

Executive Report

Prepared for: UNBSU Council 2021/2022

August 9th, 2021



President – Kordell Walsh

Hey folks! I hope you have all had a wonderful summer! I cannot share enough how excited I am for classes to start back up and everybody to be on campus again!!

Absences in the office

As you folks should know by now, Bhavya has resigned from his position. This means we will begin the process of searching for an interim.

Tea's absence from the office is related to a decision with an ongoing appeal. At our emergency council meeting, we will be appointing appeals officers to handle the appeal and process moving forward, however we feel that it would be inappropriate for us to share more information at the current time, as council will ultimately hear an unbiased account from the Appeals Board.

CASA

CASA's Policy and Strategy conference happened last week and it was really great! I learned a bit more about how CASA writes policy, received a little bit more media training, but overall was given a lot of time to work with committees to develop our work plans for the year. My role with CASA will be very policy focused, with a lot of revisions to internal and external policy over the coming year.

Other Business

- We're nearing the end of the work of the Selections Committee. We will be meeting before the emergency council meeting to discuss our recommendations.
- I met with Jenica Atwin, our MP for Fredericton, and we had some really good discussions about collaboration. Jenica shared a strong interest in collaborating with us and supporting the Union which was really helpful
- We met with Kathy Wilson, the Vice President Academic of the university, and had a great discussion about COVID and projects we're looking to work on this year!
- I met with the Respondus Review group and gained a better picture of where the committee is at and what the timeline is looking like, which was really helpful
- I've had a handful of other committee meetings

- I made progress on the Food Bank initiative. I got word back from the Space Planner, and then have begun scheduling group discussions with other folks in the university about the initiative.

Vice President Advocacy- Téa Fazio*

**Téa is currently out of the office*

Vice President Internal – Deanna Merriam

Hi folks! We're really kicking into gear here at the SU, and I hope you're getting excited. With our emergency council meeting coming up, I have sure been busy. I was on vacation the week of July 26th-30th so my report is just for one week this time.

Faculty Orientation Presentation

While on vacation, I came in to attend a SEM-OAC meeting. At this meeting, I gave the yearly pitch about the UNB Student Union Faculty Orientation Presentation. As students come into university for the first time, we really love to attend their orientation day and essentially say hello. If a faculty invited us to attend, and we have a faculty councillor available, typically they attend with me to just introduce themselves and establish that connection right off the bat. As I hear back from more faculties I may be reaching out to you (if you're a faculty councillor) to see if you'd be interested in attending. This is fully optional, and NOT a part of your honouraria

Student Standings and Promotions

The Student Standing and Promotions Committee has started up again for the year. This committee hears academic appeals of all sorts from students. As a member of the committee, I have received meeting packages of over 200 pages to review. I have spent my time in the office and my evenings reviewing these cases with utmost care so I can make the most informed decisions about what to do. We will be having these meetings weekly or twice a week until school starts up again.

Met with Kathy Wilson

Our team had a meeting with AVPA Kathy Wilson this week to have some introductions. This meeting went wonderfully and we ended up staying 30 minutes past the end of meeting time to chat. She is passionate about establishing food security on campus and I've set up a meeting with her to follow-up on some previous proposals the union has put forward. We have decided to have monthly meetings with her from now on, and we're happy she's willing to consult with us so frequently.

UNB Saint John

I had a meeting with UNB Saint John Students Union to go over a proposal I had brought forward to them. As I believe I mentioned before in my reports, I've been meeting with Charlotte to go over the course repeat policy and withdraw date extension. After bringing it forward to her team, she raised some excellent questions that I will be bringing to the registrar for consideration. From there, Charlotte also

brought forward a new point of interest for a future proposal. Where it is still in its early stages, I won't speak too much on this; however it would help immensely in joining our two campuses.

Filming at the HIL

Recently I was approached by the libraries to film a couple of videos at the new 3rd floor. I was happy to do this, and spent some time last week working with the film staff to get those done. The videos will be edited and brought to a celebration/appreciation party for the donors that helped make it happen. I know I have said this before- but I am so excited for you to see the new 3rd floor!!

