



STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION OF MACEWAN UNIVERSITY

Agenda for the Students' Council Meeting of the Students' Association of MacEwan University July 15, 2026 at 6:00pm in the Council Chamber

Voting Members:

Dalya Abougoush, Councillor
Shina Adeshina, Councillor
Anna Campmans, Councillor
Tolu Dare, Councillor
Chistian Galera, Councillor
Jean Pierre Moreno, Councillor
Moselle Namoc, Councillor
Nathan N. Poon, President
Nathan R. Poon, Vice President Governance
and Finance
Elizabeth Russell, Vice President Student Life
Alem Tesfay, Vice President External
Vincent Trinh, Councillor
Chioma Uzor, Vice President Academic
Liam Wilson, Councillor

Izzy Reyes Councillor
Manojna Tumma, Councillor
Yulia Likhacheva, Councillor
vacant, Councillor
vacant, Councillor

SAMU Officials and Council Support:

Matthew 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 15, 2026

2.2 MOTION

TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF JUNE 17, 2026

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. Students' Council Operations Committee (VPGF)

4.1.7. Strategy and Engagement Committee (VPSL)

4.1.8. Governance Committee (VPGF)

4.1.9. Finance Committee (VPGF)

4.1.10. Executive Committee Workplan

4.1.11.

4.2. Executive Committee Minutes

Minutes of June 10, 17, 24, and 30, 2026 provided.

5. Question Period

5.1. Written Questions

Trinh - For VPA - Can you elaborate on what the "Transfer Mandate Initiative" is and how does it impact students? Also, while feedback was gathered are you aware if any action will be taken based on the feedback?

VPA – Thank you for your question, Councillor Trinh.

The Transfer Mandate Initiative is part of an effort to engage stakeholders and interact with student leaders to understand what all institutions are dealing with in terms of transfer credit. The Transfer Mandate initiative is part of the 2030 Building Skills for Jobs by the Government of Alberta which is a 10-year strategy to improve post-secondary education.

The session was purposed to speak with student leaders to keep us to speed on the framework and timeline of the mandate. The feedback collected is expected to be implemented institutionally across all post-secondary institutions in Alberta. There is an opportunity for student leaders to be part of a focus group however more information on this will be communicated in the coming months. As far as my knowledge goes, they are only engaging with executives of students' associations/unions currently for feedback. SAMU has taken the topic of transfer credit into account, and we are currently implementing that into our advocacy efforts.

Trinh - For VPSL - With your meeting with the manager of the Kihêw Waciston Indigenous Centre, why did you both decide to use the remaining budget on swag? Is there nothing else that you could've allocated these funds for?

VPSL – Thank you for your question, Councillor Trinh.

In the meeting with the Manager of the kihêw waciston Indigenous Centre, I let them know that we had remaining funds that we wanted to use to support the Centre in any way that we could.

Rather than assuming what they needed, we wanted to remain accommodating and allow them to identify what would provide the most impact at this moment.

The Manager shared that they were seeking support to purchase swag for students as this can come with a hefty price tag. I believe this was an appropriate use of funds as a challenge expressed by the Manager was a lack of visibility of the Indigenous Centre across campus. Not only will this swag bring awareness, but it also fosters community and representation for Indigenous students.

Trinh - For VPE - In regards to the leadership orientation you had in Calgary, what do the updates and enhancements (MNIFs, Students with Disabilities, and the other topics mentioned in the report) look like and how do these effect students?

VPE – Thank you for the question, Councillor Trinh,

I will give a bullet point example on what's "new" to the upcoming year from the Advanced Education slides, but I will highly encourage you to look over the slides, which I can forward to you. Even as someone who is into the benefits students can utilize when it comes to funding, there were a lot of new things I learned from the presentation.

MNIFs:

updates are on the institutional level; they mentioned that Institutions are making, or have made, administrative updates to strengthen the level of detail in their MNIFs to Students.

Student Bursaries:

NEW for 2026/27: New Beginnings Bursary (NBB) funding has been increased by \$7M, for a total of \$12M, more than doubling the number of bursary recipients

Enhancements for Students with Disabilities:

- Students with disabilities who have an active Schedule 4 on file are automatically eligible for consideration under a reduced course load.
- The Canada Disability Benefit (CDB) will not be used as a resource on student aid and Repayment Assistance Plan (RAP) applications.
- The Alberta Disability Assistance Program (ADAP) will be recognised as an approved source of disability income.

Enhancements to Application and Services:

- New Canada Revenue Agency (CRA) income verification process for students and their spouses.
- Extensive improvements to applications, help text, and student letters to make it easier for students to apply and understand the 2026/27 changes.

Canada Student Financial Assistance Program (CSFAP) Changes:

- Updates to Monthly Living Allowances
- The dollar amount, which depends on the household status and number of dependents, has been adjusted to account for inflation.
- The income threshold for the maximum grant and the income threshold at which Grant Eligibility is cut off have changed.

Likhacheva - To VPA - Will there be additional opportunities for student leaders to provide feedback on the Transfer Mandate Initiative? If so, is SAMU planning to gather further input from MacEwan students about their experiences and challenges with the transfer process to inform future advocacy?

VPA - Thank you for your question, Councillor Likhacheva! Please refer to Councillor Trinh's question above for a similar response.

5.2. Oral Questions

Topics include:

6. In Camera Period

6.1.

7. Motions & Business Orders of the Day

7.1. Committee Appointment

Nominees: Reyes, Tumma,

Voting Link

***MOTION TO APPOINT COUNCILLOR _____ TO THE STUDENTS' COUNCIL
OPERATIONS COMMITTEE FOR A TERM ENDING OCTOBER 31, 2026***

VPGF/

7.2.

8. Consultation

8.1.

9. Evaluation

9.1. [Link to Evaluation Form](#)

10. Recognition

11. Adjournment

MOTION TO ADJOURN

Next Meeting Date: August 19, 2026

Meeting adjourned at pm.



STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION OF MACEWAN UNIVERSITY

Minutes for the Students' Council Meeting of the Students' Association of MacEwan University June 17, 2026 at 6:00pm in the Council Chamber

Voting Members:

Dalya Abougoush, Councillor (absent)
Shina Adeshina, Councillor
Olad Ayodeji, Councillor
Anna Campmans, Councillor
Tolu Dare, Councillor
Chistian Galera, Councillor
Jean Pierre Moreno, Councillor
Moselle Namoc, Councillor
Nathan N. Poon, President
Nathan R. Poon, Vice President Governance
and Finance
Elizabeth Russell, Vice President Student Life
Alem Tesfay, Vice President External
Vincent Trinh, Councillor

Chioma Uzor, Vice President Academic
Shanna Villasenor, Councillor
Liam Wilson, Councillor
Izzy Reyes Councillor
Manojna Tumma, Councillor
Yulia Likhacheva, Councillor

SAMU Officials and Council Support:

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

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 JUNE 17, 2026

GALERA/REYES

CARRIED

2.2 MOTION

TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF MAY 20, 2026

GALERA/ADESHINA

CARRIED

3. Presentations

4. For Information

4.1. Reports

4.1.1. President

As presented.

4.1.2. Vice President Academic

As presented.

4.1.3. Vice President External

As presented.

4.1.4. Vice President Governance & Finance

As presented.

4.1.5. Vice President Student Life

As presented.

4.2. Executive Committee Minutes

Minutes of May 13, 20, 27, and June 3, 2026 provided.

