

Executive Report

Prepared for: UNBSU Council 2021/2022

June 27th, 2021



President – Kordell Walsh

Hey everybody! It's hard to believe we're almost halfway through the summer, but with each week I'm becoming more excited to see everybody on campus! It's been a great two weeks since our last report and lots has been happening!

NBSA, CASA and Maritime Student Congress

We had our NBSA policy and strategy conference and it was good. We talked about some of our priorities for the year, discussed our strategic plan which expires at the end of the summer and our vision for renewal, organized our committees, and set our dates for our bi-weekly board meetings. I will be Chair of the Sustainability committee (focusing on food security, housing, and recycling as our three main topics), and a member of the Accessible and Quality Education Committee. I will also be involved in the Internal Review committee, tasked with updates to policies, bylaws, etc.

I had my first meeting with the Sustainability Committee and the Accessible and Quality Education committee. Both meetings met to discuss expectations of the committee, set regular meeting dates, and begin brief conversations regarding policy topics we wish to address. The NBSA will be looking into how we can get more non-executive involvement in the NBSA this year, including potentially opening up committee spots to general students - more to come on that over the next few weeks!

We also had our first day of Maritimes Student Congress! MSC is a conference organized by the NBSA and Students Nova Scotia to connect executives from schools across the Maritimes. The first day was introductory sessions to our counterparts at other schools, and then there will be various short sessions scattered throughout the next few weeks!

Fredericton Housing Needs Assessment

I was invited to participate in a discussion regarding housing needs for students. It was a two hour long discussion and focused on topics such as access to housing, affordability, etc. The focus from the side of the planners was currently focusing on the issue, its roots, and its impacts. There was a lot of discussion about residence

capacity, vacancy rates, access to information about tenant rights and what to look for in an apartment, as well as discussions around cost of living, work/life/school balance, mental health, and homelessness. In September we will be touching base again, where there will hopefully be a roundtable with landlords, students, university administrators, and more where we will discuss potential solutions to these issues.

Meeting with David Coon

We met with David Coon. The purpose of the meeting was primarily introductions, however we also began touching on some of our priorities for the year and issues facing students. David was able to share information with us regarding some of these issues, and showed interest in working with us on continuing MLA Mondays!

Other

- I met with the bi-campus health emergencies steering committee and the bi-campus self-isolation steering committee.
- I helped with some Alumni Appreciation video filming for this summer's Homecoming!
- Deanna and I met with Julie and Sarah, the university's secretariats to discuss how we plan to represent ALPS students at Senate
- I met with Brad from UNB Sustainability to chat about the UNB Transportation Taskforce and where they left off and the direction it will be taking over the coming year
- Selections committee is filled and hiring posts (please share on your social media if you can!) went out - major thank you to Deanna, Bhavya and Niko who were all essential in getting this organized!

Vice President Advocacy- Téa Fazio

It's officially summer folks! It sure does feel like it too in Freddy Beach. I hope you're all staying hydrated and finding ways to enjoy the sunshine!

EDI & SV Training

I am still trying to confirm EDI training sessions and am also looking to book SVP training with SVN for our executive team.

SV Survey

Niko & I finished putting together a survey to post on our social media, alongside the Saint John & Graduate Students' SUs to get student feedback on UNB's Sexual Violence Policy for the review committee.

Workshops

I've been doing a lot of learning since my last report. I've attended online workshops on Anti-Asian Racism, Indigenous Matters & Peacebuilding, & the role of SUs in supporting equity-seeking groups in PSE.

BAE - Consent Campaign

Brennan & I met with Ellen, our Orientation Chair to chat about kicking off our campaign at Orientation and potentially doing something with Sex & Ice Cream in residence.

Consultations

Kianna, our incoming Nuci Putawasuwini and Violet, the Co-Chairs of Indigenous Student Council met with Deanna and I to discuss how they would like to see the council work this year and how we can best work together with our SU.

CASA

I attended the first meeting of CASA's EDI committee where we discussed how we would like the committee meetings to look for the year and did some introductions.

NBSA

The EDI & Affordable Education committees had our first meetings, it was mostly to determine our goals for the summer, do introductions, and decide on how often we would like to meet.

EDI Plan

Bhavya and I met to discuss how we would like to implement equitable hiring practices in our SU policies and practices, our first focus will be on developing a standard process for blind hiring.

