

Executive Report

Prepared for: UNBSU Council 2022/2023

July 10, 2022



President – Kordell Walsh

Hi folks! It's been a busy couple of weeks here at the office! I hope you've all been having a great summer!

EI-Connect

This has been taking up a lot of my time the past few weeks! I've had regular communication with Devin, the President of UNBSRC in Saint John, as well as the President of FEECUM in Moncton. Rose and I met with the NBSA to discuss where we may align in our advocacy efforts and how we can achieve the best results for students.

Rose and I met with the Fredericton Chamber of Commerce to discuss our approach to EI Connect. One of the arguments was that the government was facing pressures from the business community, so we figured a great way to find a resolution was to talk with the representatives of the business community.

I spent a lot of time this week doing research alongside Rose, and brainstorming potential solutions or alternatives. Then, we had a follow-up meeting with FEECUM, and prepared for a meeting with David Emerson.

CASA

I had a check-in meeting with Lucas, the Government Relations Officer for CASA; as he will be my point of contact for all of my CASA work. I also met with Christian, the Chair of CASA, about goals for the summer and the work throughout the year. Then, I made the agenda and had our first meeting of the National Advocacy Committee.

I also attended a CASA Board meeting.

Governance Project

I've had a few meetings with Mitch Archibald, from Minnikin Resources to discuss doing a governance review of the UNBSU. Minnikin Resources is an organization that does a lot of governance reviews, and has been working with Student Unions in the Maritimes. They offer a lot of guidance and experience; and they can also offer training sessions that can be very valuable.

Overall, the governance review would include working collaboratively with Policy Committee on bylaw and policy reviews.

These conversations are ongoing.

Odds and Ends

- I booked my flights to CASA's Board Retreat; and the hotel rooms to CASA's Policy and Planning conference in Calgary
- I registered for UNB's Board Retreat
- I attended the Accessibility 101 Training with the Student Accessibility Center
- Meeting with Jill and Lydia regarding a cost of education campaign
- I attended the Chamber of Commerce's AGM
- I had a meeting with CHSR regarding space in the SUB
- I met with Sangeeth regarding the bus pass and other off-campus initiatives
- I attended a meeting with the Law Faculty with Amanda to discuss the Legal Clinic they plan to run in the fall
- I had two meetings of SS&P

Vice President Student Wellness - Ridhi Sharma

Happy July, everyone! Hope you all are well and had a relaxing two weeks. I want to start by mentioning that I was out of the office for a day last week as I was travelling. I am excited to share what I have been doing.

Student-Run Businesses Fair

I followed up with the interested individuals regarding their graphics for the agenda ad space, and Amanda and I met to go over the details. We had decided to wait till today for the submission of graphics. I had a meeting with STUSU VP Student Life shortly to discuss the logistics for their event last year.

Meetings

Amanda, Jill, Rose and I met with Matthew Maclean from Counselling Services to discuss and provide feedback on student opportunities that promote mental health on campus.

The executive team attended the accessibility training by Rebecca Ward, which was quite productive, and we learned ways to make our events more accessible and reduce the barriers.

Matthew and I also met separately to talk about the Mental Health Promotion Strategy, during which we discussed survey results and analyzed the stressors pattern in accordance with the months in the academic year. For example, if we already know there usually is a peak in academic distress around October-November, then we can take a preventive approach and tailor our events and campaigns accordingly. We discussed having informal forums and panels in classes about mental health and resources on campus. We also talked about how mental health support may differ in different departments and faculties. Also, to increase engagement with the student

body, we thought it would be beneficial if we share events ideas with students beforehand to seek their feedback as well as give them the opportunity to share their ideas.

Black History Month

I met with Alicia Noreiga, graduate student, and Casey Burkholder, professor, whose research focuses on black, queer, and indigenous communities. We met to discuss and address the need to increase representation of black staff and students at UNB. I sought their consultations on event and initiatives ideas, and I also reached out to African Caribbean Society for collaboration in future. If you have any ideas, then I would love to hear from you!

Sustainability Week

I met with Autumn and Jacquie from Sustainability Office to discuss the SDG video campaign and finalized the primary events for the week. We have started reaching out to different societies on campus to discuss collaboration and will also be looking at having friendly competitions between the two campuses. We also discussed the logistics for the meal prep video and are currently working on affordable recipe ideas. So, if you know an easy and quick recipe, then feel free to send it my way. We also discussed the potential of a zine workshop, and I will be meeting Mattia from the library to discuss this further.

