

Office of the VICE PRESIDENT EXTERNAL

Conner Peta Vice-President External 403-329-2780 su.external@uleth.ca Report: CASA Policy and Strategy Conference

As part of our commitments to the our federal advocacy group, the Canadian Alliance of Student Associations (CASA), Hailey and myself attended CASA's annual policy and strategy conference in Kananaskis, Alberta from July 24th to July 27th, 2017. During this conference, the membership got to vote on the selection our priorities for the upcoming year, the CASA committee workplans, and the location of our last CASA conference in March.

Day 1: July 24th

Upon arrival in Kananaskis, me and Hailey checked into the conference. There were no planned events that evening, so it allowed us to catch up with some of our CASA counterparts from around the country who we had not seen since our foundations conference in May.

Day 2: July 25th

During day 2, the conference began with an opening prayer from a First Nations Elder and an acknowledgment that we were on Treaty 7 land. After that, we had a refresher on CASA's code of conduct, and then we began our opening plenary. During the opening plenary, the membership successfully approved the motion allowing Capilano Students' Union to join CASA. We then had a series of presentations from the board on the their action plan and the priorities picked by the membership. The 5 priorities selected by the membership included 1) Health and Wellness, 2) Indigenous Students, 3) Educational Materials, 4) International Students, and 5) Financial Barriers to Postsecondary Education.

Day 3: July 26th

Due to my commitment as Vice-Chair of the Council of Alberta University Students, I had to miss day 3 of this conference to attend the Government of Alberta Funding Framework Review Consultations in Edmonton, AB (please refer to my July report for more information).



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Day 4: July 27th

Upon returning to the conference from Edmonton, there was some catching up I had to do. During day 3, the committees created their workplans. As a member of the federal policy committee, I had to create a workplan on all two of the policies I have been assigned to re-write. I have now caught up on that work. Day 4 of the conference was spent going through our closing plenary, where we approved the 2017-2018 priority themes, the Board of Directors Action Plan, the audited financial statements, the federal policy committee work plan, the national advocacy work plan, the graduate committee work plan, the trades and technology committee work plan, the member relations committee work plan, the internal review committee workplan, and the University of New Brunswick Students' Union (UNB-SU) bid to host the Annual General Meeting in March 2018.

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