>Chaired By:</b>	Sonia Yusuf, Councillor			
<b>Committee Members:</b>	Brian Gulbraa, Student-at-Large; Nathan Poon, Councillor; Layal Zidan, Councillor; and vacant, Student-at-Large.  Resource Official: Cameron Whiting, Senior Finance Manager; Michelle Malin, Associate Professor, MacEwan University			
<b>Committee Mandate:</b>	Audit Committee assists the Students' Council in fulfilling its financial oversight responsibilities.			
<b>Approved by Committee:</b>	December 14, 2023			
<b>Received by Council:</b>	December 20, 2023			
Task	Details	Stakeholders	Timeline	Status
Training	Audit Committee (AC) will receive training.	Audit Committee Students' Council	11 AM –12 PM on January 5, 2024	On-going
Quarterly Meetings	AC will meet quarterly to monitor, evaluate, advise, and make recommendations on matters affecting external, internal, or special audits; policies and practices related to internal controls; and compliance with legal, statutory, and regulatory requirements.	Audit Committee Students' Council	Meetings will be held at the end of the following months in 2023:  Q2 review - February  Q3 review - May  Q4 review - August  SAMU Audit review – October  Q1 review - November	On-going

## Executive Committee Work Plan 2023-2024

For Information to Students Council

<b>Chaired By:</b>	Gabriel Ambutong, President
<b>Members:</b>	Stephan Vasquez, Vice President Academic Jakob Cardinal, Vice President External Joseph A. La Torre, Vice President Governance and Finance Cierra Jacobs, Vice President Student Life
<b>Mandate:</b>	The Executive Committee ensures that Students' Council's policies are implemented, is responsible for overseeing the General Manager, helps develop the strategic direction of SAMU, and acts faithfully on behalf of Students' Council.
<b>Approved by Committee:</b>	July 12, 2023
<b>Received by Council:</b>	July 19, 2023

### Theme: Inclusion and Accessibility

<b>Initiative</b>	International Student Lunch n' Learn	
<b>EC Lead(s)</b>	Vice President Student Life	
<b>Strat Plan Alignment</b>	Student Supports	3.1 Develop and deliver initiatives that are inclusive and responsive to student needs.
<b>Objective</b>	Targeted support for international students on campus.	
<b>Key Details</b>	Working in collaboration with MacEwan International and Wellness and Psychological Services to liaison international student attendance for workshops and information sessions.	

Status	Ongoing - Reformatted	
Final Summary of Initiative		
Initiative	<b>Beaver Hills Students' Gathering</b>	
EC Lead(s)	Vice President External	
Strat Plan Alignment	Student Experience and Engagement	1.2: Increase student awareness of SAMU and its opportunities through strong communications and engaging marketing materials. 1.3: Increase student engagement by offering relevant and meaningful events, programs, services, volunteer activities and employment opportunities for students.
Objective	Uplift & Empower: our goal is to provide a meaningful space to recognize and celebrate and build up Indigenous success on Treaty 6 and otherwise, local to our area. This will be done both through the topics of discussion, as well as the format of the discussion, and who is leading them and participating in them.	
Key Details	Projected Event Date: March 1/2	
Status	<b>ongoing</b>	
Final Summary of Initiative	<Note successes, challenges, metrics, etc>	
Initiative	<b>Ponoka Campus Visit</b>	
EC Lead(s)	Vice President Student Life	
Strat Plan Alignment	Student Experience and Engagement	1.2 Increase student awareness of SAMU and its opportunities through strong communications and engaging marketing and branding
Objective	To show Ponoka students that we are here for them. We represent all SAMU members and are there to hear any concerns and show them that they have resources and perks from SAMU. This is an opportunity for EC to learn about the further needs of students at Ponoka and present what we know they can use right now. We will familiarize ourselves with the students and campus as is necessary to represent them in our roles.	
Key Details	Projected Event Date: September 13 <sup>th</sup> , 2023	
Status	<b>DONE</b>	

**Final Summary of  
Initiative**

*<Note successes, challenges, metrics, etc>*

Theme: Financial and Wellness Supports		
<b>Initiative</b>	<b>Open Educational Resources Workshops (Don't Go Textbook Broke)</b>	
<b>EC Lead(s)</b>	Vice President Academic	
<b>Strat Plan Alignment</b>	Student Supports	3.1 Develop and deliver initiatives that are inclusive and are responsive to all student needs.
<b>Objective</b>	Decrease textbook costs by increasing awareness of OERS	
<b>Key Details</b>	Projected Event Date: September 14 <sup>th</sup> , 2023, and January 11 <sup>th</sup> , 2024.	
<b>Status</b>	<b>cancelled</b>	
<b>Final Summary of Initiative</b>		
<b>Initiative</b>	<b>Textbook Transparency Project</b>	
<b>EC Lead(s)</b>	Vice President Academic	
<b>Strat Plan Alignment</b>	Student Supports	3.3 Strengthen collaborations and partnerships with MacEwan University to expand supports and resources for students 2.4 Foster positive relationships with MacEwan University to better serve students.
<b>Objective</b>	Lower textbook costs by market pressures. Give students more flexibility.	
<b>Key Details</b>	Under review in ERP7 group.  Projected Event Date: N/A Scoping Sept – Nov ERP Campus services – Dec -May	
<b>Status</b>	<b>completed</b>	