SRC Collaboration

I met with the President and VP Student Life from UNB-SRC in Saint John to discuss bi-campus collaboration for the weeks. For the sustainability week, we are looking into having an energy challenge between both campuses. We also spoke about the need for a transition video for international students which goes into campus and academic culture, which I will be bringing up during my meeting with Hillary from ISAO. Bertha, VPSL, and I will be meeting next week to share our weeks' event plans and discuss bi-campus collaboration.

Odds and Ends

- I attended a workshop called Pride and Indigeneity Intersected where I learned about the cultural practices, two-spirit, and discrimination among these groups.

- I researched library and multicultural resources for the student research directory. I am meeting with the respective groups to seek their feedback on it.
- I attended the anti-racism panel discussion during the multicultural fest.
- I watched the recordings of two sessions - Education and Training Toolkit to Address and Prevent GBV at Post-Secondary Institutions and Trauma-Informed Workshop from an Indigenous Worldview.

Thank you so much for reading my update! Hope you have an amazing week, folks! If you have any questions or suggestions, I would love to hear from you at wellness@unbsu.ca

I look forward to working with you all!

Vice President Academic – Jillian Carson

Hello!!! I hope you are all having a wonderful start of July, and I hope you have been soaking up the sunshine! We have been quite active in the office and have been receiving engaging communication from students on interests in getting involved as well as feedback on the termination of the EI-Connect program.

Bits and Pieces

- The Think Tank has been used so much in the past two weeks, it is really nice to have the extra space to work in as a group! We are now starting to slowly clean the Conference Room.
- Our team went to Saint John for a day to meet with the SRC at UNBSJ, it was nice to get to sit down with them and chat about their plans for the year.
- We all completed accessibility training this week with Rebecca from the Student Accessibility Center.
- I attended a meeting with Matt Maclean and some members of our team. We assisted Matt in reviewing the job posting for the peer supporters that they are hiring through the partnership with the Canadian Mental Health Association.
- In my last update I mentioned that I had attended a Planet Positive Period Workshop, I have been leading our communication with the

CEO of Aisle, Madeleine, this week she sent me a mini-case study based on UNBF students and the projected use and benefits of having reusable menstrual products on campus. That study and information has been forwarded to Sustainability and The Menstrual Health Society and we are planning to soon meet with Madeleine to discuss this more.

- My communication with Reslife has continued - I am looking forward to soon having a meeting to discuss the House Committee structures in residence and how we can potentially reflect that structure with TownHouse, as well as getting TownHouse involved with the training that residence house committees may receive

Libraries

I also had a very refreshing meeting with Mike Nason from UNB Libraries. Mike does a lot of work around Open Educational Resources (OERs), he was able to teach me about them and we discussed the exam bank that has been worked on by previous VPI's. Since the exam bank has not been touched or updated in a few years, the library did not carry them over to their new system which means they are going to be a bigger challenge to update. They are also hesitant to carry on with the exam bank as many professors will not share their exams since UNB considers them as private material, and due to a lack of efficiency and sustainability in plans to update the bank. However, our conversation around OERs was extremely beneficial for me. He shared the work that Cape Breton University has done on OER advocacy on their campus and I have reached out to their SU to see if I could talk to them about it.

Cost of Education Campaign

Kordell, Lydia and I have started brainstorming ideas for a campaign to raise awareness of the hidden costs associated with getting an education. Lydia has been working on a type form and we are looking forward to getting that out to students so that we can build stats based on our own students here at UNBF.

Senate

This past week I have been working away at committee assignments by reaching out to more societies such as the Law Society, and more faculty societies. I am so grateful that Kordell sent an email to students to share the committee information because we are now getting responses from the committee page on our website! I am looking forward to building a

connection with our student senators, as well as the students that I am currently appointing to committees. Kordell and I have also briefly chatted about the “part time senator” position that we have and how we would like to utilize that position for the year.

I also attended my first meeting of Student Standings and Promotions as a Student Senator, I am looking forward to serving on that committee with Kordell for the year.

