

# STUDENTS' COUNCIL

#### Tuesday, January 14, 2020 6:00PM Council Chambers, University Hall

We would like to respectfully acknowledge that our University and our Students' Union are located on Treaty 6 Territory. We are grateful to be on Cree, Dene, Saulteaux, Métis, Blackfoot, and Nakota Sioux territory; specifically the ancestral space of the Papaschase Cree. These Nations are our family, friends, faculty, staff, students, and peers. As members of the University of Alberta Students' Union we honour the nation-to-nation treaty relationship. We aspire for our learning, research, teaching, and governance to acknowledge and work towards the decolonization of Indigenous knowledges and traditions.

#### LATE ADDITIONS (SC-2019-16)

- 2019-16/1 SPEAKERS BUSINESS
- 2019-16/1a Announcements The next meeting of Students' Council will take place on **Tuesday**, January 28, 2020 at 6:00PM in Council Chambers at University Hall.
- 2019-16/2 PRESENTATIONS
- 2019-16/3 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT
- 2019-16/4 BOARD AND COMMITTEE REPORT
- 2019-16/5 <u>OPEN FORUM</u>
- 2019-16/6 QUESTION PERIOD
- 2019-16/7 BOARD AND COMMITTEE BUSINESS
- 2019-16/8 <u>GENERAL ORDERS</u>
- 2019-16/8a **BEASLEY MOVES** to appoint two Councillors to the DIE Board Appointment Committee.

See SC-2019-16.14.

- 2019-16/8b **BEASLEY MOVES** to ratify the recommended CRO.
- 2019-16/9 <u>CLOSED SESSION</u>
- 2019-16/10 INFORMATION ITEMS
- 2019-16/10n Chief Returning Officer Candidate Introduction.

See SC-2019-16.14.

# **Chief Returning Officer – Candidate Introduction**

## Introduction:

I hope this reaches you in good health. It is an honor to be selected as the Chief Returning Officer for the University of Alberta Student's Union and I hope to perform to the best of my abilities in reaching the set goals over the next four months. I am currently a second-year international student at the University of Alberta's School of Business, majoring in Finance.

## Background:

I have been involved in student governance and politics since the past few years, often dealing with campaigns at a national level, budgeting and acting as a poll agent. Having served as the Deputy Returning Officer for the Augustana Students' Association at the University of Alberta's Augustana campus during the last academic year taught me a lot in terms of university elections and governance. I oversaw two elections for the academic year 2018-19 ensuring a level playing field for all candidates. Worked closely with the Students' Union of the University of Alberta, and the Chief Returning Officer at that time making sure that all the rules and regulations were followed. During this process, I had to deal with a fair share of problems which revolved around hate speech and racism, with a fair share of drama which I feel was dealt in the best way possible. As a student leader during my high school days in Pakistan, I was responsible for managing events which were budgeted at \$250,000+. Last summer I managed the final country wide tour for the Pepsi Battle of the Bands Season 4, as well as conducted a cost benefit analysis to evaluate the impact of industry 4.0 and its integration into different industries in South East Asia, specifically Pakistan, during my internship at Tetra Pak.

#### Plans:

Being drafted halfway through the year in the middle of things is always difficult but nonetheless the goals for the upcoming elections are to get the numbers up. By this, I plan on engaging more students to participate in the elections process, and vote in the elections. Some of the things under consideration are having physical polling booths, an extensive digital/social media campaign and increased awareness about election in general. This year the elections office will be responsive, and all communications will be made in a professional and respectful manner in the requested time. While improving the numbers game and participation the elections office will ensure strict adherence to the by-laws making sure that the rules and regulations are followed and that hate speech, racism and discrimination is not tolerated.

## Work done so far:

Since being offered the position in the second week of December and realizing the shortage of time, I had to start working for the elections before being rectified. I have met the marketing department at the Students' Union, exchanging ideas and formulating a strong social media and marketing plan. Some new ideas which have been drafted in include having "I VOTED" stickers etc... Having formulated an elections timeline which, you can see attached below, I will be meeting Jason Ward later today in order to discuss the possibility of having physical polling booths with laptops. There were some issues faced such as the Myer Horowitz being

unavailable during the election period because of which another venue had to be booked, nomination period being too short, marketing plan being weak etc... all of which were sorted out. Over the next week, I will be taking over the elections office, overseeing the hiring of the DROs, meeting with marketing and finalizing the nomination packages.

