



STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION OF MACEWAN UNIVERSITY

Agenda for the Students' Council Meeting of the Students' Association of MacEwan University July 16, 2025 at 6:00pm in the Council Chamber

Voting Members:

Olad Ayodeji, Councillor
Tolu Dare, Councillor
Jencel Diaz, Councillor
Aryan Dutta, Councillor
Aidan Fisher, Councillor
Chistian Galera, Councillor
Cierra Jacobs, Councillor
Alem Tesfay, Vice President Student Life
Moselle Namoc, Councillor
Maade Okai, Councillor
Nathan Poon, President
Israel Reyes, Councillor
vacant, Councillor

Andrei Santiago, Vice President Governance
and Finance
Joehn Torres, Councillor
Vincent Trinh, Councillor
Chioma Uzor, Vice President Academic
Wilfrid Youbi Fansi, Vice President External
Loyal Zidan, Councillor

SAMU Officials and Council Support:

Matt Yanish, Chair
Darryl Kostash, General Manager
Alan Honey, Governance Advisor
Caitlin Yambao, 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 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 JULY 16, 2025

2.2 MOTION

TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF JUNE 18, 2025

3. Presentations

3.1.

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. Governance Investigations & Reinstatement Committee (In Camera)

4.1.7. Executive Committee Workplan

4.1.8. Audit Committee (Councillor Galera)

4.1.9. Strategy and Engagement Committee (VPSL)

4.1.10.

4.2. Executive Committee Minutes

Minutes of June 11, 18, and 25, 2025 provided.

5. Question Period

5.1. Written Questions

5.2. Oral Questions

Topics include:

6. In Camera Period

6.1. Councillor Reinstatement

6.2.

7. Motions & Business Orders of the Day

7.1. Councillor Reinstatement

MOTION _____ **REINSTATE SEUN SADARE AS A COUNCILLOR, EFFECTIVE
JULY 17, 2025, FOR A TERM ENDING OCTOBER 31, 2025**

VPGF/

Favour:

Oppose:

7.2.

8. Consultation

8.1.

9. Evaluation

9.1.

10. Recognition

11. Adjournment

MOTION TO ADJOURN

Next Meeting Date: August 20, 2025

Meeting adjourned at pm



STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION OF MACEWAN UNIVERSITY

Minutes for the Students' Council Meeting of the Students' Association of MacEwan University June 18, 2025 at 6:00pm in the Council Chamber

Voting Members:

Olad Ayodeji, Councillor
Tolu Dare, Councillor
Jencel Diaz, Councillor
Aryan Dutta, Councillor
Aidan Fisher, Councillor
Chistian Galera, Councillor (absent)
Cierra Jacobs, Councillor
Alem Tesfay, Vice President Student Life (absent)
Moselle Namoc, Councillor
Maade Okai, Councillor
Nathan Poon, President
Israel Reyes, Councillor (absent)
vacant, Councillor

Andrei Santiago, Vice President Governance
and Finance
Joehn Torres, Councillor
Vincent Trinh, Councillor
Chioma Uzor, Vice President Academic
Wilfrid Youbi Fansi, Vice President External
Layal Zidan, Councillor

SAMU Officials and Council Support:

Timothy Jobs, Chair
Darryl Kostash, General Manager
Alan Honey, Governance Advisor
Caitlin Yambao, Admin Support

Meeting called to order at 6:00pm.

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.

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2. Approvals

2.1 MOTION

TO APPROVE THE AGENDA FOR JUNE 18, 2025

JACOBS/TRINH

CARRIED

2.2 MOTION

TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF APRIL 26 AND MAY 21, 2025

FISHER/NAMOC

CARRIED

3. Presentations

4. For Information

4.1. Reports

4.1.1. President

P/VP meeting.

4.1.2. Vice President Academic

4.1.3. Vice President External

City hall multi unit housing update.

4.1.4. Vice President Governance & Finance

4.1.5. Vice President Student Life

4.2. Executive Committee Minutes

Minutes of May 7, 21, 28, and June 4, 2025 provided.

5. Question Period

5.1. Written Questions

Okai – For VPA: My question is in reference to the Dean of Arts and Science, since the current dean will not be in during the school year, what was the benefit of meeting with the outgoing Dean? And will there be a push to meet and collaborate on behalf of the students?

VPA – Great question, councillor Okai!

Despite Dr. Schalomon's leave, it is still in good taste for SAMU to maintain a stable relationship with all the Dean's at MacEwan. The purpose of the meeting was to get familiar with her goals, accomplishments, and what she has planned when she returns. While this was a great opportunity for us to get familiar with each other, the meeting was purposeful to apply to projects we currently have planned for the student body and includes information that could also be resourceful for our future executives especially those within the VP Academic portfolio.

Efforts to collaborate on a regular basis on behalf of MacEwan's student body will be discussed and updated in more detail once I meet with Dr. Kevin Friesen.

Fisher - For whoever can answer, and maybe as a refresher: What metrics or indicators will SAMU use to evaluate the effectiveness of our advocacy efforts? (Affordability, housing, food insecurity?)