5. Question Period

5.1. Written Questions

5.2. Oral Questions

Topics include: consultation with students on Meskanas;

6. In Camera Period

7. Motions & Business Orders of the Day

8. Consultation

9. Evaluation

10. Recognition

11. Adjournment

MOTION TO ADJOURN

AYODEJI

CARRIED

Next Meeting Date: July 15, 2026

Meeting adjourned at 6:11pm.



Students' Council Report

President

July 15th, 2026

Dear Council,

I hope all of you are enjoying the sun! Here's my report on from the President portfolio from June 11th, 2026 to July 9th, 2026.

Executive Summary

- Canadian Alliance of Student Associations (CASA) Policy and Strategy Conference 2026
- Stampede 2026 Advocacy
- Student Leaders Orientation 2026
- Spring Convocation 2026 Ceremonies

Canadian Alliance of Student Associations (CASA) Policy and Strategy Conference 2026

Vice President External Tesfay and I had the opportunity to attend CASA's Policy and Strategy Conference (PoliStrat), which is CASA's annual direction-setting conference. SAMU had the opportunity to provide consultation on various items, such as committee action plans and possible federal advocacy avenues focused on items such as the Canadian Dental Care Plan. SAMU also partook in further federal advocacy training and

President Report to Students' Council

Submitted: July 9th, 2026

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mock meetings designed to prepare student leaders for future lobby meetings, which can be applied to future federal, provincial, and municipal meetings.

This PoliStrat conference saw consultation around CASA's Strategic Plan, which undergoes evaluation every three years. SAMU had the opportunity to provide commentary on critical points for the next three-year Strategic Plan, including further Board accountability and membership consultation. PoliStrat is also the conference where membership seeks committee opportunities to further shape CASA's advocacy. As SAMU is not a member of CASA, but rather an observer, we did not pursue any committee opportunities.

Further to Students' Council's August motion to re-evaluate our position with CASA, I will reserve further commentary for that report.

Stampede 2026 Advocacy

Vice President External Tesfay and I had the opportunity to go to Calgary to attend this year's Calgary Stampede advocacy circuit. For context, while the rodeos and carnival are happening on the grounds, government officials, public sector stakeholders, non-profit organizations, and private sector leaders host dozens of events across the city focused on building relationships, discussing policy priorities, and fostering collaboration across sectors.

Throughout the week, I had the opportunity to meet with people at the municipal, provincial, and federal levels, strengthening existing connections and developing new ones that will help advance our advocacy priorities and better represent our members' interests. Please refer to the Vice President External's report for further information.



Figure 1: SAMU President Nathan Poon with Premier of Alberta Danielle Smith at Alberta Counsel's 2026 Stampede Event



Figure 2: SAMU President Nathan Poon with Alberta NDP Leader Naheed Nenshi, pictured with other Student Leaders from across Alberta

Student Leader Orientation 2026

President Report to Students' Council

Submitted: July 9th, 2026

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The Ministry of Advanced Education hosted its annual Student Leader Orientation in Calgary at the McDougall Centre. The Minister of Advanced Education, MLA Myles McDougall, provided remarks on the current environment of post-secondary education from the government's perspective in Alberta, which centered around Mintz Panel recommendation updates.



Figure 3: SAMU President Nathan Poon and SAMU Vice President External Alem Tesfay with Minister of Advanced Education Myles McDougall

Student leaders were also provided training on student association governance, government priorities/investments on OERs, the mental health grant, and Alberta's Student with Disabilities Grant. Please refer to the Vice President External's report for more commentary.

Spring Convocation 2026 Ceremonies



**STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION
OF MACEWAN UNIVERSITY**

Spring Convocation 2026 saw 2,600 MacEwan students cross the stage as they finished their certificates, diplomas, or degrees. I had the honour of attending the ceremonies and meeting many of the students leaving the university, while reconnecting with many members of MacEwan's administration and association presidents. As always, it is a pleasure to speak to students as they exit their membership from the Students' Association.

Closing Remarks

Thank you for taking the time to read my report. Thank you all for being so engaged over the Spring/Summer, and I hope you have time to enjoy the sun.

Please reach out to us if you have any questions.

Warm regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Nathan Poon', with a stylized, flowing script.

Nathan Poon
President
Students' Association of MacEwan University



Students' Council Report

Vice-President Academic

July 15, 2026

Hello council! Short report today. Hope you are enjoying your summer to the fullest. There is so much left of it so if you haven't started yet make sure you start now!

Executive Summary

- Transfer Mandate Meeting w/ The Government of Alberta

Student Voice

The Student Voice is amplified by SAMU.

Transfer Mandate Initiative with The Government of Alberta

Strat Point 2.3, 3.4

On June 24th, I attended a meeting with the Government of Alberta in relation to the Transfer Mandate initiative. The meeting had VPA's and other executives from other institutions present to provide their outlook on the mandate. The session went over what the Transfer Mandate initiative was and what it covered. Then, there was an opportunity for student leaders to share any issues that students have with the transfer process at their institution.

Closing Remarks

TAKE YOUR BREAKS!! (even though its summer).

Welcome to Summer! I hope you have a lot planned and going on to soak in the sun. This is the time to really sleep in so make the most of it!

My schedule is generally unpredictable and may be more packed than most days. Council can still swing by my office to ask any questions or provide any feedback, **but please contact me before coming over** so that I can be well prepared for your concern and can fit you into my schedule as well! You can either email me or message me.



Warmly as always,

Chioma V. Uzor (she/her)

2026/2027 VP Academic, SAMU

savpacademic@macewan.ca

Students' Council Report

Vice-President External

Date of Meeting: July 15th, 2026

Greetings everyone,

This reporting month has been filled with travel, learning, and good news. We touched on all levels of advocacy, from planning for municipal advocacy here in the city to learning about the state of advanced education funding in Calgary to practicing federal advocacy in Ottawa; it's been quite a busy month. I invite you to read my report for the period of June 11 to July 10.

Executive Summary

- Student Leadership Orientation (SLO)
- Canadian Alliance of Student Associations (CASA) Poli-Strat Conference
- Edmonton Student Alliance (ESA) retreat
- Indigenous affairs Petition e-7431 (update)



Student Voice

The Student Voice is amplified by SAMU

Student Leadership Orientation (SLO)

The president and I attended the student leadership orientation in Calgary, hosted by Alberta Advanced Education. Honorable Myles McDougall, Minister of Advanced Education, was in attendance. Although the orientation primarily served as an informative learning opportunity for student leaders across the province, there were also presentations by the Alberta Student Executive Council (ASEC) and Alberta Graduates Advocacy Group (AGAG) to the minister and his team. In addition to the refresh of information on the state of advanced education, they mentioned updates to Monthly Living Allowances, Mandatory Non-Instructional Fees (MNIFs) by institutions, Application and Service Enhancements, and Enhancements for Students with Disabilities. If anyone wants access to the slides provided to us by the folks from Advanced Education, I can ask that they be forwarded. It's super interesting and relevant information for any post-secondary student.

Canadian Alliance of Student Associations (CASA) Poli-Strat Conference

The president, the external advocacy advisor and I attended the CASA Conference; this time, it was the Poli-Strat conference, which stands for Policy and Strategy. The primary purpose of the conference was to establish priorities for the year across all CASA committees. In addition, there was a Financial Update, a Strategic Plan consultation, and there were also several training sessions and activities. There were also opening and closing plenaries, but since we were observers, we didn't participate.

