

# Office of the VICE PRESIDENT EXTERNAL

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## Meetings and Events:

## <u>ULSU</u>

- General Faculties Council (May 4, 25)
- Executive Council (May 7, 14, 21, 28)
- Arts and Science Council (May 7, 21)
- General Assembly (May 7)
- Ahead of the Heard meeting (May 12)
- ULSU & GSA Meeting (May 12)
- Meeting With Athabasca Student Union (May 13)
- U of L covid-19 town hall (May 20)
- Governance Orientation (May 21)
- Youth Advisory Council (May 21)
- My Degree our Future, Campaign Meeting (May 28)
- Meeting with President's Executive (May 29)

### Council of Alberta University Students (CAUS)

- CAUS changeover (May 8-11)
- Meeting with Minister of Advanced Education (May 13)
- CAUS Priority setting meeting (May 22)
- CAUS meeting (May 26)

### Canadian Alliance of Student Associations (CASA)

- CASA Foundations (May 26-28)

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## Description of Notable Meetings and Events

#### General Assembly

This was the First Meeting of A new General Assembly and although it was not what we thought our first meeting would be like, running it through Zoom actually went rather well. The General Assembly got a lot of initial business done such as approving the budget lines for the year as well as beginning the process to approve funding for events coming up for many of our students.

#### Youth Advisory Council

This was my first meeting with the City of Lethbridge's Youth Advisory Council, it was pleasure getting to know everyone that I will be working with on the council over the year and beginning to discuss goals over the summer and what we can still accomplish in a time of social distancing.

#### Meeting with Presidents Executive

Having myself and the rest of the Executive Council meet with the President's Executive was a very rewarding experience and began what will be a very positive and productive relationship. The meeting allowed us to all get to know one another better while also discussing shared priorities and initiatives to improve Student Life at the U of L.

#### CAUS Changeover

CAUSChangeover took place over a 4 day period and covered a lot of important information about the organization as a whole, as well as important information of the political climate in Alberta, and the most prominent issues facing University Students today. Elections were held to select the chair and vice chair and it was really rewarding to meet all of our counterparts from other schools.

#### CAUS Priority setting

This was the meeting where CAUS began to set our priorities for the upcoming months and thus set a path forward. Our priorities for our students revolved around University affordability, mental health funding, Sexual violence, performance based funding and a myriad of other concerns facing our students

#### CASA Foundations

CASA Foundations was also a very rewarding experience for many of the same reasons that CAUS transition was. Learning more about the structure of the organization as well as getting fascinating presentations on the work of the previous years delegates was helpful to understanding the functioning of the organization. Board and committee elections were also held.

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## **Ongoing Projects**

#### My Degree out Future Summer Campaign

This campaign has been a project that has occupied a lot of my time since taking office. I am working with the previous Vice President External Bailey Harray on a campaign that will give students a voice in addressing the Government of Alberta's plan to implement performance based funding metrics next year, which will affect institutional funding. The campaign will go live in mid June and I encourage all my fellow students to fill out the survey and have your voice heard by the Minister of Advanced education who I will be forwarding the responses to.

#### Policy on University Affordability

I have begun to work on a policy statement of University affordability. The ULSU has a policy on University Tuition already but I believe that making University affordable goes beyond just looking at tuition and I want this policy to address many other financial stresses and hurdles that face our students.

#### Indigenous Relations Committee

At our first General Assembly meeting in May we approved the creation of the Indigenous relations committee which will help to create a closer and more impactful relationship between the ULSU and the FNMISA. I am incredibly excited to see what this committee will accomplish over the course of this year.

#### **Best Regards**

Ryan Lindblad Vice-President External

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