VPE - Thank you, Fisher, for the inquiry. Some quantifiable metrics include investments by the government or the university, new programs, or existing beneficial student programs being broadened. However, within our advocacy, not everything can be measured in terms of quantities or indicators. Especially within the VP External portfolio, we often deal with forces that move at paces that far outlast our terms, so wins come slowly with the need for measured advocacy that places us in the best position once things come to fruition. When we go out and advocate, we often sow the seeds for our predecessors to inherit the fertile relationships we may build or gain a win on an ongoing project. In all, it would be difficult to put an exact parameter on what we will use as performance indicators, but every advance, every connection we make will be used to ensure the betterment of students across campus.

Fisher - For VPE: Saw your interview! Go Wilfrid! Seems like the city (slowly but surely) is getting around to rezoning and removing a lot of red tape for building new homes. What is SAMU's approach to housing advocacy in light of these (possible) rezoning changes? Especially when MacEwan is projecting a pretty significant growth in enrollment by 2030.

VPE - Thanks for the question, Councillor, just to clarify, the rezoning changes proposed would not significantly impact the interests of our external advocacy since the changes are just minor adjustments to improve quality of life based on data seen after the Rezoning review and not all suggestions are guaranteed. Going to the review at City Hall, my role was primarily to speak in support of the changes already implemented from the adoption of the Bylaw last year. The Zoning Bylaw Renewal was a five-year project by the city to overhaul how the city thinks about zoning and land development, which came into effect on January 1st, 2024. With a focus on infill, the bylaw changes prepare for an influx of future population

growth within Edmonton by allowing for more housing units in areas that already have access to amenities in the city (Transit, Local businesses, etc.).

As for the approach to housing advocacy, we remain committed to pushing for accessible, affordable housing (Affordable being indicated by students within our surveys and data gathering). To achieve this end, we will be taking every avenue needed (Speaking to City Councillors, Provincial cabinet members, and Federal counterparts) to ensure that the influx of students has ample options for viable living spaces.

5.2. Oral Questions

Topics include: Community Nest Program; textbook affordability/OER; municipal advocacy strategies; leveraging relationships with external orgs for student benefit; GFC and exam period; H&D plan;

6. In Camera Period

7. Motions & Business Orders of the Day

7.1. Strategy and Engagement Committee

Nominees: Ayodeji

**MOTION TO APPOINT COUNCILLOR AYODEJI TO THE STRATEGY AND
ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE FOR A TERM ENDING OCTOBER 31, 2025**

VPGF/JACOBS

Favour: Vpgf, Vpe, Trinh, Ayodeji, Diaz, Vpa, Dare, Torres, Jacobs, Okai, Dutta, Namoc, Fisher, Reyes, Pres

CARRIED

8. Consultation

9. Evaluation

10. Recognition

11. Adjournment

MOTION TO ADJOURN

JACOBS

CARRIED

Next Meeting Date: July 16, 2025

Meeting adjourned at 6:27pm

Students' Council Report

Vice-President Student Life

July 16th, 2025

Hello folks,

I hope your summer is going well. July will always hold a special place in my heart because it is the month with the most eventful memories. This year was no different, from finishing up the term being a mentor for Big Brother and Big sisters to moving out for the first time to celebrating so many meaningful days, and there is still half of the month left to go. This report is also special because it will include work plans, Conference report, and Quarterly committee report. I hope you enjoy reading my June 19th- July 10th report.

Executive Summary

- Health Campus Alberta Summit (HCA)
- Meeting with my Counterpart Chandelle Rimmer (AVP)
- Strategy and Engagement Committee (SEC)
- Mentorship meeting on Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC)
- Meetings with Darryl (GM)



Student Voice

The Student Voice is amplified by SAMU

Health Campus Alberta (HCA):

As many of you know from my last report, I attended the Health Campus Alberta Summit. It HCA was an incredible and valuable experience. I was representing SAMU and MacEwan University. I had the opportunity to engage in diverse sessions focused on topics such as post-secondary mental health, wellness, and student-athlete challenges. A standout moment was Dr. Michael Ungar's keynote on mental resilience, which deepened my understanding of student well-being. Connecting with student leaders from across Alberta provided meaningful insights and inspiration. I also appreciated the warm hospitality from the University of Calgary's Student Union. I encourage the council and students reading this report to look into being involved in HCA. Whether that's being on the planning committee or attending as a student, it is a very affordable conference. As a SAMU member, you have a conference grant that can assist with transportation, hotel, and conference costs. Feel free to contact me or the SAMU staff if you want more information on this.

