The Case for Hiring of the Sexual Violence Prevention Coordinator

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Last Council Meeting:

- We established the state of sexual violence at the University of Alberta.
- This included discussing:
  - Public disclosures of allegations against professors,
  - Public disclosures of in the greek system,
  - Disclosures on practicums,
  - Problems with the reporting systems.
Last Council Meeting:

- From Statistics Canada data, we estimate that up to 3,500 students experienced sexual violence on campus last year, but less than 50 of those incidents were reported to the Dean of Students’.

- We also explain the UASU’s advocacy efforts around the hiring of the sexual violence prevention coordinator since 2016.
Moving Forwards
What Would the SVPC Do?

● Their key job is to work to change the culture on campus. This will be done by overseeing all anti sexual violence efforts.

● Ensure that in every discussion, campus sexual violence is prioritized.
Given All that We Have Discussed:

● The University has finally agreed to hire the SVPC after 4 years of advocacy.

● To do this, students will have to pay for it. The Health and Wellness Mandatory Non Instructional Fee (MNIF) would increase to cover the salary. **It will cost a student maximum three dollar a semester.**
How Will This Work?

- This fee would be paid for by every student.
- It does not need to go to referendum as it is increasing a University fee.
- The fee would be increased to cover sexual violence prevention. From there, the UASU, GSA, and the University will sign an MOU for the hiring of the SVPC.
Why are We Here Today?

Students’ Council may vote in affirmation for the implementation of a new, or modification of an existing, mandatory non-instructional fee from a party if the following conditions are met:

a. The requesting party completes adequate student consultation;

b. The requesting party expresses their support by writing a statement of intent that explains the merit of the implementation, or modification of the mandatory non-instructional fee, and;

c. Students’ Council deems the implementation or modification of the mandatory non-instructional fees brought by the requesting party beneficial to the public good of the undergraduate student population at the University of Alberta.
What Student Consultation Have We Done?

We have done presentations to the following groups:

- Council of Faculty Associations (COFA)
- Council of Residence Associations (CORA)
- EDI Task Force (EDIT)
- Aboriginal Student Council (ASC)
- International Students’ Association (ISA)
- Panhellenic Council
- Order of Omega
- Black Students’ Association (BSA)
- University Athletic Board
What Have We Heard?

- What will be the difference from the Sexual Assault Centre?
- Will there be cross cultural lens applied to hiring?
- Will this person work to identify cultural barriers to reporting and accessing supports?
- This person should receive trainings will this person receive training around Indigenous Peoples.
- This person needs to receive cultural sensitivity training.
Hiring a Sexual Violence Prevention and Response Coordinator

UASU Perks survey, Nov 2020, n=234

- 65.8% would pay an additional $3/semester to help the University hire a SVPRC.
- 34.2% are not in favour of a fee increase to help the University hire a SVPRC.
What Would Happen Next:

- Tentatively:
  - December 15: Student Council Vote
  - January 27: Joint Oversight Student/University Oversight Committee on MNIFs
  - February 10: Academic Planning Committee
  - February 25: Board Finance and Property Committee
  - March 12: Board of Governors
Your Thoughts?
THIS IS YOUR UASU