<b>Final Summary of Initiative</b>	<Note successes, challenges, metrics, etc>	
<b>Initiative</b>	<b>Period Product Launch</b>	
<b>EC Lead(s)</b>	Vice President Student Life	
<b>Strat Plan Alignment</b>	Student Supports	3.1 Develop and Deliver initiatives that are inclusive and are responsive to all student needs.
<b>Objective</b>	To make students aware that the SAMU bathrooms (women and all gender) have period products available to them forever.	
<b>Key Details</b>	Projected Event Date: September 5 <sup>th</sup> , 2023 (2-week promotion period)	
<b>Status</b>	<b>Completed</b>	
<b>Final Summary of Initiative</b>	<Note successes, challenges, metrics, etc>	
<b>Initiative</b>	<b>Anti-Plagiarism Workshops</b>	
<b>EC Lead(s)</b>	Vice President Academic	
<b>Strat Plan Alignment</b>	Student Supports	3.1 Develop and Deliver initiatives that are inclusive and are responsive to all student needs.
<b>Objective</b>	Decrease the number of academic integrity violations by providing info on the types of plagiarism and the supports available to students at SAMU and MacEwan.	
<b>Key Details</b>	Projected Event Dates: October 12 <sup>th</sup> , 2023, and February 7 <sup>th</sup> , 2024.	
<b>Status</b>	<b>cancelled</b>	
<b>Final Summary of Initiative</b>	<Note successes, challenges, metrics, etc>	

Theme: Opportunities for Students		
<b>Initiative</b>	<b>AI Literacy Week</b>	
<b>EC Lead(s)</b>	Vice President Academic	
<b>Strat Plan Alignment</b>	Student Supports	3.1 Develop and Deliver initiatives that are inclusive and are responsive to all student needs.
<b>Objective</b>	Teach students the different AI resources available, how to better prompt generative AI, MacEwan AI plagiarism rules, how to cite AI, and privacy/copyright issues faced by using AI.	
<b>Key Details</b>	Projected Event Date: February 12 <sup>th</sup> , 14 <sup>th</sup> , and 16 <sup>th</sup> , 2024. <b>Transition to AI toolkit on website</b>	
<b>Status</b>	<b>amended</b>	
<b>Final Summary of Initiative</b>	<Note successes, challenges, metrics, etc>	

<b>Initiative</b>	<b>Student Leadership Week</b>	
<b>EC Lead(s)</b>	Vice President External	
<b>Strat Plan Alignment</b>	Student Experience & Engagement Student Voice Student Supports	1.3 Increase student engagement by offering relevant and meaningful events, programs, services, volunteer activities and employment opportunities for students. 2.2 Enhance awareness and interest in SAMU's democratic processes through education and encouraging student participation. 2.4 Foster positive relationships with MacEwan University to better serve students. 3.3 Strengthen collaborations and partnerships with MacEwan University to expand supports and resources for students.

		3.4 Enhance relationships with external organizations to leverage resources and supplement new and existing initiatives.
<b>Objective</b>	Dedicate a week to empower and encourage students to become more active and engaged on campus.	
<b>Key Details</b>	Projected Event Dates: October 17 <sup>th</sup> -19 <sup>th</sup> .	
<b>Status</b>	<b>cancel</b>	
<b>Final Summary of Initiative</b>	<Note successes, challenges, metrics, etc>	
<b>Initiative</b>	<b>EC For a Day</b>	
<b>EC Lead(s)</b>	Vice President Governance & Finance	
<b>Strat Plan Alignment</b>	Student Voice	2.2 Enhance awareness and interest in SAMU's democratic processes through education and encouraging student participation.
<b>Objective</b>	Give individuals who are considering running for EC positions a chance to gain some insight into the position.	
<b>Key Details</b>	Projected Event Date: February 8 <sup>th</sup> , 2024	
<b>Status</b>	<b>Ongoing – operationalize this moving forward</b>	
<b>Final Summary of Initiative</b>	<Note successes, challenges, metrics, etc>	

<b>Theme: Student Governance and Accountability</b>	
<b>Initiative</b>	<b>GovWeek</b>

<b>EC Lead(s)</b>	Vice President Governance and Finance	
<b>Strat Plan Alignment</b>	Student Voice	2.2 Enhance awareness and interest in SAMU's democratic processes through education and encouraging student participation.
<b>Objective</b>	Reduce Barriers and the misconceptions of Student Governance and hopefully have more individuals run for Students' Council.	