Edmonton Student Alliance (ESA) retreat

The Chair and Vice-Chair of the Edmonton Student Alliance organized a retreat for all members of ESA. Throughout the retreat, we discussed various topics, such as strategic planning, team charter, budget, advocacy priorities, and membership engagement. There was also an information session that included the government relations structure and municipal leadership. I was very pleased with the session and look forward to working with student leaders across the city to address issues affecting all post-secondary students in Edmonton!



(ESA members at the retreat)

Student Supports

Student supports provided by SAMU are responsive, unique, and evolving needs

Indigenous affairs petition e-7431 (update)

In the last report, I mentioned that there was a petition to the Government of Canada calling for the establishment of sufficient, predictable, and distinctions-based financial support for all eligible First Nations, Inuit, and Métis learners; and for a permanent increase in funding for the Post-Secondary Student Support Program for Indigenous students. I'm happy to announce that we reached the 500-signature goal and will now be tabled in the House of Commons by Member of Parliament Billy Morin! Of all the provinces that signed the petition, Alberta accounted for a strong majority of the signatures, so thank you to all the students, staff, and faculty who took the time to read and learn about and support this important initiative!

Province / Territory	Signatures
Alberta	168
British Columbia	37
Manitoba	17
New Brunswick	40
Newfoundland and Labrador	2
Northwest Territories	1
Nova Scotia	56
Ontario	99
Prince Edward Island	8
Quebec	88
Saskatchewan	5
Yukon	1

(Results of petition signatures based on Province and Territory)



Closing Remarks

Thank you for taking the time to review my report! If anything raises questions or requires clarification, please don't hesitate to reach out, whether through a written question, an office visit, or email. I am always happy to connect. Although the rainy weather seems determined to stick around, I hope you are making the most of summer, whether it's watching the World Cup, attending the many festivals across the city or going for a walk in the river valley. If you are taking classes on campus, make sure to take advantage of the benefits offered by sports and wellness. I want to take this opportunity to congratulate all the graduating students. Although I didn't get a chance to attend the convocations at the Winspear Centre this year, I did attend the Indigenous Student Graduation celebration on campus, which was an amazing experience. As always, I will leave you with a quote that resonated with me this month: "For to everyone who has, more will be given, and he will have abundance; but from him who does not have, even what he has will be taken away"

Cheers,

Alem D. Tesfay

Vice President External, SAMU 2026/2027

Email: savpexternal@macewan.ca

Website: Alemtesfay.ca

Campus IG page: [@Alemupdates](https://www.instagram.com/Alemupdates)

Students' Council Report

VPGF Report

July 15th, 2026

Good day, Council!

Hope your summer is going well and you are enjoying some sunlight with mostly rainy days. The mosquitoes have been crazy this year but let's hope it calms down. Time to stock up on mosquito repellent folks. These past few months have gone by so fast and I'm getting more and more confident everyday with my role. This report is still short as committee meetings don't happen that often in the summer.

Below will be my report from June 12th to July 15th

Executive Summary

- Board of Governors Meeting
- MacEwan University Spring Convocation
- Strategic Plan session
- U-pass Committee meeting

Student Voice

The Student Voice is amplified by SAMU.

Board of Governors Meeting

Strategy 2.4



On June 11th, 2026, The President and I attended our first in-person MacEwan Board of Governors (BoG) meeting. This meeting the board appointed a new Vice-Chair and several new Chairs for committees of the Board 2026/27. The Board approved new academic programming such as the Post-Baccalaureate Accounting Diploma, New Major: Finance, and the Postdoctoral Fellows Policy. The Board also approved the 2026/27 to 2028/2029 Financial Plan, and the 2025/26 Annual Report.

MacEwan University Spring Convocation 2026

Strategy 2.4

From June 16th to June 19th, I had the opportunity to attend the spring convocation and watch students cross the stage for an important part of their life. During my time at the convocation, I got to sit on the stage as part of BoG and had conversations with high status individuals.

Student Supports

Students support provided by SAMU are responsive to unique and evolving needs.

Strategic Alignment Plan

Strategy 4.1, 4.2

On June 17th, EC and Senior Leadership Team attended a Strategic Alignment Plan meeting and at the meeting we looked at the Plan for the next five years. With this Strategic Plan we took student survey suggestions to improve the Strategic plan. With the suggestions we kept it broad and had clear intentions. We also asked clarifying questions during the review time of the draft. I'm looking forward to the final version of the Strategic Plan for 2027-2032

U-Pass Committee

VPGF Report to Students' Council

[July 3rd, 2026]

Page 2 of 3

Strategy 3.4

On June 16th, I sat in a meeting for the U-Pass Steering Committee. During that meeting we did introductions, all municipalities are in their spring/summer schedules, they are preparing for their fall transit schedules and then setting dates for the upcoming year.

Closing Remarks

Thank you for reading my report. As the year goes on there will be more to report on. For now, I hope you enjoyed my report and the rest of summer. Its already July and we have got two more months left of summer till we are back and running. If you have any questions, feel free to reach out.

Cheers,

Nathan R. Poon (he/him)

VP Governance and Finance, SAMU 2026/2027

savpoperations@macewan.ca



Students' Council Report

Vice President Student Life

July 15, 2026

Greetings Council,

Apart from the rain, I hope you are all enjoying your summer! Please see my report below.

Executive Summary

- Meeting with the Marketing Team
- Introductory Meetings
- Strategic Plan Alignment Session

Student Experience & Engagement

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

Meeting with the Marketing Team

Strat Point 1.2

As per my workplan, I am working to bring visibility to 2SLGBTQIA+ spaces and resources. On June 25th, I met with the marketing team to discuss initial edits to the SAMU website to highlight SAMU's commitment to inclusivity. This meeting was highly



productive and I'm confident that the marketing team's expertise will help bring these priorities to life.

Student Voice

The Student Voice is amplified by SAMU.

Introductory Meetings

Strat Point 2.4

I had two additional introductory meetings this month. One of them was with the Manager of the kihêw waciston Indigenous Centre and the other was with the Senior Program Manager of Office of Human Rights. As noted in last month's report, the purpose of these meetings was to discuss our respective priorities, identify areas of alignment, and explore any gaps or opportunities for collaboration.

I met with the manager of KW, Danielle Lighting, with the intention of offering support through the remaining budget available from "Executive Projects" as we near the end of the fiscal year. Ultimately, we decided to allocate these funds towards the purchase of KW x SAMU swag for the upcoming year.

Strategic Plan Alignment Session

Strat Point 2.1

I attended the Strategic Plan Alignment Session on June 17th with EC to provide feedback on the final draft of the 2027-2032 Strategic Plan. I look forward to seeing our feedback reflected in the final version. Please refer to the VPGF's report for additional details.



**STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION
OF MACEWAN UNIVERSITY**

Closing Remarks

Thank you for taking the time to read my report. If you have any comments, questions, or concerns, please don't hesitate to reach out.

Regards,

Elizabeth Russell

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Elizabeth Russell'.