Student Tours of Campus

I've also been doing some favours for folks and I've been doing some student tours around campus. With so many incoming students this year due to COVID-19, we have a large population of people who don't know where their classes are. This being said, I've been taking some students around to their classes so they can get in the routine of the school year. I know I was stressed when I first came to campus, so I am happy to help. Additionally, if any of you have students approaching you about tours- make sure you let them know that their faculty orientation typically includes them on the first day!

Preparations for the emergency council meeting

I have spent every evening and my weekend preparing for the upcoming emergency council meeting. This has pretty much consumed my focus for the time being, and I have got a lot accomplished. I've made a shortened version of council transition, I have added the agenda to the presentation, I have arranged with a law student to get our Appeals Officers selected, I have already done 2 transitions for you folks, and have one left to do. I have also spent a ton of time answering questions from you folks and making sure you're prepared for Wednesday!

This being said, if you have any questions between now and wednesday- please let me know. Send me a message or email and I'll get back to you ASAP! Thats all from me folks- see you Wednesday!

Vice-President Finance & Operations*

**Position is vacant*

Vice-President Student Life - Brennan Marks

Holy moly! August already! It's been an eventful couple of weeks here at the SU! Here is my update.

SafeRide

A couple of the SafeRide vans had to go to the shop for an inspection and some minor repairs so I took those over. I also finally put the winter tires away since they have been vibing in the vans since May! We also used the Saferide vans this past

weekend to help our friends in orientation with their Shinearama Bottle Drive!! I had meetings with both STU Students' Union and the UNB Graduate Student Association in regard to their SafeRide contracts for the year! We are excited that both parties are interested in joining the service again this year!

Saferide accessibility has had some big progress! I have applied for a grant from GNB to help us pay for the retrofitting of our Black SafeRide van to have a wheelchair-accessible lift. As shared in my last report we are doing the retrofitting in September! STUSU and the GSA are also going to join us for the retrofitting with some financial support and I am waiting to hear back from the Student Accessibility Centre as they also expressed interest in providing financial support. With the retrofitting booked I have also been working on the logistics of having the accessible van and how SafeRide will function with a 4th vehicle in rotation.

We decided purchasing a cell phone for the accessible van was the best option. This will allow the other drivers and wheelchair users to call for this van when it is required and will eliminate the wheelchair user having to go to the spot where the wheelchair van is stationed! SafeRide will now be able to offer wheelchair users access to our regular SafeRide Service and access to our Tuesday Grocery runs! We are working with SAC to also develop a plan to assist wheelchair users with transport throughout the school day.

Agenda

The agenda proofs have been approved and it is being printed as we speak!!
Wooohooo!!

Campus Events

Lots of good progress on Campus Events including securing a venue and assistance from The Capitol for the annual Kick-Off concert. We also met with STUSU to discuss a partnership on Campus Events to give STUSU Students access to our events. Molly and I also met with our friends at the Mount Allison Student Union to discuss our plans for the year and to see if there is an opportunity for us to book events together to save some coin!

Here is an update from Molly our DCE:

Within the past two weeks, I have been focusing solely on the Kick-Off concert that will be occurring in September! We have secured our venue (The Farmers Market) and our talent. L.A. \$OLE who is a local rapper from Fredericton will be opening and we will have DJ Joe Forestell as our headliner for the night. I am currently working with Brennan to complete our event budget and work out the details for the technical equipment. September is coming soon so we are working hard on making sure everything is set for the concert.

I also met with Brennan and Niko to discuss the hiring process for SET. The applications are now open and we will be doing interviews in the coming weeks I believe. I am excited to have a team of enthusiastic students who will help to make sure that UNBSU Campus Events are successful and of course, super fun!

Finally, Brennan and I have been chatting with Nick Zildjan from the UNB Reds about opportunities for events. We are in the process of brainstorming and planning some fun events like pep rallies, student hockey nights, and half-time competitions for students to be included in! We are definitely looking forward to seeing what events the UNBSU and the UNB Reds can create for students.

