

# Maleeka Thomas President 403-329-2221 su.president@uleth.ca

Report: January 2023

# Message from the President

Hello Pronghorns!

It is 2024, welcome or welcome back to campus! I am so happy to report what the January days were looking like for me and the rest of the ULSU. It was a very busy month, but I hope you all enjoyed it.

#### Meetings, Events, and Tasks Breakdown

During the month of January, I had the privilege of attending the following meetings and events listed below:

- New Students Orientation
- Spring Clubs Week
- Free Breakfast
- General Assembly Meetings
- Stress less Week
- Copyright Campaign
- School of Liberal Education Council
- CASA E-plenary
- Food Security Meeting
- Counterparts CAUS
- Housing security working group
- Student Affairs X ULSU & GSA

#### New Students Orientation (Lethbridge & Calgary Campus)

On behalf of the University of Lethbridge Students' Union I am excited to share with you what the ULSU have been up to since the start of the spring semester. It's been a very busy yet exciting time so far for us and we are happy that you are getting a glimpse into what's going on and what's to come.

# UNIVERSITY OF LETHBRIDGE STUDENTS' UNION

# Office of the **PRESIDENT**

# Spring Clubs week

We hosted our annually clubs week, where clubs were able to showcase what is going on for their group and sign up new students for different activities.

# **Free Breakfast**

The ULSU was able to provide 150-180 students with free breakfast for the first month back to school.

# **General Assembly Meetings**

We had our regular bimonthly General Assembly Meetings.

PS: All GA meetings are open to non-voting members (students) unless otherwise stated. So, if you wish to attend a meeting you are welcome to contact su.president@uleth.ca to attend as a guest.

# **Copyright campaign**

The ULSU working with our external federal advocacy body is running a campaign advocating for educational fair dealing and preserving the current copyright laws in place. Currently, we are showing the Federal government that are having a hard time when it comes to paying for educational materials and if there is a removal of the educational fair dealing legislation, student textbooks cost will increase by almost 300%.

## **Stress Less Week**

We hosted our annually mental heath awareness week (stress less week) to provide students with resources and activities that is geared towards mitigating students stress levels. Below are all the events we hosted as well as a free breakfast:

- o Free Snack Stations (every day)
- o Connections Café
- o RBC Financial literacy workshop
- o Anti-Procrastination study night
- o Yoga
- o Paper airplane contest
- o Mindfulness session
- o Bob Ross Paint Night
- o Indigenous Traditional Games



## **CASA E-plenary**

We were able to meet and discuss as well as approve policies for CASA, those policies were working on by the CASA Federal Policy committee and the Director of Policy. The policies then went through a process of approval through a GBA analysis review by me as the Director of Equity Diversity and Inclusion.

#### **School of Liberal Education Council**

We met to discuss the necessary changes, concerns or celebratory moments for the school of Lid Ed.

#### **Food Security Meeting**

We met to discuss the plans in place to establish food security on our campus.

#### **Counterparts CAUS**

This conference was held at Mount Royal University and me alongside the other ULSU executives were able to meet with our counterparts from the other post-secondary universities represented at CAUS to align ourselves as it regards to advocacy for the upcoming year.

#### Housing security working group

As apart of the ULSU mandate is advocacy, I created working groups that will focus on specific areas of priority for uleth students and accessible and affordable housing is one. We met to discuss plans for our upcoming campaign in February.

#### Student Affairs X ULSU & GSA

This is a monthly meeting to discuss with the student affairs team our initiative and what we are hearing from students.

## **Other Activities/Meetings**

- One-on-Ones with ULSU council and staff
- CAUS Board
- CASA Board
- Search Committee
- CAUS IDEA
- Student Speaker Challenge
- Sexual Health Awareness week planning
- Black History Month planning



- Strategic Planning sessions
- Student Meetings
- GFC nominations committee

## **Projects in Progress**

- Campaign for food insecurity and food bank referendum
- Housing feedback from student through a Housing campaign
- Indigenizing ULSU policies
- As Director of EDI working on developing an EDI Strategic Plan
- Student Financial aid & affordability
- International Student Cap supports discussion
- Copyright campaign
- Student discount to aid in affordability crisis.
- Work Integrated Learning opportunities

## **Challenges encountered**

One challenge I encountered this month is managing my time well with all the activities going on.

## **Goals for Next Month**

- Continue to connect with all GA members to hear their goals and initiative and provide assistance as well as build positive team relationships.
- Continue to fulfill my duties as President
- Run a successful copyright, housing and food security campaign

## This Month's Wins

o Minister of Infrastructure and Community Sean Fraser announced PSI will be eligible for low cost loans through the apartment construction Loan Program. <u>https://www.casa-acae.com/student\_housing\_loans</u>

Thank you for taking the time to read this report. If you have any questions or concerns please don't hesitate to reach out. I am available via email, phone call, or in-person/virtual meeting.



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Kind Regards,

Maleeka Thomas

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