

# STUDENTS' COUNCIL LATE ADDITIONS

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Tuesday November 22, 2011  
Council Chambers 2-1 University Hall

## LATE ADDITIONS (SC 2011-15)

- |            |   |
|------------|---|
| 2011-15/1  | <u>SPEAKER'S BUSINESS</u>   |
| 2011-15/2  | <u>PRESENTATIONS</u>  |
| 2011-15/3  | <u>EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT</u>   |
| 2011-15/4  | <u>BOARD AND COMMITTEE REPORTS</u>  |
| 2011-15/5  | <u>QUESTION PERIOD</u>  |
| 2011-15/6  | <u>BOARD AND COMMITTEE BUSINESS</u>   |
| 2011-15/7  | <u>GENERAL ORDERS</u>   |
| 2011-15/8  | <u>INFORMATION ITEMS</u>  |
| 2011-15/8f | Colten Yamagishi, VP Student Life- Report<br>Please see document LA 11-15.01      |
| 2011-15/8g | Scott Nicol, Audit Committee chair resignation<br>Please see document LA 11-15.02 |
| 2011-15/8h | Audit Committee- Summary report to Council<br>Please see document LA 11-15.03     |
| 2011-15/8i | Rory Tighe, President- Report<br>Please see document LA 11-15.04                  |
| 2011-15/8j | CAC- Summary report to Council<br>Please see document LA 11-15.05                 |
| 2011-15/8k | ERC- Report<br>Please see document LA 11-15.06                                    |

**2011-15/81**

Andy Cheema, VP Operations and Finance- Report

Please see document LA 11-15.07

**Prepared by:** Colten Yamagishi, Vice President (Student Life)

**To:** Students' Council 2011/12

Greetings council. I hope you are enjoying the newfound snow. I hope you are also excited to get utterly destroyed in Campus Cup this weekend. I know that I am excited to do the destruction! I am looking forward to sporting my safety orange "Not this Tighme" custom dodgeball jersey.

Nothing amazingly exciting happened for me over the past two weeks but I have done a lot of reading and e-mail answering. However, I am however excited for tonight and this weekend (I am writing this on Thursday so the URS has not happened yet nor the Healthy Campus Symposium). I'm sure that both events will be outstanding.

As per usual Movember/Headshave fundraising is going well. I have managed to collect \$70.01 for Movember from myself, my mom, my sister, and my girlfriend... I have collected a giant goose-egg for the ESS Headshave. You know what that means council... I need your help! Click <http://ca.movember.com/mospace/> or <http://albertacancer.ca/page.aspx?pid=1254&tab=0&frsid=4402> to donate to two great causes! Emerson and I also jumped into a freezing pool of water in the middle of quad for the JDC team's Chillin for Charity to raise money for the United Way. The water was way colder than I expected and I lost my glasses when I jumped in but I found them later!

### ***Programming***

#### **Campus Cup:**

It is this weekend. Registration is full. Referee positions are full but you can still sign up to referee if you want. Brennan Murphy and the programming team are outstanding. Boom!

#### **Movie Night:**

Programming is looking to host a Christmas movie day in the Myer Horowitz Theatre on either December 5 or 6 (near the last day of classes). If you have any suggestions for movies let us know!

#### **Break the Record:**

We had a meeting with Dr. Frank Robinson (Dean of Students) to talk about the Break the Record attempt. According to Jennifer Wanke there are rumours going around that UC Irvine (current record holders) record was only approved for 4000 participants because they did not have enough dodgeballs (for the 4player/1ball ratio). If this is true it is excellent news for us. Anyhow, I will be going to Dean's Council in two weeks to announce our plans for the event (and to start fundraising). We have some pretty cool ideas lined up for the largest student engagement event of the year!

**Staff Appreciation:**

I organized another Friday dress-up event for the Services and Office Staff. We called it our Winter Wonderland Dress Up Day (mitts, scarves, toques, etc.) and I brought mandarin oranges and After 8 chocolates for all those who dressed up (and just about everyone did because of the weather). I hope that everyone enjoyed it.

**Services****Access Fund and SFAIC:**

Andy and I sat in for the appeals session for the Access Fund. SFAIC staff were helpful as always!

