An Overview of the Council of Alberta University Students

Reed Larsen, Chair
Josh McKeown, Interim Executive Director
Presenting to -

University of Alberta Students’ Union
What is CAUS?

• Represent over 100,000 undergrads to the government, public and stakeholders

• Five members:
  SA MacEwan University
  SA Mount Royal University
  University of Alberta SU
  University of Calgary SU
  University of Lethbridge SU
Mission & Vision

• Mission:
  to ensure a high quality, affordable, and accessible post-secondary education for Alberta undergraduate students through strong researched based advocacy

• Vision:
  university students are active contributors in developing a high quality post-secondary sector that is accessible and supportive to all students regardless of background or financial means
What Has Happened
2015 PSE Participation, 18-35 Year Olds
What Has Happened

Average Tuition in Canada as Compared to Alberta
(indexed to inflation)
History

• Created in 1986 to facilitate information sharing

• Through 1980/90s fighting wave of funding cuts

• Major election campaigns throughout CAUS history

• Key stakeholder and influential voice in AB PSE

• Founded on principle of unanimous agreement

• Small in number, but great in influence
How CAUS Works

- Students
- Executive Director
- Staff
- Chair & Vice-Chair
- Members (Execs, Councils, Students’ Unions)
- CAUS
- Members
How CAUS Works

- 2 representatives per school
- Executive Director
- Meet in person every ~6 weeks
- Teleconferences as needed
- Operate on consensus basis
- $1.95 per FLE
What CAUS Has Done

• **Public campaigns:**
  Election and other campaigns to the public and on-campus

• **Coalition-building:**
  Other student groups, faculty, and other stakeholders
What CAUS Has Done

• Elections Act Changes

• GOTV Campaign

• Party Platforms

• Student Aid Changes

• Tuition Freeze + CPI Cap

• IGNITE Alberta
What CAUS Has Done

• Tuition Freeze
• MNIF Freeze
• Market Modifier Rollback
• STEP
• MH Funding
• 2015 the Government of Alberta announced their Adult Learning Review – Tuition and Fees Review
• 2017 Tuition Freeze was announced in November 2016 along with a tuition review consultation.
• January – April 2017 – External Stakeholder Advisory Group (ESAG) – CAUS had 3 Student Reps.
• Results of Tuition & Fees Review expected Fall 2017
More Reviews....

• Mental Health Review – Results
  Summer 2017

• Student Financial Aid Review – 2017-18

• Funding Framework Review – 2017-18

• Roles and Mandates Review – 2017-18
Meetings with Premier Hancock & Premier Redford
Meetings, Meetings, Meetings, Meetings, Meetings, Meetings, Meetings, Meetings, Meetings
Priorities

• Affordability
• Governance
• Mental Health
• Student Employment
• Institutional Funding
Questions?

• Ask right now!

• Ask later!

• Reed Larsen, Chair
  chair@caus.net / 780-492-4241 / @uasuvpexternal

• Conner Peta, Vice Chair
  vicechair@caus.net
  / 403-329-2780/ @ulsuexternal

• Joshua McKeown, Interim Executive Director
  josh@caus.net / 780-297-4531

• http://www.caus.net / @CAUS