Other

I was able to participate in the National Indigenous Peoples Day celebrations held in front of the NB Legislature. It was a great experience of learning, celebrating, and recognizing the present needs of Indigenous Peoples in our communities.

Hope you're staying cool, hydrated, and sunscreensed up as you enjoy the summer sunshine folks, Cheers! If you have any questions or thoughts to share please connect with me at advocacy@unbsu.ca

Vice President Internal – Deanna Merriam

Happy summer everybody! Time is really flying by here at the SU, and the countdown is on for the return to classes! I am so excited for everyone to be around campus again and hopefully get to chat in person!

Council

On this note, I've been contacting different buildings on campus to get their largest rooms reviewed for capacities. I am incredibly hopeful that we will be able to have council in-person this year, and already have found some great options. My backup plan is to set up the SUB Ballroom to host our council, however I am waiting on some capacity estimates for other buildings.

Also, I have been going through councillor handbooks from previous years and am about halfway done with your handbooks for this year! I'm planning for it to be a bit more interactive than previous years, with removable honoraria forms directly in the book and fillable attendance sheets to help you folks keep track! The years get busy easily so it's nice to have an aid to keep track.

Textbooks 4 Change

Last year's VP Internal Grace was in communication with an organization called Textbooks4change, and it is my understanding that this partnership came into play immediately before our executive transition. As of right now a decent amount of my time has been trying to figure out the SU's involvement going forward, as the documentation I have seems to differ from what they're asking of us.

It seems that their operations are shifting in management as well so I have been trying to establish a direct line of communication with this organization in order to figure out where we stand. As of right now it seems that the SU has signed up for more than expected and I will need to meet with them to discuss this directly. I have asked them to meet early next week so I hope to have more on this soon.

Breaking Stereotypes

As I believe I have mentioned previously, Niko and I have been discussing alternative plans to the breaking stereotypes campaign. I have met several times with Andrew Feicht, who is the Unions major contact for operational plans, to discuss booking the Marshall d'Avray film studio for Breaking Stereotypes. I was informed that this was the first request to have the room assessed since the university shut down in March 2019, so Niko and I have been discussing potentially redoing the unreleased Breaking Stereotypes campaign due to incredibly poor film and audio quality. We want this campaign to be meaningful and done correctly, so I will have more info on this as I hear back from Andrew with our OP.

Indigenous Student Council

Tea and I met with Kianna and Violet to chat about the structure of the Indigenous Student Council a bit. Tea had done some research into how it was supposed to be structured, and we chatted about how the council can operate effectively based on this model. I really want to create a meaningful and long lasting relationship between the Student Union and the Indigenous Student Council, so I've reached out

to some other universities in Canada to see if/how Indigenous students councils are structured, and whether or not they incorporate alternative representatives in their Union membership. In our discussion we touched on the possibility of having both Kianna and Violet sit on council as representatives, so I'll be doing some more research on ideas to implement this and touch base again!

Academic Programming Coordinator

I am absolutely thrilled that our academic programming coordinator, Emma Toole is now hired! We spent a good amount of time last week getting her into the role, and we discussed some projects for the upcoming year. Right now we're getting started with a revamped tutoring service that would encompass all UNB faculties, and work on outreach strategies so that the program is accessible and simple to all involved. The current system as it stands is a little bleak and hard to work with, so I'm thrilled to get set up with Sara Rothman and Emma and get started with this!

Maritime Student Congress

This past week I attended the first Maritime Student Congress session! It was honestly more valuable than I thought it would be, as once we broke out into breakout sessions I had some really great discussions with the other Internal/Academic roles. We chatted about common priorities, how we aim to present proposals through the year, and have started discussions on collaborating on a proposal for extended drop dates via information sharing. Everyone is eager to get started, and I look forward to seeing what comes from these conversations!

Course Repeat Policy/Drop Date Extension

This coming week I have a meeting with the Registrar's office about some of the previous UNBSU Proposals to Senate Committees. After having a call with the university secretary, it seems like some of the major proposals from Grace Manguessos year have been left behind a bit. I've spent several hours this week going through committee minutes sent to me by the secretary to prepare for this meeting, and hope to revive policies such as the Course Repeat, and the aforementioned Drop Date Extension. I'm looking forward to chatting with Shawna, and will update Council as I know more substantial info!

That's about it for me! As always if you have any questions just send me a message or email me at internal@unbsu.ca!

Vice-President Finance & Operations - Bhavya Pratap Malhotra

Hello everyone. Here are my work involvements and deliverables for the last two weeks.