**Awards:**

Students' Union awards submissions are due on Friday, November 25th at 4:30pm and all supporting documents are due on December 2<sup>nd</sup> at 4:30pm. Make sure to get these in ASAP as you are all excellent leaders!

**Campus Food Bank:**

The CFB is on fire right now! They have a ton of events happening including the following:

CFB Awareness Week: Nov 21-25

Campus Rec Co-Ed Pairs Volleyball Tournament: November 29

The Fast and the Studious: Dec 5-6

You can also check out their monthly newsletter at

<http://www.ualberta.ca/~foodbank/newsletters/NOV2011.pdf> This month's newsletter was a special edition to celebrate the CFB's 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary (which is on the 22<sup>nd</sup>)!

Also, hamper requests have gone up significantly this year but we have been able to handle the increase due to a number of successful food drives and fundraisers such as Trick or Treat. Keep supporting the Campus Food Bank!

**Infolink:**

We are looking at building a new Infolink booth to replace the mainfloor SUB booth. We have contracted this work out to Wolski design and have had a few consultative meetings thus far. The plans are still tentative but I will provide you with future updates later in the year.

**Student Group Services:**

I am doing a review of the Student Groups Bylaw 5600 with Kelin Flanagan (Manager of SGS). We will be bringing recommendations to the Bylaw Committee soon-ish (I'm not too sure if this will be before or after Christmas). I am also getting excited for the Fall 2 Student Group and Individual granting sessions. It is always amazing to see the great projects that our students are working on.

**Services Review:**

The Services Review (a comprehensive review of all of our services and recommendations on the future of our services both individually and as a whole) is being finalized. I will be sponsoring a council presentation for this after it is complete. The Senior Manager of Student Services and Assistant Manager of Student Services have been working extremely hard on this

outstanding document and I am sure that it will be a great tool to help us with our visioning for the services in the future.

### **Advocacy**

#### **U-Pass Admin Meeting:**

At our last U-Pass meeting I received some feedback on the U-Pass questions that I am looking to put into the undergraduate student survey. We also reviewed the U-Pass uptake stats and it appears that over 95% of eligible students have picked up their U-Passes this term. This is a significant increase from 92% last fall. I will be participating in a feedback session to talk about the expansion of bus and commuter transit systems in Fort Saskatchewan next week.

#### **Opportunities for you to get involved:**

- Run for VPSL
- E-mail me feedback on how you think I am doing so far (bad/good/what would you like to see me do/what you don't want me to do/ etc.)
- Volunteer to referee for Campus Cup
- Patiently await the arrival of the Antifreeze registration packs
- Talk to students and do class talks for council outreach!

#### **Summary:**

I just wanted to tell all of you that I polished an entire Tombstone donair while writing this report. Also make sure to check out my conference reports attached on the late additions.

If you have any other questions ask during council, stop by the office, or send me an email at [vp.studentlife@su.ualberta.ca](mailto:vp.studentlife@su.ualberta.ca).

Colten Yamagishi  
780-299-3076

Scott Nicol

November 20, 2011

Students' Council  
2-900 Students' Union Building  
University of Alberta  
8900 - 114 Street NW  
Edmonton AB T6G 2J7

Councillors,

RE: Resignation as chair of Audit Committee

It is with regret that I resign as chair from the Audit Committee and anticipate that my involvement with the Students' Union will be diminished. Unfortunately, higher priorities in my life have come about. In particular, as some of you know, since this spring I have been dealing with the trauma from a sexual assault. This and some other past trauma provided for a difficult summer and a challenging background to the semester.

Two weeks ago a friend required significant and immediate help for reasons which his privacy will require I do not disclose. In the same week I was told by my parents that my mother has been diagnosed with cancer.

I am hoping that by curtailing the demands on my time now I will be able to continue to be involved with the Students' Union. I wanted to provide Council with this background as I generally believe in transparency.

Yours,

Scott Nicol



# AUDIT COMMITTEE MEETING SUMMARY REPORT TO COUNCIL

Date: Nov 21, 2011

Time: 1512hrs

2010 – 2011 #7

## Motions

|    |   |                                |
|----|---|--------------------------------|
| 1. | NICOL moved to approve the distribution of the APIRG DFU. | <i>CARRIED</i><br><i>6/0/0</i> |
| 2. |   |                                |
| 3. |   |                                |
| 4. |   |                                |

November 22 2011

To: Students' Council

Re: Report to Council

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Hello Council,

My sincere apologies for submitting two consecutive reports that did not make it on the main agenda. I was in Ottawa with the Vice President (External) and the Director of Research & Political Affairs for the Canadian Alliance Of Student Associations Lobby Conference and had very unreliable internet service. As I was away all last week, this report will be shorter than usual but you can expect a full conference report from the Vice President (External) or I in the near future.