Council

I have been working away on council and senate work, I have confirmed the dates for council meetings and have booked the space for those meetings throughout the year. Please keep in mind council transition is mandatory and will be happening on **September 18th**. I have chatted with Lydia about her idea of creating binders for councillors and other members of the SU, and I am excited to work on those more with her to ensure they are available for you folks in the fall. I also met with another councillor in the past week to discuss their councillor project and to answer some questions they had in regards to the work Lydia and I have been doing with TownHouse, Lydia sat in on this meeting with me.

Yesterday I sent out an email to councillors for your committees to be selected, please check your emails if you haven't yet and fill out the form when you have a chance to! There is important information on the process included in that email as well.

As always, if you have any questions, concerns, or needs please feel free to reach out to me at academic@unbsu.ca, have a wonderful day!

Vice-President Finance & Operations - VACANT

The application period has closed, and we received 14 applicants; which is really fantastic! Interviews will go out this week - and hopefully we can get the VPFO started soon!

Vice-President Events and Services - Amanda Smith

Hii, council members! I really cannot believe it is July already. I don't know about you, but time is flying by. I hope your summer has been going well so far.

As always, I encourage you to reach out to me by email with any ideas, questions, or suggestions: services@unbsu.ca. Even if you want to set up a virtual meeting just to introduce yourself, I am here!

I cannot wait to have council meetings in person with you folks. Wishing you a weekend full of great memories and a great couple of weeks wherever you are. 😊

Food

I met with UNB Alumni's Strategic Partnerships Officer to discuss options and how I can put together a case for support for a project I am working on regarding food insecurity and university students. They are also connecting me with Development and Donor Relations and how to put together this proposal. I have been collecting research/ data on food insecurity on our campus, campuses across Canada, and different types of initiatives that combat food insecurity among university students.

Fresh Food Bag program – I submitted the order to CFS and will be picking up the bags on July 14th. I sent out an email and calendar reminder to those who have ordered bags this month.

If you are interested in ordering one of these bags you can order online at this link beginning on July 20th: <https://unbsu.typeform.com/to/JDCUIF> for \$17, or you can pay cash at the Welcome Centre for \$15!

Health & Dental Benefits

Kordell and I met with April Kennedy, director of counseling services as a follow-up to the meeting Karen and I had previously and put together a plan and contract for a potential new service that would replace SAP. Hopefully, we can announce this soon.

Bike Co-op

I picked up the last of the stickers at the HIL, Research Commons, for our bikes, helmets, and locks and I will soon be planning a launch for this program. I briefly met with their graphic designer to discuss the ad they're working on. I highly recommend you check out that floor, you can get stickers, 3D printing, and more done at no cost.

Agenda

I finally see the light at the end of the tunnel for the student agenda. A couple of last-minute folks decided they wanted to advertise on the agenda, being the Beaverbrook Art Gallery, Fred Tourism, and GNB. I put together contracts for all advertisers, and each one has been signed and returned to me. I updated the SU directory for the agenda. I met with Christina Collins at ANBL/CNB Marketing. She gave me a hard maybe on buying a half-page ad in our student agenda but needs approval from her channels. She was also able to provide me with more resources for our ACE service. I met with Par94 and discussed advertising options, but unfortunately, it isn't in the books for them this year. We have almost all graphics submitted but we're waiting on two. I met with Rocket printing to confirm the pricing and quantity of agendas to be printed. I was able to sell more ad space than the year before, that makes it, so we are able to pay for all the agendas at no cost to the students/UNBSU. I created a Typeform sign-up sheet for the UNBSU Student Agenda. If you are interested in receiving a free UNBSU Student Agenda this upcoming academic year please fill out this two-question form "[Student Agenda Sign-Up.](#)"

Events

I submitted Molly's timesheet for payroll. She and I met to discuss her plans for the kickoff concert.

SLIC

Kordell and I met with Jeannette Savoie from the Law Faculty and discussed their community law clinic that starts this fall so that we can determine the fate of SLIC. After this meeting, I met with our Sr. SLIC Coordinator to discuss the lawyer we have on retainer and future student legal information events around employment and rental rights. We also discussed hiring dates for the Jr. SLIC Coordinator.

Odds & Ends

- The girls and I met with Matthew about the peer support training to give him feedback.
- I met with Emily from STUSU and helped her with contracts for talent and other resources we could help her with.
- We went to SJ for the afternoon and hung out with the SRC.