<b>Key Details</b>	A three-day event in which students engage with governance and learn how to run for Students' Council, what governance is and how these opportunities will sharpen and grow their skill sets and may shape their future careers. Projected Event Dates: September 20 <sup>th</sup> -22 <sup>nd</sup> , 2023	
<b>Status</b>	<b>Completed – operationalize this going forward</b>	
<b>Final Summary of Initiative</b>	<i>Over the 3 days of GovWeek, 557 students attended the multiple tabling events and Councillor Q&amp;A. And we received 247 entries for the 2 \$500 tuition credit prizes.</i>	
<b>Initiative</b>	<b>Governance Review Implementation</b>	
<b>EC Lead(s)</b>	Vice President Governance and Finance	
<b>Strat Plan Alignment</b>	Strengthening SAMU Operations	4.1 Review SAMU governance structures and make improvements to reduce duplication of efforts and delays in decision-making processes.
<b>Objective</b>	Implement the Governance Review Recommendations	
<b>Key Details</b>	SAMU underwent a governance review where we were provided recommendations to improve our governance processes. Currently a team is in place to do the work behind the implementation of the review and bring the forward the proposed changes to Council.	
<b>Status</b>	<b>IN PROGRESS</b>	
<b>Final Summary of Initiative</b>	<i>&lt;Note successes, challenges, metrics, etc&gt;</i>	
<b>Initiative</b>	<b>Executive Committee Transition</b>	

<b>EC Lead(s)</b>	President	
<b>Strat Plan Alignment</b>	Strengthening SAMU Operations	4.2 Document main policies and processes to support business continuity and transitions in leadership and staff. 4.5 Foster a professional and supportive work environment that lives the organizational values and delivers a culture of excellence.
<b>Objective</b>	Onboard and ensure the success of the new Executive Committee and prepare for the next year	
<b>Key Details</b>	Onboarding and supporting the new EC from May to Nov, ends with mid-year retreat. Begin EC transition planning in February and commence in late March after EC elections are official.	
<b>Status</b>	<b>ONGOING</b>	
<b>Final Summary of Initiative</b>	<Note successes, challenges, metrics, etc>	
<b>Initiative</b>	<b>Executive Committee's Mid-Year Winter Retreat</b>	
<b>EC Lead(s)</b>	President	
<b>Strat Plan Alignment</b>	Strengthening SAMU Operations	4.2 Document main policies and processes to support business continuity and transitions in leadership and staff. 4.5 Foster a professional and supportive work environment that lives the organizational values and delivers a culture of excellence.
<b>Objective</b>	-Foster the team's working relationship -Asses the team's status and reevaluate the team's goals	
<b>Key Details</b>	Projected Date: October 30 <sup>th</sup> to November 3 <sup>rd</sup>	
<b>Status</b>	<b>done</b>	
<b>Final Summary of Initiative</b>	<Note successes, challenges, metrics, etc>	

<b>Initiative</b>	<b>Students Council Training</b>	
<b>EC Lead(s)</b>	President	
<b>Strat Plan Alignment</b>	Strengthening SAMU Operations	4.2 Document main policies and processes to support business continuity and transitions in leadership and staff. 4.5 Foster a professional and supportive work environment that lives the organizational values and delivers a culture of excellence.
<b>Objective</b>	Ensure that members of our governing board are knowledgeable about governance and SAMU	
<b>Key Details</b>	Planning for the official Students' Council Training will begin in September and continue until execution in late October	
<b>Status</b>	<b>done</b>	
<b>Final Summary of Initiative</b>	<Note successes, challenges, metrics, etc>	
<b>Initiative</b>	<b>Students Council Refresher</b>	
<b>EC Lead(s)</b>	President	
<b>Strat Plan Alignment</b>	Strengthening SAMU Operations	4.2 Document main policies and processes to support business continuity and transitions in leadership and staff. 4.5 Foster a professional and supportive work environment that lives the organizational values and delivers a culture of excellence.
<b>Objective</b>	Ensure that members of our governing board are knowledgeable about governance and SAMU	
<b>Key Details</b>	Projected Date: April or May 2024	
<b>Status</b>	<b>ONGOING</b>	
<b>Final Summary of Initiative</b>	<Note successes, challenges, metrics, etc>	