Hiring

The hiring of our Director of Campus Events, Academic Programming Coordinator and the Clubs & Societies Coordinator is done. All the respective candidates accepted their respective roles and have begun the work under it. The designated supervisors

for these positions had the chance to touch base with the students in these roles before they began with the work.

Last Friday, we were able to post four more positions that are open to apply for the students: Council Secretary, Council Chair, Chief Returning Officer and the Townhouse Coordinator. Our VP Communications, Niko was able to post these job positions availability on our social media.

Orientation

The past two weeks were extremely productive towards the budget for the UNB Fall Orientation. Me and Ellen contacted several sponsors from our list of potential partners with the orientation. Ellen managed to get hold of substantial money sponsorships and as of now, the budget looks quite appropriate in terms of our revenue and expenditure for the orientation. Karen was able to look through the budget and provided some valuable feedback that was useful for me and Ellen.

Student Event Review Committee (SERC)

I attended the Student Event Review Committee's proposal discussion and was able to provide some feedback from students from clubs and societies. The Committee discussed how assessing event risk management would look like in the upcoming year. There were two meetings within the week. On Monday, we made action items to prepare for our next meeting which was on Thursday. There was a jamboard created to assess high and low risk events. I assisted with the events related to clubs and societies that normally occur within the academic year. The draft proposal from the last meeting was discussed and there were several new suggestions made towards Residence and UNBSU events in a year. The action items would be elaborated upon in our next meeting.

Finance

- Sat down with Karen and we discussed the Orientation Budget at length, where she provided some feedback.
- Me, Brennan and Ellen had a meeting with executives from RBC to look into Orientation, Campus events and the Finance Week sponsorship. After our meeting, we prepared a document that outlines a detailed partnership agreement and what involvement we expect from RBC. The document shall be sent over to them by Brennan.

Operations

- Had a meeting with Tasneem, who is our new Clubs and Societies Coordinator. I was able to go over the roles and responsibilities within the position with her and asked her to go through the Constitution Guidelines and the UNBSU Clubs and Societies policy.

- Me and Téa were able to have a meeting about the new EDI Hiring Plan. In our meeting we discussed and came across some resources that would be beneficial guidelines to work towards this new EDI Hiring Plan. Our next step is to collect resources and see how they can be implemented within the existing policies. Currently, blind hiring practices are being observed for the hiring positions with the UNBSU.
- I was able to attend the Maritime Student Congress. It was insightful to come across past and present student union leaders and my session for the Vice President Finance & Operations was truly beneficial. Since the conference was fairly interactive, I was able to ask and have my queries answered.
- I had a meeting with Morgan and Anna Lee from the LEAP conference executive team to talk more about their conference's plans and what they seek from having UNBSU on-board as a sponsor. I will be assessing their sponsorship package and get back to them with a decision.
- Answered some student questions regarding activation and ratification of Clubs and Societies.
- I attended the ceremony for National Indigenous People's Day that was held downtown!

Vice-President Student Life - Brennan Marks

Hello everyone! It is hard to believe that June is pretty much gone! I am not trying to wish the summer away by any means but I am getting really excited about the fall and seeing all of you on campus again! I have had an eventful couple weeks at work and in my personal life so here is my update!

The Garden

The garden has been open for the past couple of weeks and people have been hard at work in their plots! Sean, our garden coordinator, started the SU plot this week where we are growing a variety of veggies that will hopefully be available for purchase in the fall! There are still garden plots left if you are in fredericton or are returning soon you can secure one by using the typeform on our UNBSU Food Facebook page!

Papertrail

I have set up the typeform for the Papertrail printing service and have finalized a price list for all of the services Papertrail offers! I met with Niko to discuss changes to the Papertrail website and began initial conversations about promotions for Papertrail in the fall. Brian from IT helped work out the technical requirements in the Welcome Centre and we should be ready to hire Papertrail staff and bring the service back this fall! Woohoo!!

Agenda

I am so pleased with the progress on the agenda! Our designer Charlie is sending me a finalized first draft by the end of the week and all of our advertisements are coming in as well! We have five student businesses already showing interest in the free ad space we are offering! And students can still reach out to have their business advertised if they would like so please share with your entrepreneurial friends!! I am waiting on quotes from Rocket Printing for the agendas and that will help determine the number of copies we will order. With the high amount of advertising revenue we secured I am confident we will be able to order a good number of agendas! Double Woohoo!!