- I had training for Introduction to the Foundational Standards for Campus GBV.
- We had training with Rebecca Ward at SAC called “Accessibility 101 training”

Vice-President Research and Policy - Rose Grant

I hope everyone is having a great week and summer. It is hard to believe it is already July. If you have any questions or suggestions about any of the work I am doing please feel free to email me: policy@unbsu.ca. Have a great day all.

Summary

The past two weeks have consisted of a lot of groundwork for policies I am creating throughout the year. I created my first draft of a policy along with research for a second policy on mental health. I took part in some meetings regarding the recent EI-connect decision and steps going forward for the best interest of students.

Meetings

I had a meeting with members of NBSA and Kordell to discuss areas of collaboration with the EI-connect program. We discussed ways in which we can work together to help students across the province and general next steps.

I had a meeting with Kordell to discuss next steps for our meeting with Trevor Holder next Wednesday. We are doing preliminary research currently and have divided tasks amongst ourselves so that we can have the best research behind our asks to the government.

I had a follow up meeting with Kordell Friday to discuss our research findings.

I had a meeting with Morgan Peters from the Chamber of Commerce to discuss EI-Connect and areas of collaboration. It was a wonderful and insightful meeting for both my role and areas of collaboration.

I took part in a meeting with Lydia and Molly to discuss campus events over the year to learn more about amazing events planned for students.

I had a quick brainstorming session with Amanda regarding SV policy.

I had a meeting with Matt Maclean alongside Amanda, Ridhi, and Jill surrounding Peer Supporter Advising to help bring further student voice into the wonderful initiative.

I had a meeting with STUSU regarding the Operation Grant so that we can all work in collaboration as a united voice. This went well and found that we have many areas of collaboration.

I had a monthly leadership meeting with Mark Walma from UNB Student Services alongside the entire executive team.

I had a meeting with Sangeeth, our off-campus representative for council. We discussed affordable housing and areas of collaboration throughout the year.

Research and Policy

I spent the majority of my time on Monday, July 4th researching mental health policy in New Brunswick. I am doing this in order to complete my second drafted policy this year.

I have spent a lot of this week getting ready for the meeting with Minister Holder surrounding EI-Connect. For this I have created detailed notes and compiled research.

I finished my first drafted policy on the provincial operating grant. I incorporated much of the feedback we have received from students and stakeholders. I did much primary and secondary research. I used CASA research as a resource for much of my work. I have shown people on the team, and am continuing to show members of the community and administration the plan. This took up a majority of my week last week.

I have spent a bit of time working on research for my first Federal Policy Committee with CASA happening next week. I have spent some time looking at amended policy, research processes, and meeting notes. I have also gotten in touch with Mackenzy Metcalfe about lobby week preparations in Ottawa.

Training

I took part in accessibility 101 training with the Student Accessibility Centre with the entire executive team.

Some odds and ends

I finished up the callout for volunteers for the night market green team volunteers. If this is of interest to you, please fill out this typeform!

<https://unbsu.typeform.com/to/YPtwVKZt>

I made contact with Hillary from the ISAO to discuss potential policies that will positively affect international students. I took some time to brainstorm ideas for a typeform callout for international students to voice their opinions on policy which would help them the most provincially.

Again, please do not hesitate to reach out. Thank you for reading. :)

Vice-President Communications - Lydia Chong

How is it July already?!

Agenda:

Amanda and I are kicking things into high-gear and dedicating a lot of time into getting the agenda submitted on time for them all to be printed on time. This will be my main focus over the next two weeks and will be taking up a lot of my time.

Handbooks:

I am in the process of putting together a handbook of sorts for all of the execs, coordinators and council members. Listening and observing a lot of feedback from previous years, and coming out of a pandemic period where engagement has been super low, I thought it would be nice to have a binder for every UNBSU position so other members of the UNBSU and regular students can come and take a peek at what each person does. This will act as a time capsule of sorts as I would like folks to add in projects they've been working on and projects that have been completed in the past.

To start, we bought binders for the execs and coordinators and duotangs for council members. These will be housed in the ThinkTank and people can freely come in whenever to borrow it.

Strat Plan:

Between working on the agenda and handbooks, I've finally put together our strategic plan for the 2022/23 year! We are in the process of some minor editing and should be made available by next week!

