



THE UNIVERSITY OF LETHBRIDGE
STUDENTS' UNION

Office of the **VICE PRESIDENT EXTERNAL**

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Contribution Hours: 138

Meetings and Events

ULSU

- GFC Meeting (Feb 1st,
- ULSU Awards Committee (Feb 4th)
- Arts and Science Council Meeting (Feb 4th)
- Penguin Protest event (Feb 8th)
- Student Leader Meeting with Advanced Education (Feb 9th)
- GA Transition Committee (Feb 10th)
- PSVAC Meeting (Feb 11th)
- Advocacy Advisory Committee (Feb 12th)
- Indigenous Relations Committee (Feb 24th)
- General Assembly Meeting (Feb 24th)
- Provincial Budget day (Feb 25th)
- Meeting with Minister about the budget (Feb 25th)
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Council of Alberta University Students (CAUS)

- CAUS Organizing/public engagement committee (Feb 1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd)
- CAUS Board meetings (Feb 1st, 22nd)
- CAUS Transformational working group (Feb 5th, 19th, 26th)
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Descriptions of Notable Meetings and Events

Penguin Protest

Myself along with the help of a General Assembly member went and built an army of protesting snow penguins outside of MLA Nathan Neudorfs office in opposition to rising tuition rates and incoming budget cuts. Demonstrations happened across the province and created a large amount of media attention which made cuts to Post-Secondary Institutions a leading story for that week and was a COVID friendly way of showing opposition to the cuts.

Student Leader Meeting with Advanced Education Minister

This meeting with the Minister involved members from Universities, Colleges, and Polytechnics from across the province and was mainly a meeting which was held in order for us to talk specifically about tuition increases with the minister and how we would prefer to see tuition handled in a more affordable and predictable way for students. We brought up concerns with regards to tuition deregulation and discussed potential other avenues of how to make University more affordable for students.

Provincial Budget

The Provincial budget was released on Feb 25th and we now know that the University of Lethbridge will be receiving a cut of 5.8% which equates to about 5.7 million dollars. We are very opposed to this decision and expressed our concerns and frustration in a meeting with the minister that night. We also have yet to see the final budget line for funding of programs related to Campus Sexual Violence and we have continually tried to get information on this budget line but we have been told to wait for the Alberta 2030 review in April.

CAUS Organization and public outreach committee

This Committee is the one which organizes the larger advocacy efforts that we have been taking province wide and has a lot of very fun and exciting plans for March! Stay tuned to find out what they might be!

Ongoing Projects and Tasks

The Ongoing lawn sign advocacy efforts

We have been coordinating a large province wide advocacy effort to bring attention to the cuts and other threats facing the post secondary system. I encourage anyone who would like to receive a lawn sign to visit stopsecuts.ca or to reach out to me directly so that I can find a way to get you one!



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Looking over the UofL Sexual Violence policy

Myself and and Advocacy Advisory Committee have begun to look over the UofL Campus Sexual violence policy in order to find areas we think can be made better or improved upon.

February was an interesting month, my hours are low compared to other months because of the fact we were able to take a small part of reading week to get some rest. But despite that it felt like one of the longest months I have had in the position so far. Be it the penguin protest, the provincial budget, the lawn sign campaign, or just committee meetings. It was a month where I constantly felt I had to be prepared for the next big thing that was coming. While that was stressful, it also made February one of the months I am most proud of in the position so far. Taking multiple interviews for both the penguins and the budget was really rewarding and it felt amazing seeing concerns of Universities being a prominent news story throughout the month. Hopefully March will be as productive and rewarding of a month, but maybe with a little less stress hopefully!

As always if you have any questions for me, please feel free to reach out to me and ask anything that may be on your mind!

Best,

Ryan Lindblad
Vice-President External