

Date: 09.07.21

To: Students' Union Council

Re: BoG Rep 2021/2022 Report 8 - **Gardens and Retreats**

Dear Council,

Meetings

1. **Equity Seeking Student Groups:** after differentiating between international and domestic student groups, I contacted domestic groups to setup a second meeting regarding consultation. With the form recently sent out, I hope for the meeting to take place in the next few weeks.
2. **AUFSJ:** with an email chain substituting for a checkin meeting, we navigated where it is appropriate for me to speak on behalf of AUFSJ versus having them speak for themselves. This influenced the following meeting with the BRPAC chair.
3. **Chair of Board Reputation and Public Affairs Committee (BRPAC):** among other things, we discussed how AUFSJ can best approach the Board with their case for better funding.

Retreat

1. I will have submitted this report before the Retreat, so I will give a fuller update in our following meeting. I am excited for the opportunity to help shape UAlberta's priorities this year, which will involve the student experience, with a particular focus on equitable remote learning and potential longterm online program offerings.

Aga Khan Garden

1. Board members went on a guided tour of the Aga Khan Garden, on which we were told how elements of the garden relate to and are founded in Muslim culture and faith. The garden is a great example of how international relations between our university and others can produce good things, and a reason for which remaining in high standings is important, which relies on student wellbeing.

Challenging Note

1. Finally receiving an answer to an email I've been asking about for months, I've been told by the Board Chair and secretaries that I need to funnel my concerns through the Board Chair rather than going directly to senior administrators. This is not to say I will never have the opportunity to meet with the President and Vice-Presidents, but my independently raising issues will now take longer and if they do not fit with the current issues the Board is dealing with, I may not get very much traction. I'm sharing this to situate my advocacy and progress on my platform goals.

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Thanks for reading!



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