Meeting with my Counterpart Chandelle Rimmer:

As Vice president of student life (VPSL), one of my duties is to meet one-on-one with my MacEwan counterpart, and for portfolio, that person is Chandelle Rimmer, who is



currently the interim assistant vice president and has overseen operations at MacEwan student affairs for the last two years. This was my second meeting with Chandelle as VPSL; in my prior meeting, I spoke to her about my priorities as VPSL, and this meeting was the meeting she talked to me about her priorities. Currently, the AVP role is split up into two roles, and she is transitioning to the incoming AVP, which she mentioned has been a big priority for her. Some of you may know, but PAWWS is getting a name change to WAGS, which may come with some changes. During our meeting, I asked about the name change and what that meant. She didn't give me many details; however, she gave me the names of the committee members who made that decision. I reached out to the manager of student wellness services, who now oversees the WAGS program. I have been waiting to hear back from them. On the note of the committee that decided to change the name, I asked Chandelle if there could be any students on that decision-making table since these decisions directly affect students. She mentioned that it is something they are looking into; that being said, I will continue to follow up on this and provide any updates.

Student Supports

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

Strategy and Engagement Committee (SEC)

The Strategy and Engagement Committee (SEC) met once in June, marking our first meeting with the new team, which was an absolute pleasure to chair! We discussed two key items: planning Personal Development (PD) opportunities for the council and organizing the annual Council BBQ. We reviewed timelines to avoid scheduling conflicts and will soon send out polls via Telegram for your input on PD ideas. The BBQ, a



SAMU tradition celebrating the year with outgoing execs, student-at-larges, and the Chair, is already in the works with the venue booked and planning underway. One position remains open, so if you or someone you know is interested, feel free to reach out. If you want more information regarding this committee, a quarterly report is attached to this report, which goes into more detail about the meeting.

BIPOC Mentorship meeting:

I met with Andi Payne from Alumni & Development through a connection with Karen Ramsey from Careers Services. The topic of the meeting was a program that supports BIPOC students through networking, workshops and mentorship opportunities. The program is facilitated by an organization called Ubuntu, and Andi mentioned that the program is currently running at Norquest and the University of Alberta with great success. This could be a great program to run at MacEwan as well. However, this still needs to be discussed with the executive team. I will connect with the program coordinator sometime this summer for more information and report on the meeting results during that month.

Strengthening SAMU Operations

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

Meeting with Darryl (GM):

I mentioned this in previous reports, too, but I try to have meetings with our general manager, Darryl, because he's a great filter for ideas, and one of the ideas I brought up to Darryl is the feasibility of removing student locker fees through advocacy. In my years as a student, I noticed a trend of lockers being utilized less and less. I most noticed this after the pandemic; however, factors like the rise in the cost of living might influence the decisions of students to purchase a locker for the year. After further research into this, I found out that locker utilization changes between departments; for example, the nursing department may have a higher locker utilization than buildings 5-6. And even if a total removal of the locker fee isn't possible, I hope the fees can be reduced through advocacy. This change would benefit both students and MacEwan because it may help students be more active on campus, which has been proven to help with student retention.

Closing Remarks

I want to end this report by quoting, "The beautiful curse of progress is the realization and belief that there is always more to be done." As the months go by, I'm learning more about this role. I must remember to keep my capacity in mind; sometimes, we can be carried away with our work. Burnout is a real thing and something that should be kept in mind. To whoever is reading this, take a breather, go for walks, drink some water, and change location! That being said, I hope you enjoy reading my report! I want to say thank you again to the Governance Advocacy Support Team (GAST) and SAMU staff for their support.



**STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION
OF MACEWAN UNIVERSITY**

Cheers,

Alem D. Tesfay

VP Student Life, SAMU 2025/2026

savpstudentlife@macewan.ca

alemtesfay.ca

| Executive Committee Work Plan 2025-2026 For Information to Students Council | |
|--|---|
| Chaired By: | Nathan Poon, President |
| Members: | Chioma Uzor, Vice President Academic Wilfrid Youbi Fansi, Vice President External Andrei Santiago, Vice President Governance & Finance Alem Tesfay, Vice President Student Life |
| Mandate: | 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. |
| Approved by Committee: | July 9 th 2025 |
| Received by Council: | July 16 th 2025 |
| WORK PLAN UPDATES | |
| | |
| ADVOCACY | |
| Topic | Food Insecurity |
| EC Lead | President |
| Current Impact to Students | External factors outside of our control, such as inflation and the rising cost of living have inundated MacEwan students and the post-secondary sector across Alberta and Canada. As per the Spring Annual Survey, food insecurity remains a significant issue across the student body. Students who face financial concerns often sacrifice eating as a means to sustain the cost of their education. |
| Objective | - Advocate for more initiatives on campus to tackle food insecurity |
| Strategic Alignment | Student Voice: 2.1, 2.4 Student Supports: 3.3, 3.4 |
| Status | Initial Stages |