### **Survey**

Unfortunately the survey has been delayed slightly due to many things coming up on the plate of Marketing & Communications. I hope for it to go out this week and to close in early December. We will be meeting this afternoon to finalize the questions and the send out date. We are already talking for next semester about how to make the planning of this project easier.

### **Advisory Review Committee for Vice President (Facilities & Operations)**

The Vice President (Operations & Finance) and I attended the advisory review committee for the University's Vice President (Facilities & Operations), Don Hickey, yesterday for the majority of the day. The Vice President is up for reappointment for a third term and GFC Policy dictates that this process happen. Although, for the sake of confidentiality, I can't talk about the details of the meeting, I can say that it was a very interesting and rewarding process and the Students' Union was able to contribute meaningfully to the dialogue.

### **CASA Lobby Conference**

As I mentioned earlier, the Vice President (External), Director of Research & Political Affairs and I attended the Canadian Alliance Of Student Associations Lobby Conference in Ottawa from November 13 – 18. This is arguably one of the most effective conferences that the Executive participate in and is something we must continue to take part on as long as we are members of CASA. We spent the week on Parliament Hill meeting with Senators and Members of Parliament talking about our issues. The Vice President (External) did an exceptional job at the plenary sessions (general meetings) of the CASA delegates making sure our interests were served. As I noted earlier you can expect a detailed conference report from the Vice President or I in the near future.

### **Supporting The Vice Presidents**

I spent sometime before I left meeting with each of the Vice Presidents to go over their goals documents

and their progress reports and giving them a chance to track mine as well. The meetings were very useful and there doesn't seem to be any major things that are being left behind in terms of what we set out to accomplish. Everyone has items that are going a bit slower than we had originally hoped but I am hopeful that we will accomplish what we promised in our goals documents.

**If you have any further questions, suggestions, or concerns**, please do not hesitate to follow-up with me, either in person at SUB 2-900, by phone at 780-492-4236, or by email at [president@su.ualberta.ca](mailto:president@su.ualberta.ca).



# CAC SUMMARY REPORT TO COUNCIL

Date: **November 15, 2011**

Time: **5:02pm**

2010 – 2011 **MEETING 15**

## Motions

|    |   |                          |
|----|---|--------------------------|
| 1. | <i>FERGUSON moves to approve that the Council Administration Committee allocate funds by the requests from KHINDA, KELLY KUSMU, ZIMYEMBA, MILLS, KUSMU, WOODS for the purpose of an Arts town hall not to exceed the amount of \$38.52.</i> | <i>CARRIED<br/>2/0/2</i> |
| 2. | <i>ZHAO moved that the meeting be adjourned.</i>  | <i>CARRIED<br/>4/0/0</i> |

**The Elections Review Committee  
Report to Council**

Last year, the Elections Review Committee November report included recommendations that would be acted on in the second semester. This year's Election Review Report will be different from the previous year's as most of the topics discussed have been put forward to Council. The ERC has recommended 3 motions to Council so far, and is presenting another one this meeting. The following topics were discussed at length:

- Joke Candidates
- Pre-Campaigning
- Executive/Council Election Timing and Timeline
- Endorsement
- External Media-Advertising
- Division of Bylaw 2000
- Reporting Keys
- Campaigning on Election Days
- The Status of NOTA in STV

The following topics will be discussed for the remainder of the year.