Vice President Student Life 26/27

Student's Association of MacEwan University

savpstudentlife@macewan.ca



Students' Council Report

Quarterly Report: Students' Council Operations Committee

July 15, 2026

Committee Members:

<u>April 1st 2026 to April 30th 2026</u>	<u>May 1st 2026 to June 30th 2026</u>
Andrei Santiago, Vice President Governance & Finance (Chair)	Nathan R. Poon, Vice President Governance & Finance (Chair)
Olad Ayodeji, Councillor	Olad Ayodeji, Councillor
Anna Campmans, Councillor	Anna Campmans, Councillor
Maade Okai, Councillor	Christian Galera, Councillor
Vincent Trinh, Councillor	Vincent Trinh, Councillor

Greetings Council,

This is the report from the Students' Council Operations Committee for the reporting period of April 1st to June 30th, 2026 (Quarter 4). Please note that this report will also include my predecessors report on April 9th Students' Council Operations Committee meeting. On April 9, the Committee tasked the incoming Vice President Governance & Finance, alongside two Councillors, with forming an Interview Working Group to interview and vet candidates for appointment to Students' Council in accordance with the Committee's mandate. Additionally, the Committee initiated the development of a formal review process for the Chief Returning Officer (CRO), with plans to proceed toward appointing a CRO later in the spring or summer term. Lastly, the Committee completed its review of the Students' Council minutes and evaluation forms for the month of March, thereby fulfilling all required reviews for Quarter 3. No concerns were identified.

Prior to May 13th, the Interview Working Group (IWG) met and had interviews throughout the week. After the interviews were done the IWG met



**STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION
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again on May 11th to discuss and review candidates and recommend to Students' Council to fill the 3 Councillor vacancies. On May 13th, Students' Council Operations Committee had a formal meeting to recommend students to fill the vacancies. It was also an unanimous decision to recommend Josh Stock to be reappointed as the Chief Returning Officer. Lastly Please do not hesitate to contact myself or the Governance Advisor if you have any questions.

Warm Regards,

Nathan R. Poon (he/him)

VP Governance and Finance, SAMU 2026/2027

savpopoperations@macewan.ca



Students' Council Report

Quarterly 4 Report: Strategy and Engagement Committee (SEC)

July 15, 2026

Committee Voting Members:

April 1 st 2026 to April 30 th 2026	May 1 st 2026 to June 30 th 2026
Alem Tesfay, Vice President Student Life (Chair)	Elizabeth Russell, Vice President Student Life (Chair)
Andrei Santiago, Vice President Governance and Finance	Nathan R. Poon, Vice President Governance and Finance
Dalya Abougoush, Councillor	Dalya Abougoush, Councillor
Tolu Dare, Councillor	Tolu Dare, Councillor
Moselle Namoc, Councillor	Moselle Namoc, Councillor
Shine Estigoy, Student-at-Large	Shine Estigoy, Student-at-Large
Alek Kosoric, Student-at-Large	Alek Kosoric, Student-at-Large

Committee Resource Officials:

Parvin Sedighi, Advocacy Coordinator
Shannon Marshall, Executive Coordinator

Greetings Council,

This is the report from the Strategy and Engagement Committee (SEC) for the reporting period from April 1st 2026 to June 30th 2026 (Quarter 4).

Unfortunately, due to the EC transition and inability to reach quorum, SEC was unable to meet this quarter.

If you have any questions, comments, or concerns, please don't hesitate to reach out.

Regards,

Elizabeth Russell



**STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION
OF MACEWAN UNIVERSITY**

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read 'Elizabeth Hull'. The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Vice President Student Life 26/27

Student's Association of MacEwan University

savpstudentlife@macewan.ca

Students' Council Report

Quarterly Report: Governance Committee

July 15th, 2026

Committee Members:

<u>April 1st 2026 to April 30th 2026</u>	<u>May 1st 2026 to June 30th 2026</u>
Andrei Santiago, Vice President Governance & Finance (Chair)	Nathan R. Poon, Vice President Governance & Finance (Chair)
Christian Galera, Councillor	Christian Galera, Councillor
Kris Ravelo, Councillor	Kris Ravelo, Councillor
Amanda Lou, Student-at-Large	Amanda Lou, Student-at-Large
Zainab Oseni, Student-at-Large	Zainab Oseni, Student-at-Large

Greetings Council,

This is the report from the Governance Committee for the reporting period of April 1st to June 30th, 2026.

There were no meeting during this quarter to report on.

Warm Regards,

Nathan R. Poon (he/him)

VP Governance and Finance, SAMU 2025/2026

savpopoperations@macewan.ca



Students' Council Report

Quarterly Report: Finance Committee

July 15th, 2026

Committee Members:

<u>April 1st 2026 to April 30th 2026</u>	<u>May 1st 2026 to June 30th 2026</u>
Andrei Santiago, Vice President Governance & Finance (Chair)	Nathan R. Poon, Vice President Governance & Finance (Chair)
Nathan Poon, President	Nathan Poon, President
Alem Tesfay, Vice President Student Life	Elizabeth Russell, Vice President Student Life
Shanna Villasenor, Councillor	Shanna Villasenor, Councillor
Liam Wilson, Councillor	Liam Wilson, Councillor
Tarik Unal, Student-at-Large	Tarik Unal, Student-at-Large
Ayanali Shaban, Student-at-Large	Ayanali Shaban, Student-at-Large

Greetings Council,

This is the report from the Finance Committee for the reporting period of April 1st to June 30th, 2026.

There were no meeting during this quarter to report on.

Cheers,

Nathan R. Poon (he/him)

VP Governance and Finance, SAMU 2025/2026

savpoperations@macewan.ca

Executive Committee Work Plan 2026-2027 For Information to Students Council	
Chaired By:	Nathan N. Poon, President
Members:	Chioma Uzor, Vice President Academic Alem Tesfay, Vice President External Nathan R. Poon, Vice President Governance & Finance Elizabeth Russell, 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:	June 30 th 2026
Received by Council:	July 15 th 2026
WORK PLAN UPDATES	
ADVOCACY	
Topic	Financial Aid
EC Lead	President
Current Impact to Students	Canada Student Grant and Loan extensions are not considered permanent within the federal budget, of the 2 million post-secondary students in Alberta, 700,000 rely on federal assistance. It is imperative that, on a federal level, we are continuing to push for a permanent extension of the CSG and loans, while ensuring the student voice is present when it comes to red-tape reduction and breaking down barriers for students
Objective	- Determine appropriate avenues of advocacy, develop project messaging, advocating and following up as necessary. - Work with partners to advocate for permanent extensions to federal student grants and loans, and with individual MPs in the Edmonton area
Strategic Alignment	Student Voice 2.1, 2.3
Status	Initial Stages
Topic	Food Insecurity
EC Lead	President
Current Impact to Students	Students on campus are starving. Per SAMU's 2025 Food Security survey, 65.4% of students ate less than they felt due to financial restrictions, 28.7% did not eat for a whole day due to financial restrictions, and 23.8% of students relied on an on-campus food bank or

	pantry within the last three months. There is a food insecurity epidemic, spurred by a broader affordability crisis, and it is imperative for SAMU's Executive to utilize a collective voice in advocating to MacEwan to address the issue quicker and more efficiently.
Objective	- Expanding permanent food security options on campus (\$5 meals), potentially at more places than Griffins Landing - Operationalizing funding to ensure longevity - Advocate to expand the \$5 pop up meals without sacrificing the \$5 permanent food option - Gathering student feedback on pop up and \$5 deal meal options
Strategic Alignment	Student Voice 2.4 Student Supports 3.3
Status	Initial Stages
Topic	SAMU Governance & Governing Documents Update
EC Lead	President
Current Impact to Students	With one year remaining in SAMU's 2021–2026 Strategic Plan, strengthening governance practices is critical to ensuring sustainable and effective student representation. Advancing a thoughtful approach to Indigenous governance and reviewing the definition of “good standing” will help address gaps in representation, accountability, and student safety. These improvements will strengthen student trust in SAMU and support more effective advocacy on behalf of the student body.
Objective	- Initiate SAMU Indigenous governance review process via third party. - Review and define “Good Standing” which would act in tandem with the Elections and Referenda Procedure, - Review recommendations from CRO report and implement
Strategic Alignment	Strengthening SAMU Operations 4.1
Status	Initial Stages
Topic	Implementation of the Ombudsperson
EC Lead	Vice President Academic <i>*Joint Advocacy with President</i>
Current Impact to Students	There is no formal independent/neutral accountability mechanism within MacEwan University, such as an Ombudsperson. An important delineation between current processes and the Ombudsperson is that an Ombudsperson is independent, focuses on information resolutions (such as facilitating conversations), mediating concerns, and helping individuals explore options to address an issue. . MacEwan removed their Ombuds office pre-COVID due to budget cuts but was never brought back.
Objective	- Advocate for MacEwan to reinstate an Ombudsperson position on Campus - Submit an Ombudsperson Proposal to MacEwan Administration
Strategic Alignment	Student Voice 2.1, 2.4 Student Supports 3.3
Status	Initial Stages