| | |
|----------------------------|---|
| Topic | Sustainable In-Year Allocation Process |
| EC Lead | President |
| Current Impact to Students | Students continue to be inundated with the rising cost of living and the rising cost of education. Coupled with external factors such as rampant inflation, many students at MacEwan have entered an affordability crisis, establishing a sustainable in-year allocation process will ensure that when MacEwan has surpluses SAMU can have a say in how in-year surpluses are spent. |
| Objective | - Establish a consistent in-year allocation process with MacEwan |
| Strategic Alignment | Student Voice: 2.1, 2.4 Student Supports: 3.1, 3.3 |
| Status | Initial Stages |
| Topic | External Stakeholder Partnerships |
| EC Lead | President |
| Current Impact to Students | As we have ceased our membership with the Council of Alberta University Students (CAUS) and have entered an observer year with the Canadian Alliance of Students' Associations (CASA), it is crucial to build sustainable avenues for advocacy. It is imperative that we build and further relationships with External Stakeholders at a municipal, provincial, and federal level, as well as other Students' Associations, and organizations to expand advocacy efforts. |
| Objective | - Strengthen external partnerships to further expand our advocacy efforts |
| Strategic Alignment | Student Voice: 2.1, 2.3, 2.4 Student Supports 3.3, 3.4 |
| Status | Initial Stages |
| Topic | Student Initiatives and Programs Advocacy |
| EC Lead | President |
| Current Impact to Students | Provincial cuts to university funding have led to a variety of programs and student initiative funding being either underfunded or cut by the university. |
| Objective | - Advocate to reestablish the MacEwan University Ombuds Office - Advocate for more financial support from the University for grassroots student initiatives |
| Strategic Alignment | Student Voice: 2.4 Student Supports: 3.3 |
| Status | Initial Stages |
| Topic | Open Educational Resources Advocacy |
| EC Lead | Vice President Academic |

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|----------------------------|---|
| Current Impact to Students | In 2025, rising textbook tariffs increase costs by 5–20%, making it harder for low-income students to afford required materials. Many prioritize essential expenses like rent and groceries over buying textbooks. Lack of awareness about free Open Educational Resources (OERs) further limits access to affordable options. |
| Objective | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ensure open and clear communication of affordable textbook options to students - Advocating for a learning materials fund similar to the textbook affordability award offered in Winter 2025 semester - MacEwan Library expands its OER database while streamlining the process for instructors to upload, customize, and create OERs. - Automatic textbook billing is dropped; MacEwan University retreats from implementing additional forms of automated textbook billing |
| Strategic Alignment | <p>Student Voice: 2.4</p> <p>Student Supports: 3.1, 3.3, 3.4</p> |
| Status | Ongoing |
| Topic | Student Charter / Accessible Student Rights Advocacy |
| EC Lead | Vice President Academic |
| Current Impact to Students | As MacEwan's campus grows, students may face challenges requiring dispute resolution. Easy access to their rights is essential but often lacking. Many students are unsure who to contact or whether their rights are being upheld. The current website is cluttered and difficult to navigate. This confusion can lead students to give up before resolving their issues. |
| Objective | <p>Gain support through various committees, and ultimately have MacEwan adopt the Guideline of Rights as a policy.</p> <p>Make these changes accessible for students to find on the MacEwan Website</p> |
| Strategic Alignment | <p>Student Voice: 2.1, 2.4</p> <p>Student Supports: 3.2, 3.3, 3.4</p> |
| Status | Initial Stages |
| Topic | Course Scheduling and Requirements Advocacy |
| EC Lead | Vice President Academic |
| Current Impact to Students | Students struggle to declare majors/minors on time due to full courses and unclear alternatives like visiting other institutions. Academic advising is inconsistent, leading students to seek help elsewhere. This results in missed opportunities and delayed graduation, often requiring an extra semester to complete required courses. |
| Objective | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Changes to the visiting student system, allowing late-stage students to take courses at other institutions with priority - Clear communication to students regarding visiting student requirements |
| Strategic Alignment | <p>Student Voice: 2.1, 2.4</p> <p>Student Supports: 3.1, 3.2, 3.3</p> |
| Status | Initial Stages |
| Topic | Provincial Student Affordability Advocacy |
| EC Lead | Vice President External |

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|----------------------------|--|
| Current Impact to Students | Students are facing an affordability crisis and need additional non repayable funding like grants or increased access to monies during the school year as cost of living grows in tandem with tuition. |
| Objective | Increase student financial aid including non-repayable grants and increase base funding for student aid |
| Strategic Alignment | Student Voice: 2.3 Student Support: 3.4 |
| Status | Initial Stages |
| Topic | Increased Connection of Newcomer Supports to MacEwan International |
| EC Lead | Vice President External |
| Current Impact to Students | Newcomers or international students are often dropped into the country with no support and are not adequately informed of options available to them for supports within university to connect them with municipal supports |
| Objective | Connecting Municipal services with MacEwan International to ensure welcome packages contain information for supports that are effective in supporting student success. |
| Strategic Alignment | Student Voice: 2.4 Student Support: 3.1, 3.2, 3.3 |
| Status | Initial Stages |
| Topic | Expansion of Work Placement Programs for Students |
| EC Lead | Vice President External |
| Current Impact to Students | Students are unable to find work that is applicable to their degree. They find little in options for summer work that goes towards experience for work after graduation. |
| Objective | - Advocate for diversified allocations to summer job program through province so students can more easily find work opportunities |
| Strategic Alignment | Student Voice: 2.3 Student Support: 3.1, 3.2, |
| Status | Initial Stages |
| Topic | Municipal Election Debate/Forum |
| EC Lead | Vice President External |
| Current Impact to Students | Leading up to a municipal election there is a current disconnect between elected officials and constituents. Lack of awareness of municipal impacts on a student's day to day. |
| Objective | - Present students with a chance to bring questions to elected officials and opportunity to network with other officials who attend the event. - encourage voting in municipal election |
| Strategic Alignment | Student Voice: 2.3 |