Food

We are still accepting applications for the Food Coordinator position until Aug 8th!! In regard to updates for food Hamper Food Box logistics are being worked out! The program will be ready to go for September and the Typeform is now live on our Website under UNBSU Food!! I am currently working with UNB Communications to advertise all the great food security work the SU is doing this year! More to come on that soon!

Dominos

We are all set for the dominos partnership and I have somehow secured the general use 50% of student discount for this year! It was supposed to be 25% but we are back up to 50%, this is by far my largest accomplishment to date!! So be sure to use code STDNT50 at checkout for 50% all build your own pizzas at either Fredericton Locations. All clubs and societies can enjoy buy 1 get 2 free pizzas by ordering through our Clubs and Societies page on the SU website!

Bike Co-Op

Sent the MOU to URec for feedback, and moved all the bikes into the think tank temporarily. They are being fixed as we speak! Hopefully more to update on this soon!

Other Business

- Prepared for and conducted SLIC Jr. Interviews
- Packed Textbooks for Textbooks for change
- Met with Darren from WeSpeakStudent about our new additions to our Health and Dental Plan which are SOOOOOOOO excited and I cannot wait to share them with you all!!
- Met with Venus Envy from Halifax to book some programming for Sex Week
- Started planning a Drag Show for Campus Pride in September!!
- Met with Marketing about the 1785 Collective, stay tuned!

Vice-President Communications - Niko Coady

Hey everyone! I don't have too much to update on as I was on vacation for half of last week as my brother got married, and this Monday was a public holiday! However, I hope that you are all making the most of your summer and am looking forward to seeing you all soon, given the circumstances.

Campaigns

I am currently working on an upcoming "Humans of UNBSU" campaign and I met with the executive team to get their input and thoughts on how to put this campaign together. I have also designed a nomination/application typeform that will hopefully be going out in the fall and have finalized a logo for this project!

I met with Alisha from UNB alumni to discuss how alumni can get involved in the Dear First Year Me campaign and finalized a separate typeform for alumni vs. current students. We have gotten several responses so far and I am excited to see this come together!

I have also finalized the hiring posts for the new positions opening up.

MLA Mondays & Mayor Rogers Days

I have been in discussions with Sydona, the VP Education from STU SU, about organizing MLA Mondays with David Coon again this year, so this project is in the works. I have also reached out to Kate Rogers after our team meeting with her, as she expressed interest in visiting campus this year to get to know students and hear their questions or concerns, so I will be scheduling this with the officials from her office!

O-Week

I am currently editing some promotional materials from the BlackShirts that will start going out next week as a countdown to O-Week. I am also finalizing the design for an event schedule page that will be live on the website soon. I am working closely with Evan and Ellen to make sure this launch runs smoothly and that students can register easily for O-Week events (p.s., they are doing an incredible job!).

I attended SEM-OAC on Wednesday and we had a quick discussion about faculty orientation schedules and how the SU can best support academic orientation. We also went through the Sharepoint site that has gone out to first year students so that I can respond to any questions they may have!

Other Business:

- Met with brennan to finalize the content calendar for September
- Updated the food page on the website to include hamper food box information
- Made a SafeRide flyer for the Grad Student Association orientation package
- Designed hiring posts for the welcome centre
- Met with Darren and Brennan about the Student Assistance Program with the Health and Dental Insurance this year
 - Designed a card for SAP to be included in O-Week kits
- Designed signs for the SUB to promote SLIC
- Worked on a Shinerama cookbook template for Evan
- Scheduled the posts for the Sexual Assault Policy Review Committee feedback form and the hiring posts that went up last week.

Orientation Chair & Vice Chair - Ellen Petrie & 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 have also been making a large number of posts that are not detailed in the content calendar such as advertisements for Shinerama fundraisers and also promotion for various Orientation Week initiatives (a call for performers for the cultural coffee house, a call for UNB's clubs and societies to register for the clubs and societies fair, etc.). We will also begin making posts to fulfill our sponsorship requirements later in the summer, but those will not have a set schedule either and will be made after the end of Orientation Week.