Initiative	SAMU 2024/25 Budget	
EC Lead(s)	Vice President Governance & Finance	
Strat Plan Alignment	Strengthening SAMU Operations	4.2 Document main policies and processes to support business continuity and transitions in leadership and staff. 4.4 Act as financial and environmental stewards and implement effective practices to enhance sustainability.
Objective	Prepare the department 12 budget for the next fiscal year and oversee the whole budget process for the annual budget submission to Council for Approval	
Key Details	The budgeting process for the next fiscal year will begin around November/December of 2023.	
Status	<b>INITIAL STAGES</b>	
Final Summary of Initiative	<Note successes, challenges, metrics, etc>	
Initiative	<b>Town Hall</b>	
EC Lead(s)	Vice President Governance & Finance	
Strat Plan Alignment	Student Voice	2.2 Enhance awareness and interest in SAMU's democratic processes through education and encouraging student participation
Objective	Required by policy it provides Elected Representatives the ability to connect with students on a variety of topics	
Key Details	Projected Event Date: January 31 <sup>st</sup> , 2024	
Status	<b>IN PROGRESS</b>	
Final Summary of Initiative	<Note successes, challenges, metrics, etc>	
Initiative	<b>Governance Engagement Policy</b>	

<b>EC Lead(s)</b>	Vice President Governance & Finance	
<b>Strat Plan Alignment</b>	Strengthening SAMU Operations	<p>4.1 Review SAMU governance structures and make improvements to reduce duplication of efforts and delays in decision-making processes.</p> <p>4.2 Document main policies and processes to support business continuity and transitions in leadership and staff.</p> <p>4.5 Foster a professional and supportive work environment that lives the organizational values and delivers a culture of excellence.</p>
<b>Objective</b>	Detail and clarify the opportunities how SAMU elected representatives engage and communicate with the student body.	
<b>Key Details</b>	Projected Completion Date: October 23, 2023	
<b>Status</b>	<b>IN PROGRESS (Postponed to Early Winter Semester)</b>	
<b>Final Summary of Initiative</b>	<Note successes, challenges, metrics, etc>	
<b>Initiative</b>	<b>School of Continuing Education</b>	

<b>EC Lead(s)</b>	Vice President Governance & Finance	
<b>Strat Plan Alignment</b>	Strengthening SAMU Operations	<p>4.1 Review SAMU governance structures and make improvements to reduce duplication of efforts and delays in decision-making processes.</p> <p>4.2 Document main policies and processes to support business continuity and transitions in leadership and staff</p>
<b>Objective</b>	The goal is to provide the SCE students with the necessary supports and services while also following the correct procedures and documentations – such as the UPASS contract, PSLA, etc. Ultimately, it is coming to an agreement with them and as a result, charge them a sufficient fee.	
<b>Key Details</b>	Projected Completion Date: April 2024	
<b>Status</b>	<b>IN Progress</b>	

<b>Final Summary of Initiative</b>	<Note successes, challenges, metrics, etc>	
<b>Initiative</b>	<b>Building and Maintaining EC Team Dynamics</b>	
<b>EC Lead(s)</b>	President	
<b>Strat Plan Alignment</b>	Strengthening SAMU Operations	4.5 Foster a professional and supportive work environment that lives the organizational values and delivers a culture of excellence
<b>Objective</b>	Building connections between the executives and our work so that we are tuned into one another's' work; building sustainable structures to ensure the dynamic is maintained even beyond this year; building openness and trust among the team to enable honest conversations, especially where disagreement and conflict is involved; empowering each individual VP to thrive in their role, and ensuring they feel supported in doing their work.	
<b>Key Details</b>	<p>President 1 on 1s with the team: capacity check, opportunity to voice concerns, ensuring the President knows what's going on with the team to better support them, being intentional and creating a space in accordance with those intentions. Frequency is dependent on preference and availability.</p> <p>Team Huddles: ice breaker component, check in on an out of ten scale, promoting a common sense of ownership of the team's work, opportunity to vocalize something to the team if needed, a chance to assess capacity and where the team is at, informal business and consultation</p>	
<b>Status</b>	<b>ONGOING</b>	
<b>Final Summary of Initiative</b>	<Note successes, challenges, metrics, etc>	
<b>Initiative</b>	<b>Governance Engagement</b>	
<b>EC Lead(s)</b>	President	