Topic	OER/Textbook Affordability
EC Lead	Vice President Academic
Current Impact to Students	Students are in a financial crisis. The average student pays over \$300 for textbooks every academic term while also needing to cover any costs relating to rent, bills, and groceries. With MacEwan's recent tuition increase of domestic tuition by 2% and international tuition by 10%, an easier way for students to purchase their textbooks is needed now more than ever.
Objective	- Expanded focus on the No-Cost Textbook Initiative by increasing faculty awareness of OER's and existing opportunities for OER creation and course selection. - Increased financial support for learning materials through additional SAB opportunities and additional funding to the Textbook Affordability Program
Strategic Alignment	Student Voice 2.4 Student Supports 3.3, 3.4
Status	Initial Stages
Topic	Student Charter of Rights
EC Lead	Vice President Academic
Current Impact to Students	MacEwan's policies are scattered all over the MacEwan website with no single document to access them all. This is a huge gap in MacEwan's aim to make the university more accessible to students of all demographics
Objective	- Have an accessible Charter of Rights on the SAMU Website - Advocate to have the Charter of Rights available on the MacEwan University Website
Strategic Alignment	Student Voice 2.4 Student Supports 3.1
Status	Initial Stages
Topic	Student Enrolment
EC Lead	Vice President Academic
Current Impact to Students	As the university population grows, the enrolment system gets progressively more difficult to access. This results in system crashing on enrolment day, causing students to miss the courses they require to declare or graduate. Another reason to consider is the low number of course seats and sections due to the lack of professors teaching 300-level and 400-level courses.
Objective	- Enhanced maintenance and upgrades for the PeopleSoft system. - Expansion of course sections and seats - Expanded hiring of sessional, tenured, and assistant professors
Strategic Alignment	Student Voice 2.4
Status	Initial Stages

Topic	Indigenous Student Support
EC Lead	Vice President External
Current Impact to Students	MacEwan Indigenous students are having to get student loans and/or paying out of pocket to attend universities when they should be getting access to federal funding. Programs such as the Post-Secondary Student Support Program (PSSSP) do not guarantee support for all students, leaving thousands of qualified First Nations, Inuit, and Métis learners without funding;
Objective	- Advocate for more academic financial support for Indigenous students to federal and provincial government - Increase awareness on the need for funding post-secondary Indigenous students
Strategic Alignment	Student Supports 3.4
Status	Initial Stages
Topic	Expansion of Student Jobs Program
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 increased investments into student employment grants leading to more job opportunities for students
Strategic Alignment	Student Voice 2.3 Student Supports 3.4
Status	Initial Stages
Topic	Affordable, Dignified Housing and Awareness
EC Lead	Vice President External
Current Impact to Students	MacEwan Residence costs are going up, Downtown market costs are too high, students are having to travel far from campus to access affordable housing
Objective	- Advocate for more variety of truly affordable housing options for students that provide students with all their basic necessities, including space and privacy, especially as the city grows and downtown living because more expensive - Advocate to other ESA members to make this issue a priority municipally - Advocate for affordable housing event for students
Strategic Alignment	Student Supports 3.4
Status	Initial Stages
Topic	Mandatory Non-Instructional Fees
EC Lead	Vice President Governance & Finance

Current Impact to Students	Students are paying Mandatory Non-Instructional Fees that students are not able to completely take advantage of for varying reasons, and with the current affordability crisis, it is imperative to have certain fees be reduced, waived, or eliminated completely in the essence of student affordability.
Objective	- Advocate to remove the tech fee as a MNIF that students have to pay - Advocate to reduce the sports and wellness fee, if the fee is not frozen or reduced then advocate for an expansion of facility services - Evaluate the services being covered under each MNIF to ensure compliance with regulation and look for cost savings for students
Strategic Alignment	Student Voice 2.4 Student Supports 3.2, 3.3
Status	Initial Stages
Topic	Parking
EC Lead	Vice President Governance & Finance
Current Impact to Students	Students are paying high fees to park on campus, with the rise in tuition and other educational costs, parking should not be a factor that students have to worry about.
Objective	- Advocate for affordable student parking options around MacEwan and in surrounding park and rides, or other transit student parking opportunities
Strategic Alignment	Student Supports 3.3
Status	Initial Stages
Topic	Scholarships, Awards and Bursaries (SAB's)
EC Lead	Vice President Governance & Finance
Current Impact to Students	With the rise in student population and the increase to the cost of education, there should be more money put to support students to receive SAB's. Students rely on SABS to pay for post-secondary and removing that will affect their ability to achieve their desired education goals. MacEwan's operating budget makes up a significant share of SABs in general, and it is important to maintain the student position that there is an affordability crisis that is impacting students across campus, and cutting SABs is not the answer.
Objective	- Advocate to maintain the current funding levels from MacEwan to SAB's annually by submitting in-year allocation and budget allocation submissions accordingly.
Strategic Alignment	Student Voice 2.4 Student Supports 3.2
Status	Initial Stages
Topic	Domestic and International Tuition

EC Lead	Vice President Governance & Finance
Current Impact to Students	Cost of education continues to rise, with students most recently facing a 2% (domestic) and 10% (international) increase. Education is becoming more unaffordable and students are being put in more precarious financial situations because of it.
Objective	- Advocate for affordable tuition for both domestic and international students - Mobilize students to demonstrate student concerns around the tuition costs at MacEwan
Strategic Alignment	Student Voice 2.4
Status	Initial Stages
Topic	2SLGBTQIA+ Space and Resource Promotion
EC Lead	Vice President Student Life
Current Impact to Students	Students deserve inclusive spaces; by promoting these spaces we can increase engagement and reinforce the community that allows 2SLGBTQIA+ students to feel supported and respected.
Objective	- Advocate for increased awareness and visibility of 2SLGBTQIA+ spaces, to increase engagement, strengthen community, and reduce stigmas. - Uphold social responsibility by contributing to equitable and inclusive spaces. - strengthen engagement with existing initiatives and gender-affirming care like the Rainbow Clinic, Queer Time Tuesdays, and CSDG
Strategic Alignment	Student Experience and Engagement 1.2 Student Supports 3.1, 3.2, 3.3
Status	Initial Stages
Topic	Indigenous Student Supports and Representation
EC Lead	Vice President Student Life
Current Impact to Students	Indigenous students continue to face underrepresentation and barriers to academic success in universities across Canada. There is limited Indigenous governance representation in SAMU which could ultimately be at the expense of Indigenous student perspectives, empowerment, and success.
Objective	- To utilize SAMU resources to further support the Indigenous population on campus. - To advocate for governance representation of Indigenous students in SAMU who systematically continue face barriers that hinder academic success while empowering them to maintain cultural integrity. - Governance review to ensure policies align with Indigenous values
Strategic Alignment	Student Voice 2.1 Student Supports 3.1, 3.2, 3.3 Strengthening SAMU Operations: 4.1, 4.5
Status	Initial Stages