| | |
|----------------------------|---|
| Status | Initial Stages |
| Topic | Provincial Advocacy on Rent Control and Regulation of Landlords |
| EC Lead | Vice President External |
| Current Impact to Students | Students that are in the midst of the Affordability crisis worry about rent costs in addition |
| Objective | Create an advocacy package to detail potential implementations of basic rent control solutions or expanded social housing program so students can find affordable and appropriate housing in areas that are accessible to university without worrying about slum lords or bad faith landlords |
| Strategic Alignment | Student Voice: 2.3 Student Support: 3.1, |
| Status | Initial Stages |
| Topic | Educational Affordability Advocacy |
| EC Lead | Vice President Governance & Finance |
| Current Impact to Students | Rising living costs and tuition fees are major barriers to students' access to post-secondary education. This leads to food insecurity, financial instability, and reduced academic performance. The combined effects harm students' physical and mental health. |
| Objective | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Submitting In-Year Allocation and Budget Proposals that meet student need and help alleviate the cost of education. - Red tape reduction for the bursary application processes to address and alleviate student concerns - Push for more funds to be allocated to scholarships, awards and bursaries. - Improvements to Residence Services |
| Strategic Alignment | Student Support: 3.1, 3.3 |
| Status | Initial Stages |
| Topic | Mandatory Non-Instructional Fee (MNIF) Advocacy |
| EC Lead | Vice President Governance & Finance |
| Current Impact to Students | Students are paying Mandatory Non-Instructional Fees that some students are not able to take advantage of for varying reasons, with the affordability crisis ensuring |
| Objective | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Removal of the Tech fee for all students and allocating the remaining funds to other student-centered initiatives - Evaluate MNIF's from a service provided for cost of service perspective and push to improve quality of services for students, or a reduction in the cost of service. |
| Strategic Alignment | Student Voice: 2.4 Student Support: 3.2, 3.3 |
| Status | Ongoing |

| | |
|----------------------------|---|
| Topic | Student Housing Affordability |
| EC Lead | Vice President Student Life |
| Current Impact to Students | Due to increased demand, MacEwan Residence recently limited housing to MacEwan students, causing wait times for placement. With rising downtown housing costs, students face higher rents, longer commutes, or poor-quality living conditions. These factors negatively affect their overall student experience. |
| Objective | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Advocate to explore partnerships and housing strategies with internal and external stakeholders - Explore the creation of a grant or bursary program for students struggling with affordable housing |
| Strategic Alignment | Student Support: 3.1, 3.4 |
| Status | Initial Stages |
| Topic | Enhancing Athletics' Campus Culture |
| EC Lead | Vice President Student Life |
| Current Impact to Students | Low attendance at Griffins games reflects weak student support for athletics at MacEwan, impacting team morale and school spirit. This decline in campus culture deters recruits and contributes to underperformance. The result may be reduced enrollment, transfers, or student disengagement. |
| Objective | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Measure and Identify barriers to participation in athletics on campus, work to address and mitigate these barriers |
| Strategic Alignment | Student Experience and Engagement: 1.3 |
| Status | Initial Stages |
| Topic | Adulting 101 |
| EC Lead | Vice President Student Life |
| Current Impact to Students | Many students face a gap between what they currently know and what they are expected to know when it comes to essential aspects of adulthood. These areas include cooking, taxes, driver's education, personal finance, and public speaking—skills that are crucial for independence but often not formally taught. |
| Objective | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Advocate for MacEwan to host a series of events or workshops that address student need in good life skills to have - Explore opportunities within SAMU to bridge some of these gaps identified by students |
| Strategic Alignment | Student Experience and Engagement: 1.3 Student Supports: 3.1, 3.3, 3.4 |
| Status | Initial Stages |
| GOVERNANCE OVERSIGHT | |
| Topic | Strategic Plan |

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|---------------------|---|
| EC Lead | Vice President Governance & Finance |
| Strategic Alignment | Strengthening SAMU Operations: 4.1, 4.5 |
| Objective | SAMU's strategic plan expires June 2026, and a new strategic plan needs to be in the works to replace the current plan. |
| Key Details | Lead predominately by the General Manager with Executive Oversight and student leader input. |
| Status | To Begin Soon |
| Topic | SC Training & Refresher |
| EC Lead | Vice President Governance & Finance |
| Strategic Alignment | Strengthening SAMU Operations: 4.2, 4.5 |
| Objective | Required per policy, it ensures that members of our governing board are knowledgeable about governance and SAMU |
| Key Details | Lead and planned predominately by operational staff with Executive Oversight Dates: TBD |
| Status | To Begin Soon |
| Topic | SAMU 2026/27 Budget |
| EC Lead | Vice President Governance & Finance |
| Strategic Alignment | Strengthening SAMU Operations: 4.2, 4.4 |
| 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 2025 |
| Status | To Begin Soon |
| Topic | Town Hall |
| EC Lead | Vice President Governance & Finance |
| Strategic Alignment | Student Voice: 2.2 |
| Objective | Required by policy it provides Elected Representatives the ability to connect with students on a variety of topics |
| Key Details | Date: TBD |
| Status | To Begin Soon |