Sponsorship

We have been continuing to finalize which event each of our sponsors will be sponsoring and will be proceeding with fulfilling sponsorship requirements after the end of Orientation Week.

Merchandise

We have received the first shipment of merchandise for the orientation kits, and have also been given an item from UNB Sustainability that is to be put in the kits. The remaining items for the kits will be arriving soon, and the kits will be assembled on September 4th before being distributed to first-year students on Check-In Day. As well, 350 Shinerama shirts have been ordered, as have been other materials for Shine Day such as stickers, posters, and donation boxes. BlackShirt and RedShirt merchandise and Townhouse kits have also been ordered and will also be received soon. Finally, we are in the process of finalizing the mailout which will hopefully be printed and ready to send to incoming students in the very near future.

RedShirts

RedShirts have been very busy with completing asynchronous training modules. Orientation Chair Ellen Petrie and Vice-Chair Evan Di Cesare have also been collecting information from the RedShirts to ensure that everything goes smoothly with them both for training and during Orientation Week itself. For instance, dietary restrictions/allergies have been collected as have the number of RedShirts that are certified in first aid.

Additionally, RedShirts have chosen whether they want to be a part of one of five “crews” during Orientation Week (rowdy crew, social media crew, tech crew, sustainability crew, and Townhouse crew). In particular, Niko Coady, UNBSU VP Communications, will soon begin training the social media crew to ensure that pictures are taken at all Orientation Week events for future marketing purposes.

BlackShirts

BlackShirts have been making significant progress with the event that each was assigned to primary on, and have also just been assigned another event to secondary on which they will begin working on soon. BlackShirts have also been continuing to interact with their pod of RedShirts and are doing everything they can, along with Orientation Chair Ellen Petrie and Vice-Chair Evan Di Cesare, to ensure that all RedShirts have everything they need to make their experience as an orientation leader as positive as possible.

Training

Detailed outlines for both RedShirt and BlackShirt training have been finalized, and the asynchronous portions of those schedules have been underway for the past few weeks. For now, RedShirts and BlackShirts have been completing the same modules, but the programming will diverge when in-person sessions begin (in-person BlackShirt training is scheduled for August 28th to August 30th, and in-person RedShirt training is scheduled for September 2nd and 3rd). So far, both teams have completed Seeds of Change training as well as Intoxication training, and are currently completing EDI training. The final asynchronous training module of the summer is sustainability training created by UNB Sustainability.

Planning

Our detailed event plans for each event have been shared with the BlackShirts to review and add any suggestions that they believe would help each event run as smoothly as possible. Orientation Chair Ellen Petrie and Vice-Chair Evan Di Cesare have been very hard at work at fleshing out all of the plans for each event and ensuring that everything is in place in terms of preparing the venues, the performers/anyone else involved with each event, ensuring all volunteers have

everything that they need to know, planning for COVID safety, etc. As a whole, a great amount of progress has been made.

Shinerama

The UNBSU's first in-person Shinerama trivia night of the year took place at The Lot in downtown Fredericton on July 28th between 6:00pm to 8:00pm. The event was a success, and approximately \$80 was raised in total. Additionally, the Shinerama bottle drive organized by Shinerama Chair Evan Di Cesare took place on July 31st, and approximately \$250 was raised for the campaign. As well, Shinerama Chair Evan Di Cesare is in the process of creating the Shinerama cookbook with the 30 recipes that were submitted and will soon begin advertising it to be sold for \$5 (or however much someone wishes to donate). This is being done using Canva, and, upon completion, the cookbook will be sold throughout the rest of the summer up until Shine Day on September 11th.

Planning for Shine Day itself is still underway with an event plan for the day being largely solidified. Despite this being a smaller Shine Day than what has been seen in previous years, students will still be canvassing door-to-door in the area surrounding the UNB campus, volunteering at car washes in order to raise money, and also operating an information booth at the Boyce Farmer's Market to both spread awareness about cystic fibrosis and collect donations.