<b>Strat Plan Alignment</b>	Student Experience and Engagement  Student Voice	<p>1.2: Increase student awareness of SAMU and its opportunities through strong communications and engaging marketing materials.</p> <p>1.3: Increase student engagement by offering relevant and meaningful events, programs, services, volunteer activities and employment opportunities for students.</p> <p>2.2 Enhance awareness and interest in SAMU's democratic processes through educations and encouraging student participation.</p>
<b>Objective</b>	<p>-Articulating the problem: looking at our governance system and assessing and analyzing the ways we've structured systems around elections and student representation, perhaps through a hired EDI professional</p> <p>-Research other potential levers to engage student leaders/groups (such as Ambassadors program, Students-At-Large, and Student Groups)</p> <p>-Conduct a maximum of 10 student group visits (including event attendance), per Fall and Winter semester with a goal of recruiting students for committees, Students' Council, and Executive Committee.</p>	
<b>Key Details</b>	<p>Projected Timelines:</p> <p>Articulating the problem- Initial planning is set to begin in August.</p> <p>Research- Ongoing</p> <p>Student Group Visits- Begins in September.</p>	
<b>Status</b>	<b>ONGOING</b>	
<b>Final Summary of Initiative</b>	<p><i>&lt;Note successes, challenges, metrics, etc&gt;</i></p>	

### Theme: Advocacy

<b>Initiative</b>	<b>Reinforcing Municipal Advocacy</b>
-------------------	---------------------------------------

EC Lead(s)	Vice President External	
Strat Plan Alignment	Student Voice	2.3 Continue to build collaborative relationships with other Students' Associations and organizations to enhance the collective student voice with all government levels.
Objective	Increase student advocacy efforts at a municipal level, in order to secure the outcomes that best support students.	
Key Details	<p>This project would be an ongoing and coordinated effort to build and reinforce SAMU's municipal advocacy, especially where affordable housing is concerned. It would include seeking out a leadership position with the Edmonton Student Alliance, as well as working more closely with city council and local businesses and community organizations whose missions and visions align with SAMU's vision. Municipal leadership also oversees things like transit, community safety, and newcomer orientation, all of which have a direct effect on the student experience.</p>	
Status	Ongoing	
Final Summary of Initiative	<Note successes, challenges, metrics, etc>	

**Governance Committee Workplan 2023-2024****For Information to Students Council****Submitted: December 20<sup>th</sup> 2023**

<b>Chaired By:</b>	Joseph A. La Torre, VP Governance and Finance			
<b>Committee Members:</b>	Colton Bloudoff, Student-at-Large Nhi Phan, Councillor Kris Ravelo, Student-at-Large Alem Tesfay, Councillor Sonia Yusef, Councillor Layal Zidan, Councillor			
<b>Committee Mandate:</b>	The Governance Committee ensures the relevance and consistency of SAMU Bylaws and Policy and assists in governance process development.			
<b>Approved by Committee:</b>	November 29 <sup>th</sup> , 2023			
<b>Received by Council:</b>	December 20 <sup>th</sup> , 2023			
Document	Last Review Date	Details	Timeline for Review	Status
Governing Documents Policy	N/A	Expanding on the policies policy, procedures procedure and including directives to localize them into one document.	December/January	In-Progress
Honourary Membership Policy	January 2018	To review this policy since it has been more than 4 years since its last review.	TBD	Initial Stages
Town Halls	October 2015	To review this policy since it has been more than 4 years since its last review	TBD	Initial Stages
Governance Engagement Policy	N/A	Detailing what engagement looks like as an elected representative	January/February	In Progress
Budget Approval	February 2014	To review this policy since it has been more than 4 years since its last review and Expanding on the scope of the budget approvals policy.	TBD	Initial Stages
Students' Council Meetings/Attendance Policy	January 2022	To review Students' Council virtual attendance and to potentially have those expectations in a policy.	January/February	Initial Stages

Governance Transition	February 2022	Annual review of transition policy before transition occurs.	TBD	Initial Stages
Roles and Responsibilities of Elected Representatives	April 2021	Review before EC elections.	January/February	Initial Stages

**Finance Committee Workplan 2023-2024****For Information to Students Council****Submitted:**

<b>Chaired By:</b>	Joseph A. La Torre, VP Governance and Finance			
<b>Committee Members:</b>	Gabriel Ambutong, President Olad Ayodeji, Student-at-Large Sewaj Grewal, Student-at-Large Cierra Jacobs, VP Student Life Katherina MacDonald, Councillor Nhi Phan, Councillor			
<b>Committee Mandate:</b>	Finance Committee oversees the construction of the SAMU budget, assesses and reviews SAMU fees, and reviews SAMU financial statements			
<b>Approved by Committee:</b>	December 8 <sup>th</sup> , 2023			
<b>Received by Council:</b>	December 20 <sup>th</sup> , 2023			
Task	Details	Stakeholders	Timeline	Status
Annual Budget	Finance Committee oversees the construction of the annual SAMU budget and recommends it to Students' Council for Approval	Students' Council SAMU Students At Large SAMU Members	Budget Training - TBD  Budget Presentations February 20th- 23th	Initial Stages
Annual Review of Finance Policy	Finance Committee Reviews this policy annually	Students Council SAMU Finance Students At Large	TBD	Initial Stages
Annual Review of SAMU Fees Policy	Finance Committee Reviews this policy annually	Students Council SAMU Finance Students At Large SAMU Members SAMU Affiliates	TBD	Initial Stages