Students' Council Report

Quarter 4 Audit Committee Report May 21th, 2025

Audit Committee Members:

| <u>April 1st – June 31st, 2025</u> |
|---|
| Christian Galera (Chair), Councillor |
| Layal Zidan, Councillor |
| Izzy Reyes, Councillor |
| vacant, Student-at-Large |
| Faith Tabladillo, Student-at-Large |

Committee Resource Officials:

Cameron Whiting, Senior Finance Manager
Michelle Malin, Resource Officer

Good Morning Council,

I hope everyone is having a wonderful summer! Here is my first report as the Audit Committee Chair.

This is the report from the Audit Committee for the reporting period of April 1, 2025, through June 30, 2025 (Quarter 4). This committee met once this quarter, in May.

For the May meeting, the Audit Committee met to discuss and review variances and utilization of resources by the Executive Committee for Quarter 3. Similar to previous quarters, the Audit Committee will carry out its mandate over the new Executive team, maintaining its regular review of their expenditures and resource use, which includes sick leave and TOIL. As well as critically reviewing any budget variances across SAMU and upholding strong financial responsibility while being held accountable in managing Students' Association Fees.



**STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION
OF MACEWAN UNIVERSITY**

During the same meeting, the Audit Committee also appointed Councillor Christian Galera as the Audit Committee Chair.

If you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to contact me! I'll gladly answer all of them! Enjoy the rest of your summer, drink lots of water!

Best Regards,

Christian Galera

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Christian Galera', is written over a light blue horizontal line.

Audit Committee Chair, SAMU 2024/ 2025

galerac@mymacewan.ca



Students' Council Report

Quarterly Report: **Strategy and Engagement Committee**

SC Meeting Date: July 16th, 2025

| <u>Committee Members:</u> | <u>April 1st 2025 to June 30th 2025</u> |
|---------------------------|---|
| Alem Tesfay, | VP Student Life (Chair) |
| Andreie Santiago, | VP Governance & Finance |
| Aryan Dutta, | Councillor |
| Maade Okai, | Councillor |
| Mabel Adesopo, | Student-at-Large (absent) |
| Olad Ayodeji, | Councillor |
| Vacant, | Student-at-Large |
| | |
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| | |

Greetings Council,

This is the Strategy and Engagement Committee (SEC) report for the period of April 1st, 2025, to June 30th, 2025 (Q4 2024-2025)

This was the first meeting with the new team, and it was an absolute pleasure to chair it! Although this committee met once this quarter, we plan to meet more this quarter as things settle down. The committee reviewed two important items during the agenda: Personal Development (PD) opportunities for the council and the Summer BBQ.

We discussed important timelines for when we would organize PD events just so there wouldn't be any major conflicts; we also talked about the different types of



PD events we would organize. Sometime this quarter, we will send out polls on the telegram for your responses, so keep an eye out for that. If you have any feedback or ideas for PD opportunities, feel free to contact me.

Second is the council BBQ, a SAMU tradition that occurs every year at the end of the summer, where we, as the council, invite out the outgoing execs, student-at-larges and the chair to a celebration of the year. It is an awesome opportunity to engage with the team and learn more about SAMU and MacEwan with some fun trivia and have some friendly competition with one another. The BBQ site has already been booked, and planning is still ongoing; we will meet at least once again this summer for planning. The RSVP for that will be sent out in your email, but that being said, that concludes my report.

Congratulations, and thank you to those who put their name out to be on the committee; your work is very valuable. There is one vacant position, so if you are a MacEwan student or know a MacEwan student who would be interested in joining this committee, feel free to reach out to me.

Cheers,

Alem D. Tesfay

VP Student Life, SAMU 2025/2026

savpstudentlife@macewan.ca
alemtesfay.ca



**Minutes for the Executive Committee Meeting of the
Students' Association of MacEwan University
June 11, 2025 @ 2:00pm**

Voting Members:

Nathan Poon, President
Chioma Uzor, VP Academic
Wilfrid Youbi Fansi, VP External
Andrei Santiago, VP Governance & Finance
Alem Tesfay, VP Student Life

Resource Officials:

Darryl Kostash, General Manager

Alan Honey, Governance Advisor (Recording Secretary)

In Attendance:

Shannon Marshall, Executive Coordinator
Larissa Williams, Internal Advocacy Advisor
Parvin Sedighi, External and Stakeholder Relations
Manager
Emily Lukacs, External Advocacy Advisor