Topic	Mental Health
EC Lead	Vice President Student Life
Current Impact to Students	Mental health barriers continue to weigh students' ability to successfully academically perform, and year over year students explicitly express this issue. Though there are several mental health resources provided by MacEwan and SAMU, there is an opportunity to identify the root causes of student mental health issues and address them accordingly.
Objective	- Identifying the root causes of student mental health issues to reconstruct advocacy efforts. - Analyzing Uwill utilization data to track the value and determine if the increased mental health MNIF can be justified given that SAMU members pay less for mental health resources with their health and dental plan.
Strategic Alignment	Student Voice 2.4 Student Supports 3.1, 3.2, 3.3
Status	Initial Stages
Topic	Physical Accessibility
EC Lead	Vice President Student Life
Current Impact to Students	Barriers to physical accessibility on campus can limit access to learning and inclusivity, hindering academic success, and well-being of physically disabled students.
Objective	- To identify barriers in physical accessibility on campus/SAMU and advocate to take meaningful steps to address them.
Strategic Alignment	Student Voice 2.4 Student Supports 3.1, 3.2, 3.3
Status	Initial Stages
Topic	Sexual and Gender-Based Violence Prevention
EC Lead	Vice President Student Life
Current Impact to Students	The results from a survey conducted in 2023 revealed that 46% of students experienced sexual harassment and 12% of students experienced sexual assault since becoming a student. As a result, sexual violence survivors may experience physical and sexual health issues and develop mental health conditions such as anxiety and depression, impacting their academics, and overall well-being.
Objective	- To educate students and raise awareness in SAMU about the prevalence of sexual and gender-based violence on campus with an intersectional and survivor-centered approach. - To advocate for student leaders being equipped with the necessary skills to identify and address sexual and gender-based violence.
Strategic Alignment	Student Voice 2.4 Student Supports 3.1, 3.2, 3.3
Status	Initial Stages
GOVERNANCE OVERSIGHT	

Topic	Strategic Plan
EC Lead	Vice President Governance & Finance
Strategic Alignment	Strengthening SAMU Operations: 4.1, 4.5
Objective	SAMU's strategic plan expires in 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	Ongoing
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 2027/28 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 2026
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



Voting Members:

Nathan N. Poon, President (Chair)
Chioma Uzor, VP Academic
Alem Tesfay, VP External
Nathan R. Poon, VP Governance & Finance (absent)
Elizabeth Russell, 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: 2:00pm
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:
**VPSL/VPE
CARRIED**
4. Approval of Minutes for: June 3, 2026
**VPA/VPE
CARRIED**

TOPIC		DISCUSSION	ACTION/MOTION
1.	Student Groups	VPSL – new SG application presented for review & approval today. Pres – concern with potential duplication of mandate with other SGs.	TO APPROVE THE MACEWAN STEM SUCCESS NETWORK STUDENT GROUP

			VPSL/VPA CARRIED
2.	Procedures	<u>Elections and Referenda Procedure</u> - need to rethink the middle name line – not everyone has a middle name/initials. - concern with amount of campaign expenses allowed – this should also be reviewed. <u>University Governance Representation Procedure</u> <u>General Faculties Council Representation Procedure</u>	MOTION TO REFER THE <i>ELECTIONS AND REFERENDA</i> PROCEDURE BACK TO THE PROCEDURE SUB-COMMITTEE VPA/VPSL CARRIED MOTION TO APPROVE THE <i>UNIVERSITY GOVERNANCE REPRESENTATION PROCEDURE</i> ON THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE PROCEDURE SUB-COMMITTEE VPA/VPE CARRIED MOTION TO APPROVE THE <i>GENERAL FACULTIES COUNCIL REPRESENTATION PROCEDURE</i> ON THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE PROCEDURE SUB-COMMITTEE VPSL/VPE CARRIED
3.	TOIL Requests (standing item)	<i>For the time being, please submit your TOIL requests using this form: <u>Executive Committee TOIL Request Form</u></i> <i>Requests should be submitted at least 24 hours prior to the EC meeting where they will be considered for approval.</i> <u>Submitted TOIL requests.</u>	MOTION TO APPROVE AN ACCUMULATION OF UP TO 9 HOURS OF TOIL FOR THE ALEM TESFAY DURING THE STUDENT LEADERSHIP ORIENTATION TAKING PLACE JUNE 18-20, 2026 VPSL/VPA CARRIED

			ABSTAIN: VPE MOTION TO APPROVE AN ACCUMULATION OF UP TO 16 HOURS OF TOIL FOR THE NATHAN N. POON DURING THE STUDENT LEADERSHIP ORIENTATION TAKING PLACE JUNE 18-20, 2026 VPA/VPSL CARRIED ABSTAIN: PRES MOTION TO APPROVE AN ACCUMULATION OF UP TO 3 HOURS OF TOIL FOR ELIZABETH RUSSELL TO ATTEND THE STUDENTS' COUNCIL MEETING ON JUNE 17, 2026 VPA/VPE CARRIED ABSTAIN: VPSL MOTION TO APPROVE AN ACCUMULATION OF UP TO 1.5 HOURS OF TOIL FOR THE NATHAN N. POON FOR THE BOG EVENT TAKING PLACE JUNE 10, 2026 VPSL/VPA CARRIED ABSTAIN: PRES MOTION TO APPROVE AN ACCUMULATION OF UP TO 1 HOURS OF TOIL FOR THE NATHAN R. POON FOR THE BOG AGENDA REVIEW ON JUNE 11, 2026 VPA/VPE CARRIED
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			MOTION TO APPROVE AN ACCUMULATION OF UP TO 2 HOURS OF TOIL FOR THE NATHAN R. POON FOR THE STUDENTS' COUNCIL MEETING TAKING PLACE JUNE 17, 2026 VPSL/VPE CARRIED MOTION TO APPROVE AN ACCUMULATION OF UP TO 1 HOUR OF TOIL FOR THE NATHAN N. POON FOR THE ALUMNI ADVISORY COUNCIL EVENT TAKING PLACE JUNE 12, 2026 VPSL/VPE CARRIED ABSTAIN: PRES Action: After July 8, add to agenda to discuss 'travel days' with respect to TOIL accumulation
4.	Grants and Awards Sub-Committee – appointments	GA – a call for nominations (for f/t SAMU staff) went out on May 14, 2026 and closed June 1, 2026. The following staff members nominated themselves for appointment to GAASC for the 2026-2027 fiscal year: Megan Viens , Freja Cartujano , Janet Guenter , Annette Kelm .	MOTION TO APPOINT MEGAN VIENS, FREJA CARTUJANO, JANET GUENTER, AND ANNETTE KELM TO THE GRANTS AND AWARDS SUB-COMMITTEE FOR A TERM OF JULY 1, 2026 – JUNE 30, 2027 VPA/VPSL CARRIED
5.	Councillor Inquiry	Pres – proposal sent by Councillor last month.	MOTION TO TAKE A 5 MINUTE RECESS