- The Status of Elections Review Committee
- Paid Leave of Absence
- Election Length

## **Joke Candidates**

The Elections Review Committee discussed the role of Joke Candidates in Elections, and whether or not there's a need for Joke Candidates. Members of the ERC have pointed out that Joke candidates bring publicity and agreed that the student population did not understand what happens when a joke candidate wins. As it stands, Bylaw 2000 under §61 states that:

***“(30) Where a joke candidate is declared victorious, the seat to which that joke candidate has been elected shall be considered vacant.”***

- *The ERC recommends the CRO to add indication on the ballot to voters the effect of electing a joke candidate*

## **Pre-Campaigning**

The ERC discussed the status of Pre-campaigning. Bylaw 2000 states:

### ***“29. Prohibition on Pre-campaigning***

*(1) No side manager, volunteer, or candidate shall engage in campaign activities between the nomination deadline or Students' Council initiation of a plebiscite/referenda and the commencement of the campaign.*

*(2) Any campaign activity involving social media or internet activity shall not commence or exist between the nomination deadline or Students Council initiation of a plebiscite/referendum and the commencement of the campaign. Social media and internet activity with the sole purpose to prepare campaign activities, campaign material, or to solicit volunteers may be undertaken during the pre-campaign period, so long as it is kept private.”*

I raised the issue that candidates are allowed to freely campaign before pre-campaigning (pre-pre-

campaigning) week. And I was wondering what the ERC thought about the status quo. Most people agreed that pre-campaigning is a time to organize the campaign. It gives the opportunity to candidates who didn't plan on running until close to the deadline a chance to catch up. It is also a window of opportunity for candidates to catch up on their studies.

- *The ERC recommends keeping the status quo of no campaigning during pre-campaigning period.*

## **Executive/Council Election Timing**

A concern was brought up that many students' do not understand the difference between council election, and executive election. The idea of having both elections at the same time was tossed. Concerns were immediately brought about the strain on the Elections office to handle both elections at the same time, as well as students getting bombarded by posters, and candidates running for multiple positions. We would also like to give a chance to candidates who failed at executive election to run for council

- *The ERC recommends keeping the status quo of executive/council election timing*

## **Endorsement**

Last years' council approved a bill based on the following principles:

- "1. Candidate slates shall cease to exist for all Students' Union elections.*
- 2. Candidates shall be allowed to endorse other candidates, including those within his or her own race."*

The CRO has requested an interpretation from the DIE board to address the following issue:

- 1) Are "slate-like" campaigns allowed under Bylaw 2000?

Under Ruling #1 of the D.I.E Board the decision was:

*"Candidates may endorse each other, and there is no restriction on running a similar platform. However, candidates cannot form "slate-like" campaigns to the extent that such activity would result in profiting off of one another's resources. This is contrary to s. 37 which prohibits joint use of resources."*

## **External Media-Advertising**

As it stands Bylaw 2000 states:

### ***"42. Media***

*All candidates and sides are free to pursue campus-based media as determined by the C.R.O; however, are restricted from contacting external media sources. All external media must be directed through the C.R.O office."*

The ERC discussed this piece of legislation, and whether it is needed at all. Recent historical memory suggests that no one has ever tried to campaign through an ad on the radio or in the Edmonton Journal or CBC. Candidates can however use Facebook ads that target University of Alberta students for example. This ties back to the definition of social media.

- The ERC has suggested to keep the status quo

## **Division of Bylaw 2000**

One of the main issues that concerns the ERC this year is the length of Bylaw 2000. Bylaw 2000 is a long document that has many different pieces that are not related to each other. Bylaw 2000 states:

**“18. Candidate Nomination Packages**

*(2) The C.R.O shall produce nomination packages which shall contain, at minimum*

- a. complete and current copies of Bylaw 2000 and the Judiciary of the Students’ Union Bylaw;”*

Bylaw 2000 contains information integral for candidates running to understand their rights, responsibilities. However Bylaw 2000 also contains much information that candidates need not concern themselves with. This information includes Sections concerning:

- Elections Staff Composition (page 3)
- Elections Staff Hiring Process (page 3)
- Elections Staff Eligibility Requirements (page 3)
- Elections Staff Terms of Office (page 3)
- Duties of the Elections Staff (page 3)
- Elections Staff Reporting and Dismissal (page 4)
- C.R.O. Shall List Candidates (page 11)
- Right to Vote (page 17)
- Voting (page 18)
- Ballots (page 18)
- Balloting and Counting (page 18 through 23)
- Secure Handling of Ballots (page 23)
- Requirements of the C.R.O. (page 23)
- Recounts (page 23, 24)
- Multiple Coinciding Elections (page 26)

This type of information, while might interest some candidates, is not essential to their election. The CRO has pointed out that Bylaw 2000 can be split into three: Candidates, Ballots, and responsibilities and duties of the CRO.