Cost of Education Campaign:

Along with Jillian and Kordell, we had a meeting discussing our Cost of Education Campaign. We brainstormed questions for data we want to collect from students and I am working on making the Typeform for it.

DCE Meeting:

Rose and I had a meeting with Molly to discuss our plan for the year. Did not get into too much depth on events as that is not my role, but talked about communications surrounding event lead-up, SET expectations, menstrual products at events, etc.

Other:

- Finished posting all graphics and student features for Pride and NIHM
- Posted the graphics and Typeform for NB EI-Connect Feedback
 - Response has been really good so far!
- Reformatted the exec descriptions and attached them to our positions on the website
- Made hiring posts

Orientation Chair & Vice-Chair - Jhanvi Joshi and Kanwar Pal Singh**Overview**

Hello again everyone and happy Friday! The past 2 weeks have been pretty eventful in terms of meetings and collaborations. We are finally seeing everything coming together and taking shape very roughly. The details over the past 2 weeks have been written below:

Marketing

In terms of marketing, the VP Communications has helped us update the orientation website, announcing our logo, theme, executive team (Blackshirts), and a short introduction to Shinerama. At the same time, the Orientation Executives are also being introduced on the orientation Instagram page each day.

Meetings

Over the past 2 weeks, some of the major meetings we had were with; Residence Life Team to plan for Orientation events alongside the Residence Community and ask for updates, and set agendas on the following steps, such as ironing out details in the Orientation Schedule and setting time for events fulfilling both the needs of Townhouse and the Residence community. At the same time, we also had a meeting with Brittany Flowers about check-in day details to make the transition of new incoming students easier, making the process of checking in quicker.

There were also meetings with CSASAs on a possible tri-campus event. Another meeting we had was with Matt Maclean, talking about the possibility of an event related to mental health. This week Action Now Atlantic also reached out to us, chatting about possibly about collaborating with Orientation in form of taking part in Cornboil (or, the Clubs and societies fair) and putting items in the O-Kits.

Merchandise

The Orientation team met with Brian from Coastal Graphics to provide a list of the items in the O-Kits for Townhouse and Residence. We also provided Brian with the Merch details for our Redshirt Orientation Leaders and Executives. We also placed an order for 1300 O-Kits as of now, with the chance of increasing the number at a later date in case we feel it is necessary to do so.

Schedule

The Orientation team has developed a schedule based on the schedules of offices across UNB that will take part in O-Week and has started filling in the timelines of all the events planned to take place.

Sponsorships

The Orientation team discussed the sponsorship hitlist and made changes to the original levels of the sponsorship packages. Offers have been sent out to various internal and external organizations. There was also a meeting with Irving Oil, set with the help of Advancements at UNB. Irving Oil was interested in sponsoring Orientation and possibly taking part in O-Week as well. Our sponsorship package was sent to them and we also chatted about opportunities available where Irving Oil could fit into Orientation Week to

increase the engagement of their organization within the UNB Student community as a whole.

RedShirt Orientation Leaders

To date, 100 Redshirt Orientation Leaders have accepted their position and will be a part of Orientation Week. However, there are still a couple of applications on hold due to endorsement-related problems such as no responses or endorsers mentioning that the student had not asked them for endorsements in the first place. At the same time, RLC Steven sent the endorsements for individuals staying in residence over the following academic year.

Redshirts have also been started to split up into different pods that would be led by their respective executives or Blackshirts.

Blackshirt Orientation Leaders

The Orientation Chair and Vice-Chair will soon have a meeting with the executive team talking or providing updates on the merchandise, the schedule, their pods, the events list, etc. At the same time, primaries will be set for each event, who would plan events and prepare event plans! We would also have to ask for volunteer drivers from the team for Blackshirt training and during Orientation Week.

Shinerama and upcoming events

Shinerama finished their National Conference on the 07 th of July which the Orientation team was a part of. However, the turnout was still less with Shinerama still getting into contact with other universities till now. Also, UNB will receive its crowd change website soon to fundraise asap. There have been various delays from their side, but meetings will be held next week with the campaign advisors and regional directors to ease the task of Shine. At the same time, events will be brought in meeting with advisors for shine day and secondary fundraisers. However, we would need to wait to obtain all our Redshirts and Blackshirts together to have a couple of individuals ready to volunteer for events throughout the summer.