**Strategy and Engagement (SEC) Workplan 2023-2024**  
**For Information to Students Council**  
**Submitted: December 14, 2023**

<b>Chaired By:</b>	Cierra Jacobs, VP Student Life (VPSL)			
<b>Committee Members:</b>	Jakob Cardinal, VP External Maade Okai, Councillor Inder Singh, Councillor Joehn Torres, Councillor Nikita van der Leeden, Student-at-Large Chloe Witherspoon, Student-at-Large			
<b>Committee Mandate:</b>	The Strategy and Engagement Committee (SEC) strives to maximize student engagement with Students' Council, provides leadership development opportunities to members of Students' Council and acts as a consultation body for strategic priorities.			
<b>Approved by Committee:</b>	November 27, 2023			
<b>Received by Council:</b>	December 20, 2023			
Task	Details	Stakeholders	Timeline	Status
Student Engagement Opportunities	Strategy and Engagement Committee develops a plan for Student Council to engage with SAMU members. (including, but not limited to: tabling, classroom visits, social media, etc.)  1-2 per semester	SAMU Students' Council Students at Large	Ongoing	Ongoing
Professional Development and Teambuilding	Strategy and Engagement Committee creates opportunities for members of Students' Council to develop leadership skills by: Researching and implementing	SAMU Students' Council	Ongoing	Ongoing

	<p>applicable professional development opportunities for members of council, and developing team building opportunities for Students' Council.</p> <p>1 each per semester</p>			
Consultation	<p>Provide feedback of Executive Committee's initiatives. (Including but not limited to: Council of Alberta University Students and Canadian Alliance of Student Associations priorities, Sexual Violence Prevention and Education Committee policy review, Campus Mental Health Strategy, etc.)</p> <p>As needed.</p>	<p>SAMU Students' Council Students at Large</p>	Ongoing	Ongoing



Minutes for the Executive Committee Meeting of the  
Students' Association of MacEwan University  
November 8, 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: 2:00pm

2. Approval of Agenda:

**VPGF/VPA**  
**CARRIED**

3. Approval of Minutes: November 2, 2023

**VPGF/VPA**  
**CARRIED**

TOPIC	DISCUSSION	ACTION/MOTION
1. Student Groups	<p>MSASG: Vpsl – two applications received. Any feedback? Vpa – how is this one different than some of the similar clubs? Vpgf – this seems more broad-based. May be some duplication in events. Vpsl – had similar concerns. Agree that this one is more broad based than some of the other groups we're talking about.</p> <p>MUHCC: Vpgf – wasn't there already a classics club? Is this a rebranding? Vpa – this group is diverse enough. Vpsl – there was a previous classics club but they disbanded.</p>	<p><b>MOTION</b></p> <p><b>TO APPROVE THE MACEWAN SOUTH ASIA STUDENT GROUP</b></p> <p><b>VPSL/VPGF</b> <b>CARRIED</b></p> <p><b>MOTION</b></p> <p><b>TO APPROVE THE MACEWAN UNIVERSITY HISTORY AND CLASSICS CLUB</b></p> <p><b>VPSL/VPA</b> <b>CARRIED</b></p>
2. Maintenance Fund expense request	Vpgf – this is the cost to upgrade the front desk – remove top beam and replace with a countertop. Vpsl – needed. They're currently hidden while sitting at the front desk.	<p><b>MOTION</b></p> <p><b>TO APPROVE AN EXPENSE OF UP TO \$5800.00 FROM THE MAINTENANCE FUND TO UPGRADE THE RECEPTION DESK IN SA-301</b></p>