It is important to note that historically Bylaw 2000 used to be a series of: Bylaw 2100, Bylaw 2200, Bylaw 2400, and Bylaw 2500 totaling 50 pages. The Division was:

- Bylaw 2100: A Bylaw Respecting the Campus Wide Election of the Students’ Union (22 pages)
- Bylaw 2200: A Bylaw Respecting the Councillor Elections to Students’ Council and General Faculties’ Council (20 pages)
- Bylaw 2400: A Bylaw Respecting the Plebiscites and Referenda of the Students’ Union (15 pages)
- Bylaw 2500: A Bylaw Respecting the Chief Returning Officer and the Elections Staff of the Students’ Union

Then in the year of 2005/2006 Council passed a motion to combine all the bylaws into one glorious document that is Bylaw 2000. This motion was based on the recommendation of the CRO of the time. The recommendation was based on removing redundancy and pages. However, I would say that many of the problems that Bylaw 2000 currently has is because of a poor job in consolidating the documents into one. The Elections’ Review Committee discussed whether or not to split the bylaws for Executive elections from Council elections, and decided to split it to help candidates running with a focused document.

- *The Elections Review Committee recommends to Students’ Council to Split Bylaw 2000 into the following documents:*

1. *Bylaw 2100: A Bylaw Respecting the Chief Returning Officer and Elections\ Staff of the Student;*
2. *Bylaw 2200: A Bylaw Respecting Executive Committee and Board of Governors Representative Elections, Plebiscites and Referenda of the Students' Union;*
3. *Bylaw 2300: A Bylaw Respecting the Councillor Elections to Students' Council and General Faculties' Council;*
4. *Bylaw 2400: A Bylaw Respecting Balloting and Counting of Students' Union Elections*

## Reporting Keys

The ERC discussed removing the requirement of reporting keys from bylaw 2000. As it stands bylaw 2000 states:

### ***"27. Requirement to Report Keys***

*(1) All candidates and side managers shall, within twenty-four (24) hours of the nomination deadline, report to the C.R.O. any keys, cards, and other means of access to any building or room on the University of Alberta campus.*

*(2) The C.R.O. shall confiscate, until the commencement of voting, any keys, cards, and other means of access to any building or room on the University of Alberta campus where*

*a. the key, card, or other means of access in question would provide an unfair advantage to the candidate or side manager; and*

*b. the candidate or side manager is not academically, occupationally, or otherwise required to retain the key, card, or other means of access in question for the duration of the campaign."*

It was pointed out that the only advantages rooms give to candidates are one who are re-running executives. The executives lose that power immediately when they have taken a leave of absence, so from that angle, the requirement is redundant. Other advantages are for candidates who can use a room on campus for campaign materials, however the same advantage is given to someone who is running who lives in Lister, or close to campus. Candidates who have access to a car have advantage over candidates who don't, but Bylaw 2000 need not concern itself with cars, or similarly with rooms.

- *Council passed a motion to remove Key Reporting Requirements*

## Campaigning on Election Days

One of the longest debates at Students' Council this year was regarding allowing candidates to campaign on voting days. The ERC put the motion forward on October 25<sup>th</sup>, and Council decided to return the motion to ERC for further review. The ERC has produced a detailed report to Council prior to the November 8<sup>th</sup> meeting. The motion successfully passed.

- *Council passed a motion to allow campaigning on voting days*

## The Status of NOTA in STV

Last year Students' Council has change the system of preferential voting from "Instant Runoff Vote" (IRV) to "Single Transferable Vote" (STV). The reason being that STV is a democratically superior system. The issue here is the status of "None of the Above" (NOTA) option on the ballot in an STV election. Bylaw 2000 § 58 (3) states:

*"On each ballot, there shall be an explanation of the balloting procedures which shall include, at minimum, the following*

- a. that "None of the Above" shall be considered a candidate;*

- b. *that voters shall rank each candidate according to their preferences;*
- c. *that a portion of the ballot shall be considered spoiled where any of the conditions set out in Section 61(3) are met; and*
- d. *that voters shall be permitted to rank as many as all or as few as zero of the candidates for each position.”*

It is expected that STV algorithm will favour the election NOTA more so than the IRV system did. Furthermore a recent DIE board ruling has clarified that if NOTA wins in a race with multiple seats, every seat ranked below NOTA in that race will be vacant. That means that if NOTA won the third spot in the faculty of science in council, five out of seven science seats will be vacant.