			VPA/VPSL CARRIED Action: Pres to respond to Councillor by June 17.
6.	SC Feedback	Pres – discussion on how we handle proposal's received in the future. RM – create a quarterly/yearly opportunity for Councillors to provide feedback?	Action: Delegate to GM to coordinate focus group on programs/services/events.
7.	Outstanding Action Items		
8.	VP External's Report	UoLSU VP meeting. Pres & I met with NAITSA EC. KW meeting update.	
9.	VP Governance & Finance's Report	tabled	
10.	VP Student Life's Report	GAASC update. GFC update.	
11.	VP Academic's Report	Meskanas forum. GFC update.	
12.	President's Report	Municipal & federal priorities discussion with NAITSA. BOG meeting. Advanced Ed introduction meeting.	
13.	GM Report	Strat plan update. Building update. Coke contract update. MacEwan security update. MacEwan space booking update.	
14.	Recognition		

5. Adjournment
Time: 3:38pm



Voting Members:

Nathan N. Poon, President (Chair)
Chioma Uzor, VP Academic
Alem Tesfay, VP External
Nathan R. Poon, VP Governance & Finance
Elizabeth Russell, 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

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3. Approval of Agenda:

VPSL/VPGF

MOTION TO ADD AFFORDABILITY PAPER

VPSL/VPGF

CARRIED

CARRIED

4. Approval of Minutes for: [June 10, 2026](#)

VPE/VPGF

CARRIED

TOPIC		DISCUSSION	ACTION/MOTION
1.	Student Groups	Satisfaction Survey Presentation	MOTION

		New SG: BECCS Student Community VPSL -	TO APPROVE THE BECCS STUDENT COMMUNITY STUDENT GROUP VPSL/VPGF CARRIED
2.	TOIL Requests (standing item)	<i>For the time being, please submit your TOIL requests using this form: Executive Committee TOIL Request Form</i> <i>Requests should be submitted at least 24 hours prior to the EC meeting where they will be considered for approval.</i> Submitted TOIL requests. GA – note that the maximum TOIL accumulation is 35 hours – you need to use up hours prior to accumulating more. To go over 35 hours requires a standalone motion from EC approving going over. Pres – VPE –	MOTION TO APPROVE AN ACCUMULATION OF UP TO 7 HOURS ON JUNE 21, 2026 AND UP TO 3 HOURS ON JUNE 23, 2026, FOR CASA POLISTRAT FOR NATHAN N. POON AND ALEM TESFAY VPSL/VPGF CARRIED Abstain: Vpe MOTION TO TAKE A 5 MINUTE RECESS VPGF/VPSL CARRIED MOTION TO APPROVE AN ACCUMULATION OF UP TO 2 HOURS ON JUNE 21, 2026 FOR CASA POLISTRAT, FOR NATHAN N. POON & ALEM TESFAY VPSL/VPGF CARRIED Abstain: Vpe
3.	2026 Affordability Paper	RM – ongoing conversation since early May – want to publish it and use it in our advocacy going forward. Is there anything being said within the document where there is a gap or any other feedback to provide? Vpsl – need more time to review.	MOTION TO TAKE A 5 MINUTE RECESS VPSL/VPGF CARRIED

		Vpa – still need time to review, but initial thoughts are positive.	Action: EC to provide written feedback to RM/EAA by Monday June 22.
4.	Outstanding Action Items		
5.	VP Governance & Finance's Report	Reviewing T&F consultation framework.	
6.	VP Student Life's Report	Acting AVP Campus Services – introduction meeting. GAASC meeting update. Workplan planning. Met with KW manager today – introduction meeting.	
7.	VP Academic's Report	Library Council meeting. Met with Provost – introductory. Dean of Business update. SAB update.	
8.	VP External's Report	Travel coming up over the next few weeks.	
9.	President's Report	Tabled.	
10.	GM Report	Tabled.	
11.	Recognition		

5. Adjournment
Time: 3:20pm



Voting Members:

Nathan N. Poon, President (absent)
Chioma Uzor, VP Academic (Chair)
Alem Tesfay, VP External (absent)
Nathan R. Poon, VP Governance & Finance
Elizabeth Russell, 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

1. Call to Order: 2:00pm
2. Treaty 6 Land Recognition

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3. Approval of Agenda:
VPSL/VPGF
CARRIED
4. Approval of Minutes for: June 17, 2026
VPSL/VPGF
CARRIED

TOPIC		DISCUSSION	ACTION/MOTION
1.	TOIL Requests	<i>For the time being, please submit your TOIL requests using this form: Executive Committee TOIL Request Form</i> <i>Requests should be submitted at least 24 hours prior to the EC meeting where they will be considered for approval.</i>	
2.	Outstanding Action Items		

3.	VP Academic's Report	Transfer Mandate Initiative Meeting with GoA	
4.	VP External's Report	Tabled	
5.	VP Governance & Finance's Report	Project Planning for Upcoming Year	
6.	VP Student Life's Report	Planning SEC Event in August Meeting with Manager of KW	
7.	President's Report	Tabled	
8.	GM Report	Building Updates HR Updates Finance Update	
9.	Recognition		

5. Adjournment
Time: 2:19pm



Voting Members:

Nathan N. Poon, President (Chair)
Chioma Uzor, VP Academic
Alem Tesfay, VP External
Nathan R. Poon, VP Governance & Finance
Elizabeth Russell, 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: 9:06am
2. Treaty 6 Land Recognition

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3. Approval of Agenda:

**VPSL/VPE
CARRIED**

MOTION TO AMEND THE AGENDA

**PRES/VPE
CARRIED**

4. Approval of Minutes for: June 24, 2026

**VPSL/VPE
CARRIED**

TOPIC		DISCUSSION	ACTION/MOTION MOTION
1.	EC Workplan	IAA: circulated last week to ensure accuracy, motion is needed to make it official and to submit to Council as a part of quarterly reporting requirements	TO APPROVE THE 2026-27 EC WORKPLAN VPE/VPSL CARRIED
2.	AVP Campus Services Hiring Honorary	IAA: provided briefing note, essentially situation where we underestimated time spent on committee looking to provide higher honorarium amount.	MOTION: MOTION TO RESCIND MOTION 2026-04-01-3 AND TO PROVIDE SHINA ADESHINA WITH AN HONORARIUM OF \$287.50 FROM G/L LINE 524100 TO RECOGNIZE THE WORK ON THE AVP CAMPUS SERVICES HIRING PANEL VPSL/VPA CARRIED
3.	EC Event Attendance	RM - I would like an approval for VPGF to attend this event alongside the GM VPE: concern about back to school events RM: all that is scheduled is one day of tabling that can be done by someone other than the VPGF that day.	MOTION: TO APPROVE UP TO \$275 FOR NATHAN R. POON ATTENDANCE AT THIS EVENT FROM G/L LINE 525600 VPA/VPE CARRIED Abstain: VPGF
4.	TOIL Requests	<i>For the time being, please submit your TOIL requests using this form: Executive Committee TOIL Request Form</i> <i>Requests should be submitted at least 24 hours prior to the EC meeting where they will be considered for approval.</i> Submitted TOIL Requests	MOTION TO APPROVE AN ACCUMULATION OF UP TO 14 HOURS FOR WORKING ON THE WEEKEND DURING CALGARY STAMPEDE ADVOCACY TRIP FOR NATHAN N. POON AND ALEM TESFAY VPSL/VPA CARRIED Abstain: VPE, PRES