Campus Events

Some exciting news from Campus Events! We hired our Director, Molly Kennedy. Molly began the position this week and will be working for the remainder of the summer and into the school year to ensure the UNBSU has a line up of exceptional major events! We spent some time this week getting her set up in the role and we will be beginning our year plan next week so stay tuned!!

Some other items:

- Molly and myself completed both our Primary Event Organizer Training and Covid-19 Student Events Training.
- I met with Nick from the UNB Reds to discuss partnerships for Campus events and early conversations about the annual AUS trip in March.
- Met with Tim from Sodexo to discuss partnership opportunities for the fall and to get some insight into sodexo food waivers.
- Met with Associated Alumni to discuss the plans for homecoming for this year. There are some substantial changes that will change our usual celebrations but we are both eager to create some great programming to celebrate UNB with our Alumni.
- Met with Mark Walma to discuss procedures for event approval and SERC for major events in the fall.

UNB Sustainability

I have had a few meetings with UNB Sustainability over the past two weeks. Some were in regard to the annual sustainability week that we put on in partnership with UNB sustainability. This year we will be planning a few events to add to the programming being done by Sustainability.

Some other meetings have been in regard to a possible UNBSU Bike Co-Op. This is a very new project that I am trying to see if it is feasible. I have met with Sustainability to discuss funding and have scheduled meetings with URec as they were a partner for a similar project about 10 years ago. Hoping to have some form of Bike Co-Op and active transportation programming ready for students this year so stay tuned!!

Health & Dental

I met with Niko to finalize the Health & Dental website which is now live! Go check it out at unbsu.ca/health. I also created a list of frequently asked questions in collaboration with Karen to add more relevant information to the site for students. We have some exciting Health & Dental news coming soon so we have been discussing how to promote this news to students once it is released!!

Before Anything Else (BAE) Campaign

I met with Téa to begin planning for our BAE campaign this year. We have decided to run the campaign all year to keep the conversations around consent and sexual violence going throughout the year. We met with Ellen our lovely orientation chair to discuss possibilities of doing a kick off during OWeek, and have meetings coming up with CSASA's to finalize topics and being the groundwork for this campaign!

Other

- Met with Alex Boyd from Greener Village Food Bank about the Hamper Food Box Program. We seem to be prepared to begin offering the service to students before the fall which is exciting! More info to come on this great resource!
- Met with Shelley Clayton to discuss the Great Computer Giveaway, Financial Aid dates for the agenda, and financial literacy resources for UNBSU Finance Week
- Met with Dominos to discuss a partnership and agenda advertising. They were receptive and will get back to us soon with finalized plans!
- I have been working with Bhavya and Ellen on a year-long partnership with RBC for Campus Events, Orientation, and the Red Awards. We are negotiating a deal with them currently and will hopefully have them on as a main partner for this year!!
- I attended the Maritime Student Congress and got to meet VPSL's from schools all over!
- We selected the names for our new colours with feedback from students!

Vice-President Communications - Niko Coady

Hey, everyone! The past couple of weeks have been busy, but exciting. It's nice to see some ideas and projects start coming together as we get closer to September!

National Indigenous Peoples Day

As Monday the 21st was National Indigenous Peoples Day, I met with Violet James (Co-chair of the ForEM Meskeyi Student Society & Co-chair of the Indigenous Student Council) and our Nuci Putawasuwini Kianna to chat about what the content could look like for this day. Violet followed up with me after meeting with the Indigenous Student Committee and was able to share some resources with me. Our

post sharing the Meskeyi Student Society's statement and some resources went up on social media and the website on Monday, and I look forward to working with Violet and Kianna more throughout the year.

Branding

As you have seen in my past reports, I am working on revamping our image and brand, which includes renaming the colours (thanks to those who filled out the survey!) and updating our brand book. Once our colour names are finalized, I will be releasing an updated version of the SU Brand Book.

Campus Events

We have now hired our Director of Campus Events (Welcome, Molly!). Brennan and I discussed what the branding will look like for this year. I have created a brand new Campus Events Brand Book, and we will be choosing new secondary colours for the Campus Events Brand so that it will be differentiated from our traditional SU Branding. I also met with Molly this week to discuss how we can make the promotions and marketing for Campus Events as successful as possible this year!