			<b>VPGF/VPSL CARRIED</b>
3.	SAMU Committees – SAL appointment	<p>Ga – received this application for the Finance Committee.</p> <p>Vpgf – think it will be hard to fill the seat due to meeting requirements. Support this candidate – we'll be providing training for the whole committee so that should alleviate any potential issues with lack of knowledge.</p> <p>Vpa – would feel more comfortable if they had more experience, but trust Vpgf's comments.</p> <p>Vpsl – agree, think we should appoint.</p>	<b>MOTION</b> <b>TO APPOINT SEHAJ GREWAL TO THE FINANCE COMMITTEE FOR A TERM ENDING OCTOBER 31, 2024</b> <b>VPGF/VPSL CARRIED</b>
4.	MacEwan Committees – Teaching Awards Sub-Committee	<p>Vpa – position needs to be filled by November 9. Usually filled by an exec, but this year the exec election results won't be known prior to when we need to have someone appointed. I've done this prior and have capacity for it.</p> <p>Vpgf – fine with appointing Vpa.</p> <p>Vpsl – should advocate to MacEwan for a different timeline. No issue with appointing Vpa. Need better communication from MacEwan.</p>	<b>MOTION</b> <b>TO APPOINT STEPHAN VASQUEZ TO THE TEACHING AWARDS SUB-COMMITTEE</b> <b>VPSL/VPGF ABSTAIN: VPA CARRIED</b>
5.	Project Updates (Standing Item)		
6.	Outstanding Action Items		
7.	VP External's report	tabled	
8.	VP Governance and Finance's Report		<b>MOTION</b> <b>TO GO IN CAMERA</b> <b>VPGF/VPSL CARRIED</b>  <b>MOTION</b> <b>TO GO OUT OF CAMERA</b> <b>VPGF/VPSL CARRIED</b>
9.	VP Student Life's Report	<p>Out of office next week, working from home the week after, back in office last week of November.</p> <p>SC PD update.</p> <p>Student Mental Health Week &amp; CHARM update.</p> <p>Student Brain Freeze update.</p> <p>Holiday Cards update.</p> <p>Search Committee update.</p>	
10.	President's Report	tabled	
11.	VP Academic's Report	<p>Internal Grants Adjudication.</p> <p>AI2 Working Group update.</p> <p>GFC update.</p> <p>Open House.</p>	

12.	General Manager's Report	Tabled.	
13.	Recognition		

4. Adjournment

Time: 3:03pm.

**Minutes for the Executive Committee Meeting of the  
Students' Association of MacEwan University  
November 15, 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: 2:00pm
2. Approval of Agenda:  
**VPGF/VPE**  
**CARRIED**
3. Approval of Minutes: November 8, 2023  
**VPGF/VPE**  
**CARRIED**

<b>TOPIC</b>		<b>DISCUSSION</b>	<b>ACTION/MOTION</b>
1.	Q1 Budget Update	Q1 Budget Overview presented by Cam Whiting.	
2.	Advo Meeting Room Tech Booth - Shelves	Tech Booth - \$1600.00	<p><b>MOTION</b></p> <p><b>TO APPROVE AN EXPENSE OF UP TO \$1600.00 FROM THE MAINTENANCE FUND FOR THE ADDITION OF SHELVES TO THE 200B ADVO MEETING ROOM TECH BOOTH</b></p> <p><b>VPGF/VPE</b>  <b>CARRIED</b></p>
3.	Marketing/The Griff equipment	Marketing & the Griff tech - \$28,000.00	<p><b>MOTION</b></p> <p><b>TO APPROVE AN EXPENSE OF UP TO \$28000.00 FROM THE MAINTENANCE FUND FOR EQUIPMENT UPGRADES AND ADDITIONS IN SAMU'S MARKETING &amp; THE GRIFF DEPARTMENTS</b></p> <p><b>VPGF/VPE</b>  <b>CARRIED</b></p>

			<b>MOTION</b>
4.	Student Groups Area Table	Student Groups - \$3700.00	<b>TO APPROVE AN EXPENSE OF UP TO \$3700.00 FROM THE MAINTENANCE FUND FOR A STUDENT GROUPS AREA TABLE</b>
			<b>VPGF/VPE CARRIED</b>
5.	Project Updates (Standing Item)		
6.	Outstanding Action Items		
7.	VP External's report	CAUS Advo Week update.	
8.	VP Governance and Finance's Report		
9.	VP Student Life's Report	tabled	
10.	President's Report	Attended convocation. Interview with CBC re affordability. Met with Marketing & SLT re. supports for students.	
11.	VP Academic's Report	Tabled.	
12.	General Manager's Report	Tabled.	
13.	Recognition		

4. Adjournment

Time: 2:28pm.

**Minutes for the Executive Committee Meeting of the  
Students' Association of MacEwan University  
November 29, 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: 2:00pm
2. Approval of Agenda:  
**VPSL/VPGF**  
**CARRIED**
3. Approval of Minutes: November 15, 2023  
**VPSL/VPGF**  
**CARRIED**

<b>TOPIC</b>		<b>DISCUSSION</b>	<b>ACTION/MOTION</b>
1.	Student Groups	<p>Every Nation Campus MacEwan    Vpa – in favour.    Pres – wonder if it's a unique group.    Vpsl – this is under a specific church – christian faith, but different (structure) than other groups.</p> <p>Linguistic Diversity at MacEwan University</p>	<p><b>MOTION</b></p> <p><b>TO APPROVE THE EVERY NATION CAMPUS MACEWAN STUDENT GROUP</b></p> <p><b>MOTION</b></p> <p><b>TO APPROVE THE LINGUISTIC DIVERSITY AT MACEWAN UNIVERSITY STUDENT GROUP</b></p> <p><b>VPSL/VPGF</b>  <b>CARRIED</b></p>
2.	Audit Committee – Resource Official	Michelle Malin	<p><b>MOTION</b></p> <p><b>TO APPOINT MICHELLE MALIN AS A RESOURCE OFFICIAL FOR THE AUDIT COMMITTEE FOR A TERM ENDING OCTOBER 31, 2024</b></p> <p><b>VPGF/VPSL</b>  <b>CARRIED</b></p>