			MOTION: TO APPROVE AN EXPENSE OF UP TO \$3500 FROM THE EXECUTIVE PROJECTS LINE (G/L 524500) FOR VPSL'S INDIGENOUS STUDENT SUPPORTS PROJECT, TO PURCHASE KW/SAMU CROSS-BRANDED SHIRTS. VPGF/VPA CARRIED
5.	Executive Project Expense	VPSL: asked KW if they would like or need anything, they had indicated they were interested in some swag with both the KW and SAMU logo	
6.	Outstanding Action Items		
7.	VP Academic's Report	Transfer Mandate Meeting with GoA	
8.	VP External's Report	CASA Polistrat Conference Student Leader Orientation Event Edmonton Student Alliance Retreat	
9.	VP Governance & Finance's Report	Convocation Strategic planning session SEC planning with VPSL Pride picnic attendance	
10.	VP Student Life's Report	Meeting the Marketing about 2SLGBTQIA+ supports webpage Pride Picnic Attendance	
11.	President's Report	ESA Retreat CASA Polistrat Student Leader Orientation	
12.	GM Report	Building Updates HR Updates Upcoming Conference Travel Strategic Plan Update	
13.	Recognition		

5. Adjournment
Time: 9:40am

Outstanding Action Items:

Item Date	Action Item	Completed? (yes/no)
	<i>Capacity Check-in (standing Item)</i>	
	SAMU/MacEwan exec one-on-ones update each meeting. - want to ensure consistency of meetings. (ie. speak to whether meetings are happening consistently. No reporting on meetings themselves – include that info during your individual report.)	



**STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION
OF MACEWAN UNIVERSITY**

STUDENTS' COUNCIL MEETING SUBMISSION

AGENDA ITEM INFORMATION

Meeting Date	Submitted By
July 15, 2026	Nathan R. Poon, Vice President Governance and Finance

Agenda Item Title **Committee Appointment**

**Action
Requested**

☒ Motion

☐ Consultation Item

AGENDA ITEM DETAILS

Motion Title

Motion to appoint Councillor _____ to the Students' Council Operations Committee for a term ending October 31, 2026

**Background
Information**

With the recent resignation of Councillor Ayodeji there is a vacancy on the Students' Council Operations Committee.

The Terms of Reference for the committee has been included in the agenda for you review.

**Alternative
Considerations**

N/A

**Risk
Management
Considerations**

N/A

**Strategic
Alignment**

☒ *Attached Strategic Alignment Checklist is complete*

Implications

Full committees are able to do their work while providing a greater diversity of student voices.

**Related
Documents**

Committees policy - committee TORs.

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
Student Experience & Engagement			
The overall student experience is enhanced by the opportunities provided by SAMU.	☐	☐	☒
1.1 Put the finishing touches on the SAMU building, enhancing the safe and intentional spaces for students to gather, relax and study.	☐	☒	☐
1.2 Increase student awareness of SAMU and its opportunities through strong communications and engaging marketing and brand	☐	☒	☐
1.3 Increase student engagement by offering relevant and meaningful events, programs, services, volunteer activities and employment opportunities for students	☐	☐	☒
1.4 Support Student Groups by offering networking opportunities, meeting space, outreach support and online platforms	☐	☒	☐
Student Voice			
The Student Voice is amplified by SAMU.	☐	☐	☒
2.1 Develop an Advocacy Plan and implement processes to strengthen SAMU's advocacy program.	☐	☐	☒
2.2 Enhance awareness and interest in SAMU's democratic processes through education and encouraging student participation	☐	☐	☒
2.3 Continue to build collaborative relationships with other Student Associations and organizations to enhance the collective student voice with all government levels	☐	☒	☐
2.4 Foster positive relationships with MacEwan University to better serve students	☐	☒	☐
Student Supports			
Student supports provided by SAMU are responsive to unique and evolving needs.	☐	☒	☐
3.1 Develop and deliver initiatives that are inclusive and are responsive to all student needs.	☐	☒	☐
3.2 Evaluate and assess student supports to remain relevant and accountable to 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	☐	☒	☐
Strengthening SAMU Operations			
SAMU is an innovative and sustainable organization with an engaging work environment.	☐	☒	☐
4.1 Review SAMU governance structures and make improvements to reduce duplication of efforts and delays in decision-making processes.	☐	☒	☐
4.2 Document main policies and processes to support business continuity and transitions in leadership and staff.	☐	☒	☐
4.3 Diversify revenue streams to reduce reliance on student fees.	☐	☒	☐
4.4 Act as financial and environmental stewards and implement effective practices to enhance sustainability.	☐	☒	☐
4.5 Foster a professional and supportive work environment that lives the organizational values and delivers a culture of excellence.	☐	☒	☐

Students' Council Operations Committee

Mandate

1. 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.

Roles of Committee

2. Students' Council Operations Committee reviews Students' Council's decisions in relation to their adherence to SAMU Bylaws and Policies.
 - 2.1. Students' Council Operations Committee may call a re-vote on a decision where it deems the decision was a violation of Bylaws or Policies.
 - 2.2. Members of Students' Council may request a review of a decision in relation to its adherence to Bylaws and Policies.
 - 2.2.1. Requests must be made in writing to the Chair of Students' Council Operations Committee within 10 business days of the disputed decision.
 - 2.2.2. Students' Council Operations Committee will have 30 days to respond in writing to Students' Council with its decision.
3. Students' Council Operations Committee reports on the effectiveness and progress of Students' Council.

Students' Council Appointments

4. The committee reviews all applications for appointments made by Students' Council and ensures candidates considered for appointment meet the criteria for positions laid out in SAMU's bylaws and policies.
5. The committee develops additional criteria for appointed positions consistent with SAMU's bylaws and policies.
6. The committee interviews all appropriate candidates for positions appointed by Students' Council.
7. The committee provides candidates with further information regarding the position upon request.
8. The committee provides written recommendations on all vacancies.



9. The committee communicates to all candidates regarding the outcome of Students' Council appointments.

Governance Appointments

10. Students' Council Operations Committee provides recommendations to Students' Council on the appointment of the Chair of Students' Council
11. Students' Council Operations Committee reviews the performance of the Chair of Students' Council.
12. Students' Council Operations Committee provides recommendations to Students' Council on the appointment of the Chief Returning Officer of SAMU.

Governance Remuneration

13. Students' Council Operations Committee decides on the remuneration and compensation of Councillors and Executives,
14. Students' Council Operations Committee seeks relevant internal and external data related to remuneration and compensation, including:
 - 14.1. the current and future financial capacity of SAMU to support new levels of remuneration;
 - 14.2. remuneration and compensation offered at other comparable Alberta-based students' associations/unions;
 - 14.3. the effectiveness of the current level of remuneration in securing representatives; and
 - 14.4. the fairness of remuneration based on factors such as workload, time commitment, etc.
15. Students' Council Operations Committee reviews Executive wages as per Remuneration of Elected Representatives.

Composition

16. The voting members of Students' Council Operations Committee are the Vice President Governance and Finance and four Councillors.
 - 16.1. Regarding Executive Remuneration another Executive may replace the Vice President Governance and Finance as a voting member if the Vice President Governance and Finance plans to run in the upcoming Executive election.
 - 16.1.1. The Executive who may become a voting member in place of the Vice President Governance and Finance must be an individual not running in the upcoming Executive election.
17. The resource official of Students' Council Operations Committee is the Governance Advisor.



- 17.1. A full-time staff member of the Finance Department serves as an additional resource to the committee during remuneration discussions.

Committee Operations

18. The committee appointment deliberations and recommendations are confidential.
19. Meetings of Students' Council Operations Committee are held at least twice per quarter.
20. The Committee Chair may call additional meetings as required.