1. Call to Order: 2:01pm
2. 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.

3. Approval of Agenda:

VPA/VPSL

CARRIED

4. Approval of Minutes for: June 4, 2025

VPA/VPSL

CARRIED

| TOPIC | | DISCUSSION | ACTION/MOTION MOTION |
|-------|----------------|---|---|
| 1. | Student Groups | Next Generation Students for MEDLIFE at MacEwan University Women in Law Club Vpa – marginalized group – understand need for this group. GM – need to ensure inclusivity. Pres – there is overlap with already existing clubs, but mandate is unique. | TO APPROVE THE NEXT GENERATION STUDENT GROUP, THE STUDENTS FOR MEDLIFE AT MACEWAN UNIVERSITY STUDENT GROUP, THE WOMEN IN LAW CLUB AT MACEWAN UNIVERSITY, AND THE OPERATION FREE THINKERS STUDENT GROUP |
| | | Operation Free Thinkers | |

| | | | |
|-----|---|--|---|
| | | | VPSL/VPA CARRIED Abstain: Pres **Conflict of Interest declared** |
| 2. | Healthy Campus Alberta Wellness Summitt | VPSL – proposed to attend this conference – briefing note attached. Would likely have to miss the next SC meeting. | MOTION TO APPROVE AN EXPENSE OF UP TO \$923.00 FROM G/L 525400 FOR VPSL TO ATTEND THE HEALTHY CAMPUS ALBERTA WELLNESS SUMMIT VPA/PRES CARRIED Abstain: Vpsl |
| 3. | P/VP | IAA – please review the agenda – if you have any questions we can discuss after this meeting. | |
| 4. | Outstanding Action Items | | |
| 5. | VP External's Report | tabled | |
| 6. | VP Governance & Finance Report | tabled | |
| 7. | VP Student Life's Report | | |
| 8. | VP Academic's Report | GFC – academic schedule for 2026-2027 approved. | |
| 9. | President's Report | | |
| 10. | GM Report | Pride month update. The Griff insurance update. Advo at CS update. | |
| 11. | Recognition | | |

5. Adjournment
Time: 2:45pm



**Minutes for the Executive Committee Meeting of the
Students' Association of MacEwan University
June 18, 2025 @ 2:00pm**

Voting Members:

Nathan Poon, President
Chioma Uzor, VP Academic
Wilfrid Youbi Fansi, VP External
Andrei Santiago, VP Governance & Finance
Alem Tesfay, VP Student Life

Resource Officials:

1. Call to Order: 2:02pm
2. 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.

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3. Approval of Agenda:
VPA/VPGF
CARRIED
4. Approval of Minutes for: [June 11, 2025](#)
VPA/VPGF
CARRIED

| TOPIC | | DISCUSSION | ACTION/MOTION |
|-------|----------------|----------------------------------|--|
| 1. | Student Groups | GM – re. Credibuddies: Vpsl - | Motion To approve the Credibuddies Studfent Group Vpa/Vpe Defeated Abstain: Pres declares conflict due to current involvement with SGs. Action: Vpsl to notify SG department that Credibuddies doesn't align |

| | | | |
|-----|--------------------------|--|--|
| | | | <p>with Student Groups procedure as it duplicates a MacEwan U service</p> <p>Motion</p> <p>To approve the Theatre Arts and Production Troop student group</p> <p>Tabled</p> <p>Motion</p> <p>To approve the updated mandate for the Christian Students of MacEwan university student group</p> <p>Vpgf/Vpa carried</p> <p>Motion</p> <p>To close the MacEwan Investment Club, MacEwan Photography, Motorsports Club, and Punjabi Youths at MacEwan student groups</p> <p>Vpe/Vpa Carried</p> |
| 2. | | | |
| 3. | | | |
| 4. | | | |
| 5. | | | |
| 6. | | | |
| 7. | | | |
| 8. | Outstanding Action Items | | |
| 9. | | | |
| 10. | | | |

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|-----|--------------------------------|---|--|
| 11. | | | |
| 12. | | | |
| 13. | | | |
| 14. | VP Governance & Finance Report | BOG meeting. P/VP. Convocation attendance. | |
| 15. | VP Student Life's Report | Tabled. | |
| 16. | VP Academic's Report | Library Council meeting. | |
| 17. | VP External's Report | P/VP. City Council update. | |
| 18. | President's Report | Alumni Advisory event attendance. BOG. Convocation attendance. | |
| 19. | GM Report | Reno update. Key access program update. The Griff office update. HR update. A/V update. Student Experience Record & EC. Media update. | |
| 20. | Recognition | | |

5. Adjournment
Time: 2:44pm



**Minutes for the Executive Committee Meeting of the
Students' Association of MacEwan University
June 25, 2025 @ 2:00pm**

Voting Members:

Nathan Poon, President
Chiona Uzor, VP Academic
Wilfrid Youbi Fansi, VP External
Andrei Santiago, VP Governance & Finance
Alem Tesfay, VP Student Life

Resource Officials:

Darryl Kostash, General Manager

Alan Honey, Governance Advisor (absent)

In Attendance:

Shannon Marshall, Executive Coordinator
Larissa Williams, Internal Advocacy Advisor (Recording Secretary)
Parvin Sedighi, External and Stakeholder Relations Manager
Emily Lukacs, External Advocacy Advisor