3.	Project Updates (Standing Item)		
4.	Outstanding Action Items		
5.	VP Governance and Finance's Report	Consultation interview updates re. barriers to SC for students with Vpa. EC branding update. Budgeting update.	
6.	VP Student Life's Report	Sent out calendar holds to EC – Brain Freeze, Mental Health Week, etc. Planning meeting for MHW. Respond to NSO email please. Leadership meetings with Student Affairs update.	
7.	President's Report	CASA Advo Week. CAUS board meeting update. Affordability interview update.	
8.	VP Academic's Report	Registrar appointment update. Academic Integrity update. SoB Premier visit with Vpgf. Committees updates.	
9.	VP External's report	CASA Advo Week. CAUS Leadership update.	
10.	General Manager's Report	Residence update. Insurance costs update. Day of remembrance for Joy Shaw on Saturday. 109 St bus stop update. Sound masking update. Staircase project update. HR update. SG updates. Student Charter update.	
11.	Recognition		

#### 4. Adjournment

Time: 2:44pm.

**Minutes for the Executive Committee Meeting of the  
Students' Association of MacEwan University  
December 6, 2023 @ 2:30pm**

**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: 3:00pm
2. Approval of Agenda:  
**VPA/VPGF**  
**CARRIED**
3. Approval of Minutes: November 29, 2023  
**VPGF/VPE**  
**CARRIED**

<b>TOPIC</b>		<b>DISCUSSION</b>	<b>ACTION/MOTION</b>
1.	Project 8 Stairwell Floor Pads	<p>Vpgf – brought forward by GM – pads for stairwell – students are already relaxing there and this would make it more comfortable.</p> <p>Vpsl – in favour of this. Students will appreciate it.</p>	<p><b>MOTION</b></p> <p><b>TO APPROVE AN EXPENSE OF UP TO \$16,000.00 FROM THE MAINTENANCE FUND FOR STAIRWELL FLOOR PADS</b></p> <p><b>VPSL/VPGF</b>  <b>CARRIED</b></p>
2.	Student Groups	<p>MacEwan Seva Group</p> <p>Vpsl – mandate is essentially the same as Rotoract Club. Not in favour of approving it as presented.</p> <p>Vpa – some religions have to provide service to help others. Feel this is a religious group doing the same as a secular group.</p> <p>Vpgf – application indicates it is unique.</p> <p>Vpsl – nothing in the app indicates this is based on faith.</p> <p>Pres – can we ask the SG to update the application to provide more/better info?</p>	
3.	Project Updates (Standing Item)	Sharepoint Drive: EC Workplan	
4.	Outstanding Action Items		

5.			
6.	VP Academic's Report	COSA update. SSJOC update. Registrar Appointment update.	
7.	VP Governance and Finance's Report	GovCom & SCOC meetings. Working on Governance budget. Met with GM & Finance Manager re. SAMU fees for next year.	
8.	VP Student Life's Report	Healthy Relationships Planning meeting update. Dean of Nursing response update. Student Mental Health Framework update.	
9.	President's Report	BOG update.	
10.	VP External's report	APSN reception. Municipal advo update.	
11.	General Manager's Report	Safewalk update. HR update. Budgeting season. Building update. Peer Support update. Breakfast Club update.	
12.	Recognition		

4. Adjournment

Time: 3:48pm



## STUDENTS' COUNCIL MEETING SUBMISSION

### AGENDA ITEM INFORMATION

Meeting Date	Submitted By
December 20, 2023	Gabriel Ambutong, President

Agenda Title	Item Honorary Membership
Action Requested	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Motion <input type="checkbox"/> Consultation Item

### AGENDA ITEM DETAILS

Motion Title	Motion to grant Students' Association of MacEwan University Honorary Membership status to Joy Shaw
Background Information	<p>Honouring SAMU allies signals that we, as an organization, truly value and appreciate those in our community that show unrivaled commitment to supporting students.</p> <p>Joy Shaw has been nominated to be granted Honorary Membership status with SAMU. The nomination form and supporting documents have been attached for Students' Council's review. The Honorary Membership Policy has also been included.</p>
Alternative Considerations	To not grant Honorary Membership status.
Risk Management Considerations	n/a
Strategic Alignment	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Attached Strategic Alignment Checklist is complete
Implications	We will recognize Joy's contribution to SAMU and student life at MacEwan University.
Related Documents	Honorary 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>