Compared to IRV, STV is a sophisticated method of preferential voting. Simply speaking, STV establishes a quota based on 50% of ballots + 1. One must achieve the quota in order to be declared a winner. STV works by either reallocating votes exceeded by the quota to “weak” candidates, or eliminating “weak” candidates in order that “stronger” candidates achieve quota. The major difference between STV and IRV is the numbers of votes transferred are the ones above the quota line, whereas IRV transfers all the votes from the winner. This process is the reason why IRV favoured candidates that were not NOTA, since the candidate who won the first round likely transferred all their votes to other candidates who were not NOTA. This process is not mirrored in STV since the number of transferred votes is significantly reduced.

The ERC gave a presentation to Council Regarding this issue in September, and asked for feedback. The ERC made a recommendation to revert back to the IRV system, favoring the simplicity of the IRV system.

- *Council passed a motion to revert back to the IRV system*

## **The Status of the Elections Review Committee**

One of the main focuses of ERC committee for the rest of the year will be to discuss the future status of the Elections Review Committee. By that we mean whether or not we will be needing an ERC in the future. The two sides of the argument will be that our Elections process needs to be continually reviewed from year to year to ensure an effective and fair process. The other side is that Bylaw 2000 changes every year could have adverse effects on our Bylaws.

## **Paid Leave of Absence**

When the Elections Review Committee presented to Council in September, we were asked whether or not the ERC has considered offering a paid Leave of Absence to Student Executives running in an election. As it stands Executive members who decided to run again in Executive or Council election have to go on a leave absence, unless the race is uncontested. The argument is that this will discourage some executives from running.

## **The Elections Length**

At the last council meeting the ERC was asked to revisit the length of the Executive election. The ERC will further discuss the length of our elections next semester.



November 22, 2011

To: Students' Council

Re: Report to Council

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Hello Council,

Below are the highlights since my last report.

### **Capital Project Planning**

The Steering Committee has received and reviewed an initial set of concepts from our architects, and meets again next week. We have had meetings with services staff and the Office of the University Architect. We receive another update from our architects next week. We have not received any billings for architectural or project management fees since my last report.

### **PAW Centre**

The only update from my office is a PAW Centre Steering Committee meeting that was held last week. Discussion focused on delivery model and project budget. These discussions of course hinge on the agreement, which will be presented to Council in the New Year.

### **Infolink**

Over the summer we engaged a design firm to look at revitalizing the SUB main floor Infolink kiosk. The Vice President (Student Life) and I have been meeting with Infolink staff to discuss possible designs. The goal is to create a design that will be inviting, functional and secure, and that meshes well with the building. This project has been several years in the making and it's good to see some progress on this front.

### **BFC**

We met Thursday, November 3 and covered the following service units: Student Group Services, The Ombudservice, SFAIC, and Sustain SU. More discussion will follow as the semester progresses. Next up on the agenda are the remaining four services.

### **Department Planning**

The General Manager, President and I have spent a lot of time discussing a new format and process for organizational planning, in light of the Strategic Plan 2011-2014. As of today, we rolled out the new setup to management, in preparation for the upcoming budget cycle. This new process has a threefold purpose. First, it will allow Department Planning to dovetail into the annual budget cycle. Second, it's a way for department heads to demonstrate accountability. Third, it will better coordinate the organization as a whole, by highlighting and/or forging alignments with the Strategic Plan and Executive goals.

### **Vice Presidential Advisory Review Committee**

I spent yesterday in a daylong Advisory Review Committee meeting for the university's Vice President (Facilities and Operations). The meeting was part of the process to consider reappointing the current VP to stand a third term in office. Details of the proceedings are protected by FOIPP.

**Miscellaneous**

I was fortunate to attend the Undergraduate Research Symposium dinner and keynotes. The event's caliber was impressive and by all accounts it was a success.

Should you have any questions, comments or concerns, feel free to get in touch at 780-492-4236 or [vp.finance@su.ualberta.ca](mailto:vp.finance@su.ualberta.ca). If you wish to discuss any topics in depth, I would welcome the opportunity to meet in person.

Cheers,



Andy Cheema