1. Call to Order: 2:00pm
2. 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.

3. Approval of Agenda:

**VPA/VPSL
CARRIED**

4. Approval of Minutes for: June 18, 2025

**VPA/VPSL
CARRIED**

| TOPIC | | DISCUSSION | ACTION/MOTION |
|-------|-----------------------------------|--|---|
| 1. | H&D | Whiting - provides updates on potential plan enhancements, uncertain on making commitments to enhancements put forward, GM – consider marketing techniques to promote the plan. Can make plan enhancements at any time of the year confirmed by Gallivan. EC – in agreement that myvirtual doctor should not be pursued further, need to further look into plan enhancements before deciding to add anything | Action Item: VPGF to communicate to Gallivan SAMU would not like to go forward with myvirtualdoctor and to not receive sales communications, solicitations with SAMU about it until the end of our contract. |
| 2. | Elections and Referenda Procedure | VPGF - proposed changed to elections and referenda procedure made based on recommendations from the CRO | Tabled |

| | | | |
|----|--------------------------|--|---|
| | | <p>VPE – question about student groups and student executives acting in their student group capacities and the differentiations students would make.</p> <p>GM – It comes down to the official channels, if it comes from an official channel than that is not allowed but an individual student can endorse a candidate.</p> <p>VPA: questions around posterings and the removal of requirements</p> <p>VPGF – came from the CRO and the process of the CRO approving every asset is time consuming and may not be completely necessary, the onus moves to the student to report anything that may be offensive.</p> <p>VPSL – questions around student group execs being able to endorse as student group executives</p> <p>GM – as an individual they can be able to, they shouldn't be tying it to their student group</p> | <p>Action Item: Refer back to the committee with commentary from EC</p> |
| 3. | Student Groups | <p>Vpsl - A new student group and an updated mandate is up for approval.</p> | <p>MOTION</p> <p>TO APPROVE THE THEATRE ARTS AND PRODUCTION TROOP STUDENT GROUP</p> <p>VPSL/VPA CARRIED</p> <p>MOTION</p> <p>TO APPROVE THE UPDATED MANDATE FOR THE MACEWAN HUMAN RESOURCES STUDENT GROUP</p> <p>VPSL/VPA CARRIED</p> |
| 4. | | | <p>MOTION</p> <p>TO RECESS FOR 10 MINUTES</p> <p>VPA/VPE CARRIED</p> |
| 5. | Outstanding Action Items | | |
| 6. | VP External's Report | <p>Mayoral Forum Update</p> <p>ESA Meeting</p> | |
| 7. | VP Governance | Convocation | |

| | | | |
|-----|--------------------------|---|--|
| | & Finance Report | Advocacy Prep | |
| 8. | VP Student Life's Report | Healthy Campus Alberta Conference | |
| 9. | VP Academic's Report | GFC Vice Chair changed | |
| 10. | President's Report | Tabled | |
| 11. | GM Report | Marketing process updates Building Updates HR Updates | |
| 12. | Recognition | | |

5. Adjournment
Time: 3:54pm



STUDENTS' COUNCIL MEETING SUBMISSION

AGENDA ITEM INFORMATION

| Meeting Date | Submitted By |
|---------------|--|
| July 16, 2025 | Andrei Santiago, Vice President Governance & Finance |

| Agenda Title | Item |
|------------------|---|
| | Councillor Reinstatement |
| Action Requested | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Motion <input type="checkbox"/> Consultation Item |

AGENDA ITEM DETAILS

| Motion Title | Motion _____ reinstate Seun Sadare as a Councillor, effective July 17, 2025, for a term ending October 31, 2025 |
|--------------------------------|--|
| Background Information | <p>Seun Sadare was appointed as a Councillor at the May 2025 Students' Council meeting. Seun was subsequently automatically removed from Council due to not completing the required training within the afforded timeline. Seun applied to be reinstated as a Councillor. The Governance Investigations and Resinstatement Committee reviewed her application and has provided a recommendation (see In Camera report) to Students' Council.</p> <p>Council will be provided the report during the In Camera portion of the July 16, 2025 meeting and will have an opportunity to debate the recommendation. Once debate has been completed Council will have to complete a secret ballot vote on whether to reinstate, or not reinstate, Seun.</p> <p>Once the result of that secret ballot vote is confirmed by the Chair a motion will be introduced based on the result of the secret ballot vote and Council will have to approve that motion to endorse that result.</p> |
| Alternative Considerations | |
| Risk Management Considerations | |
| Strategic Alignment | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Attached Strategic Alignment Checklist is complete |

| | |
|-------------------|--|
| Implications | |
| Related Documents | |
| 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 |
|--|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Student Experience & Engagement | | | |
| The overall student experience is enhanced by the opportunities provided by SAMU. | <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"/> |
| Student Voice | | | |
| The Student Voice is amplified by SAMU. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" 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"/> |
| Student Supports | | | |
| Student supports provided by SAMU are responsive to unique and evolving needs. | <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"/> |
| Strengthening SAMU Operations | | | |
| SAMU is an innovative and sustainable organization with an engaging work environment. | <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"/> |