Agenda

I finalized the Your SU and Clubs and Societies pages for the agenda this week. I have also been helping businesses in the SUB and some student businesses design their ads for the agenda. I have also finalized the agenda cover and am excited to see it all come together!

Vaccination Clinics

As you may have seen on social media, I visited the Campus Pharmacy last week to take some photos at the vaccination clinic in order to highlight the work that the Pharmacy team is doing and to encourage students to get vaccinated! Deanna and I also met with Andrew Feicht this week to talk about collaborating with the UNB administration on putting out information on vaccinations and encouraging everyone to get vaccinated. I also attended the SEM-OAC committee meeting this week and in this meeting we discussed the first vaccination campaign, which will be coming up next Monday! I will be working this week to promote this campaign through our socials.

SAPRC Survey

Tea provided me with a document from the SAPRC with the questions they were looking for in terms of a student feedback survey and I have finalized the typeform, which went up on Thursday. I also designed a graphic and caption to be used by all of the groups collaborating on this (us, UNB-SRC, UNB GSA, and UNB Admin) so that all students will be directed to the same place in order to provide feedback.

Other

- I have been in contact with the director of athletics for the RED to discuss some combined campaigns for the upcoming year
- We attended Maritime Student Congress and I got to chat with some of the other VP Comms/Marketing from other Maritime schools
- I have been working on formatting an SU newsletter that will be going out to all students during the fall semester
- I put out hiring ads for our open position and positions available with the SUB
- I have been participating in an online marketing certification course

Orientation Chair & Vice-Chair Ellen Peitre and Evan di Cesare

Marketing

We have been continuing with the social media content calendar made by Orientation Vice-Chair Evan Di Cesare with weekly posts consisting of engagement with the incoming first-years and BlackShirt introduction posts. We are hoping to soon begin making a series of weekly posts over the course of five weeks explaining each of our pillars for Orientation Week. Other posts have been made that do not have a set schedule, such as posts announcing Shinerama fundraisers, and sponsorship posts that will be beginning later in the summer will not have a set schedule either.

Sponsorship

Orientation Chair Ellen Petrie is currently in the process of contacting all potential sponsors for the UNBSU's 2021 Orientation Week. So far, sponsorships have been secured with the UNB Reds, the Fredericton Playhouse, and the Regent Mall. Contracts are being developed for these partnerships and will be sent to the sponsors soon.

Merchandise

We are getting logos for sponsors in order to include them on our merchandise and advertise them. We are hoping to place our order for merchandise in early July, and will be ordering clothing for the BlackShirts and RedShirts around the same time as well.

RedShirts

Orientation Vice-Chair Evan Di Cesare is currently in the process of contacting the last few remaining endorsers for RedShirt applicants. It is expected that decisions will be emailed to all applicants by the end of this week, Friday, June 25th.

Training

We are in the beginning stages of planning training for our RedShirts and BlackShirts. We are aiming to have RedShirts complete asynchronous virtual modules in August, and tentatively have two days of in-person training scheduled for September 2nd and 3rd. If this goes ahead, RedShirts will be expected to arrive on campus by September 1st. We have a general schedule of what these two days of training will consist of and will secure more details in the near future.

Planning

We have begun to make progress in terms of planning some of our events and securing details for them. We have partnered with the Playhouse and will be holding a performance event (likely a comedian) using their facility which will take place in the evening after Bridging Freddy Beach. Additionally, we are working with the UNB Reds to secure a location for our movie night event which will likely be the Currie Center or BMO field on campus. We have also met with the residence team, risk management, and other staff on campus in order to discuss the logistics of having tents on campus during Orientation Week and are still planning whether or not having tents is realistic. We also have a tentative plan for our Blast Off event and will be working to solidify it in the coming weeks.

BlackShirts

All BlackShirts have chosen one event to primary on and are in the preliminary stages of brainstorming their events. Each will secondary on an additional event as well. All are very enthusiastic and continue to actively engage with incoming first year students on social media whenever possible.

Shinerama

Our recipe submission form for our Shinerama cookbook fundraiser remains open until July 16th. As well, our first Shinerama trivia event is scheduled for 8pm - 9pm Atlantic Time on Saturday, June 26th. The event will take place virtually via Zoom, and trivia will be done using Kahoot and with a Disney theme. We will be providing winners with UNB bookstore gift cards. Additionally, Shinerama trivia is going to become a bi-weekly fundraiser, but it is unknown whether future trivia events will also take place virtually or will instead be held in person.