



Office of the **VICE PRESIDENT EXTERNAL**

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Project Paintbrush

On Thursday, July 6th, myself and the rest of the ULSU executive team volunteered for project paintbrush. Project paintbrush is a non-profit organization that gathers volunteers to do painting projects for both senior citizens, and low income people. The ULSU executive team made a huge impact that day, which included an economical donation in the value of \$1,574.00 to the voluntary sector.

CASA Federal Policy Committee

I attended all my Canadian Alliance of Student Associations (CASA) Federal Policy Committee meetings this month. During those meetings, we were all assigned expiring CASA federal policies to work on. I was assigned to rewrite CASA policy A30.4 on “Eliminating Parental and Spousal Contributions from the Canada Student Loans Program (CSLP)”, along with my counterpart from UPEI, Taya. I was also assigned to rewrite CASA policy F03 on “Separation of Public versus Private Interest Rates on Canada Student Loans”. During these meetings, we prepared for CASA’s Policy and Strategy Conference.



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CAUS Counterpart Conference

From Monday, July 10th to Tuesday, July 11th, the University of Lethbridge Students' Union hosted the Council of Alberta University Students' (CAUS) Counterpart Conference. This conference is an event where all the executive members for CAUS' 5 member student associations attend a conference in order to network with their counterparts from across the province. As VP External and Vice-Chair of CAUS, I have met with my counterparts many times. Thus, when the VP Academics, VP Operations and Finance, and VP Student Affairs (Life) were working together in their breakout sessions, the VP Externals and Presidents (whom are usually the primary and secondary delegates for CAUS in their respective institutions) drafted the final version of our CAUS 2017/18 Priorities document, which is available on this link http://caus.net/beta/wp-content/uploads/2017/07/CAUS_Priorities_Document_2017.pdf

Meeting with MLA and Alberta Party Leader Greg Clark

On Thursday, July 13th, myself and President Hailey Babb travelled to Calgary, AB for a number of events, including a meeting with MLA Greg Clark, a Wildrose Party Stampede BBQ, and an Alberta Together Stampede Event. In regards to the Greg Clark meeting, we met with Mr. Clark to discuss both ULSU and CAUS priorities for the upcoming year, which included mental health funding, tuition regulation, and student financial aid. Overall, it was an excellent meeting, and Mr. Clark was very receptive to our priorities. I look forward to consulting with him in the near future.

Wildrose Stampede BBQ

After the Greg Clark meeting, myself and Hailey, along with many of our CAUS colleagues from the University of Calgary Students' Union (UCSU) and the Students Association of Mount Royal University (SAMRU) attended the Wildrose Stampede BBQ. At this event, we talked with MLA's Brian Jean, Derek Fidlebrandt, Dave Schneider, Prab Gill, Wayne Anderson, Prasad Panda, and Tany Yao. It was a great opportunity to talk with these MLA's, and I look forward to setting up meetings with them in the future.

Alberta Together event at the Calgary Stampede

After the Wildrose BBQ, myself and my CAUS colleagues attended the Alberta Together event. Alberta Together is run by Katherine O'Neil, and it is "a not-for-profit organization that puts public service, pragmatic centrist principles and province-building at the top of its agenda.



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During this event, we got to talk with Katherine O'Neil, as well as Greg Clark. I also talked with Omar Masood, who will be a candidate for the Alberta Party in the next election, about CAUS priorities and student issues.

Lunch with Lethbridge College Students Association President and City Council Meeting

On Monday, July 17th, I went for lunch with the Lethbridge College Students Association (LCSA) President, Arthur Torres. We discussed a number of projects that the ULSU and LCSA could work together on, including a get out the vote campaign for the municipal election and a transit Upass. After that meeting, myself and Arthur both attended the July 17th City Council meeting, where the transit manager Conrad Westerson was presenting the Transit Master Plan. It was a very informative presentation.

Meeting with MLA Maria Fitzpatrick

On Tuesday, July 18th, Hailey and myself had a meeting with MLA Maria Fitzpatrick at her Lethbridge-East Constituency office. We discussed CAUS priorities such as mental health funding, tuition regulation, and student financial aid. We also discussed parking at the University of Lethbridge and Lethbridge Transit. Overall, it was a very productive and informative meeting.

Meeting with Mayor Chris Spearman

Later in the afternoon on Tuesday, July 18th, Hailey and myself met with Mayor Spearman to discuss Lethbridge Transit in light of the recent events with parking on campus. Mayor Spearman informed us about the city's argument as to why reducing the student transit rate from \$289.00 per semester to \$289.00 per year is not in their best interest; explaining why city council chose to pursue the UPass option instead. The Mayor was very encouraged to see that we are already beginning to work on the implementation of a UPass. Overall, it was a very engaging and informative meeting.

Meeting with City Council Candidate Zachary Gibb

On Thursday, July 20th, Hailey and myself met with City Council Candidate Zachary Gibb to discuss Lethbridge Transit and the implementation of a UPass for the 2018/19 academic year. Mr. Gibb was very supportive of improving transit accessibility for students. Overall, it was a great meeting.



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CASA Policy and Strategy Conference

Both me and Hailey attended the Canadian Alliance of Student Associations (CASA) Policy and Strategy Conference from July 24th to July 28th. For more information, please refer to my CASA Policy and Strategy Report.

Government of Alberta Funding Framework Review

As part of my commitment to the position of Vice-Chair of the Council of Alberta University Students' (CAUS), I attended the Government of Alberta's consultations on the Funding Framework Review in Edmonton, AB on July 26th with our Chair, Reed, and Interim Executive Director, Josh. This resulted in me missing one day of the CASA Policy and Strategy Conference. During the day, we discussed and gave input on conceptual models of what the funding framework could look like. Due to the confidential nature of these consultations, that is all I can say. However, CAUS voiced its belief that the funding framework should be sustainable and predictable, consist of multi-year funding packages so institutions can plan accordingly, and expressed our opposition to any form of outcome based funding.

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