With your support I hope to lead an impartial, engaging and responsible elections office over the next four months, ensuring a visible change in polling numbers and student participation.

Regards, Muneeb Ahsan

Monday, 13<sup>th</sup> January 2020

# **Elections Timeline:**

Key:

Executive Committee and Board of Governors Representative General Election

Students' Council (SC)/General Faculties Council (GFC) Elections

**Elections Office** 

University of Alberta Students' Union Elections 2020 Timeline				
January				
1	Wed			
2	Thur			
3	Fri			
4	Sat			
_	Sun			
	Mon	Election	Advertismen	t Begins
	Tue			
	Wed			
	Thur			
	Fri			
	Sat			
	Sun			
	Mon			
	Tue	0.00		
	Wed	Official Start as C.R.O		
	Thur	H	iring of D.R.C	JS
	Fri			
	Sat Sun			
19	5uii	First Poport	to Council Jr	tro & Planc
20	Mon	First Report to Council, Intro & Plans First official meeting with DROs		
21	Тие			

22	Wed			
23	Thur			
24	Fri			
25	Sat			
26	Sun			
27	Mon	Nominations OPEN		
28	Tue			
29	Wed			
30	Thur			
31	Fri			
February				
1	Sat			
2	Sun			
3	Mon			
4	Тие			
5	Wed			
6	Thur			
7	Fri			
8	Sat			
9	Sun	Nominations OPEN		
10	Mon			
11	Тие			
12	Wed			
13	Thur	Nominations CLOSE		
14	Fri			
15	Sat			
16	Sun			
17	Mon	Candidates Meeting - 6 PM		
18	Тие			
19	Wed			
20	Thur			
21	Fri			
22	Sat			

23	Sun			
		Campaign STARTS		
24	Mon	Lister Hall - Forum (5 PM)		
25	Тие			
26	Wed	Sub-Stage/Atrium Forum - Day 1 (12 noon)		
		Sub-Stage/Atrium Forum - Day 2 (12 noon)		
27	Thur	Augustana Campus - Forum (5 PM)		
28	Fri	Campus Saint-Jean - Forum (12 noon)		
29	Sat			
March				
1	Sun			
2	Mon	Main Forum (CCIS/Sub-Stage) - 12 noon		
3	Тие	Nominations CLOSE		
4	Wed	Election Day 1		
_	<b>T</b> he same	Election Day 2		
5	Thur	Candidate Expense Reports Due		
6	Fri	Results Announcement (6 PM) - Deweys		
7	Sat			
8	Sun			
9	Mon	Candidates Meeting (6 PM)		
10	Тие	Campaign STARTS		
11	Wed			
12	Thur	Candidate Reimbursements		
13	Fri			
14	Sat			
15	Sun			
16	Mon	Sub-Stage Forum - Day 1		
17	Тие	Sub-Stage Forum - Day 2		
18	Wed	Election Day 1		
19	Thur	Election Day 2 Candidate Expense Reports Due		
20	Fri	Results Announcement (9 PM) - Deweys		

21	Sat			
	Sun			
	Mon			
	Tue			
	Wed	Candidat	te Reimburs	ements
	Thur			
27				
	Sat			
	Sun			
	Mon			
	Тие			
	April			
1	Wed			
	Thur			
	Fri	Election Report Due		
	Sat			
	Sun			
	Mon			
7	Tue			
8	Wed			
9	Thur			
10	Fri			
11	Sat			
12	Sun			
13	Mon			
14	Tue			
15	Wed			
16	Thur			
17	Fri			
18	Sat			
19	Sun			
20	Mon			
21	Tue			

22	Wed			
23	Thur			
24	Fri			
25	Sat			
26	Sun			
27	Mon			
28	Тие	C.R.O Yearly Report Due		
29	Wed			
30	Thur			
31	Fri			