Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation Ad-Hoc Committee

An Update to Council
Summary

✔ Current Membership
✔ How we got Here
✔ Spirit of Reconciliation
✔ Aboriginal Students on Campus
✔ Proposed Membership
✔ The Role of Student-at-Larges
Current Membership

As mandated

Chair:
- Councillor Sunday (Native Studies)

Student Council:
- Councillor Lefferson (ALES)
- Councillor Thibaudeau (Education)
- Councillor Howell (Education)
- Governor Sandare (BOG Rep.)

Executive Committee Members:
- Vice-President Academic Scott
- Vice-President Student Life Ushakov

ASC Members:
- Deirdra Cutarm (President)
- Katherine Belcourt (VP Internal)
How we got Here

Bill #13 - Implementation of the Truth and Reconciliation Implementation Committee

General Order to Council
Why do we need a standing committee like this?
Aboriginal Students on Campus

Who?
- Student parents
- Out of town students
- First Generation Students
- Lower K-12 Educated students
- FNMI from all across Canada

Compounding Barriers
- Intergenerational trauma
- Higher rate of student parents
- Far from family and community
- Over representation of intersectional issues
- Addictions
Overt oppression

"WTF is wrong with Aboriginals? The governments are giving them more and more money, this makes them greedier and greedier."

IH8Aboriginals

“I am sick of the blacks in America and the natives in Canada blaming whites for all their problems time to man up and take responsibilities for your actions now.”

“uggghhh Aboriginals suck. Why is the entire university kissing their butts? All of them are so opportunistic and are using this change to profit at the expense of taxpayers.”

“Wow. Aboriginal can drink away 16B of taxpayer money every year, and call the taxpayers racist. What a class act.”
Spirit of Reconciliation

- Treaty reconciliation
- Nation to Nation building
- Equity
Proposed Membership of the Standing Committee

Students’ Council
- SU Councillors selected by Student Council

SU Executives
- SU Executives selected by executive committee

Aboriginal Groups
- Council on Aboriginal Initiatives, Aboriginal Student Services Centre, Aboriginal Student Council, Native Studies Students’ Association, Aboriginal Focus Group, Faculty of Native Studies, Indigenous Law Students’ Society, University of Alberta Indigenous Affairs Office
- Alberta Public Interest Research Group Research Interest Group, Native Studies Course Requirement, Aboriginal Students Office at Augustana Campus

Aboriginal Students
- Self-identifying Aboriginal UAlberta Students

Elder
- Aboriginal Elder selected by the committee
The Role Student-at-Larges Play

- Represent
- Reconciliation
- Relationship Building
Other ways student governments are reconciling:

University of the Fraser Valley Students’ Union Society
- Aboriginal Representative Councillor

University of Saskatchewan Students’ Union
- Indigenous Student Affairs Committee

Memorial University of Newfoundland Students’ Union
- Indigenous Students’ Representative Councillor (and other minority constituency reps)

Other systems of governances non-elected voting members on committees:

UAlberta Board of Governors
- Appointed at large members

UAlberta General Faculties Council
- Appointed at large student members

City of Edmonton
- Members at large on Audit Committee

Student Federation of the University of Ottawa
- Students at large on committees (Accessibility Committee)
“The Road we travel is equal in importance to the destination we seek. There are no shortcuts. When it comes to truth and reconciliation, we are all forced to go the distance.”

-Justice Murray Sinclair