Hello Council,

Hope all is well and you are continuing to have a good summer! It's been sometime since we last met, and I am looking forward to answering any questions you may have on how the SU has been performing over the summer. For the purposes of this report, I am going to provide you with some highlights of the projects I have been plugging away on.

**MHT Market Analysis**

Three weeks ago, we officially kicked off our market analysis of the Edmonton theatre environment in the context of the Myer Horowitz Theatre renovations. Last year's council instructed us to explore what the current Edmonton theatre market looks like, and we have responded by commissioning this study. We are working with a local performing arts company; Catch the Keys, to collect data on the market. Catch the Keys will be collecting data on the number of theatres in the Edmonton area, how large they are, how they are programming, and what market they serve. In addition, they will collect data on the entire performing arts community in the Edmonton area. They will be creating as comprehensive list as possible of these groups, their current venue needs, and their projected venue needs with future growth. The goal of this analysis is an honest answer to the question of where does the MHT fit into the Edmonton theatre scene. I am personally quite excited for the results, and I think they will help us shape our planning for the project overall.

**Lunch with Gitta Kulczycki, U of A VP Finance & Administration**

Also three weeks ago, the executive went for lunch with the VP Finance & Administration of the University of Alberta. We shared each of our team's goals, and how we plan to collaborate in the coming year. It was a productive conversation, and we found multiple files on which we can work together. Most importantly, we started our working relationship, which is vital to collaboration.

**CAUS Counterpart Conference**

Last week, the executive travelled to Lethbridge for our first Counterpart Conference of the year with the Council of Alberta University Students (CAUS). Counterpart Conferences happen three times a year, and are a chance for all the executives from all five CAUS schools to meet, share best practices, and collaborate on various initiatives across, or unique to, each portfolio. This year, the VP OpsFi's and I plan to collaborate on a few files. Specifically, we hope to work together on each of our schools liquor policy, our point of sale systems at our businesses, and sharing each of our budgeting methods. As the year goes on, we are also committing to supporting each other on issues that arise throughout the year. I hope that as a returning OpsFi, I'll be able to provide advice where possible.

**Hosting VP OpsFi from Waterloo**

Just yesterday, July 19th, my counterpart, the VP OpsFi from the University of Waterloo, made a trip to visit our building and businesses. Brian Schwan is also a two term VP OpsFi, and we've known each other for over a year now. We spent the day showing him around and welcoming him into a couple meetings to share ideas. Personally, sharing ideas around SU operations with other institutions is a highlight. Each Students’ Union operates quite differently, and as very unique organizations we can stand to learn a lot from one
another. Brian and I intend to spear hand a monthly phone conference between some of the major Students’ Unions that operate businesses to share best practices.

**MHT Renovation Project Update**
As far as the Myer Horowitz Theatre Renovations go, we have hit pause on the design process. We are currently at approximately 90% completion of Design Development. The next step is student consultation on the design, which we will fully commence in the fall semester. Therefore, all of the work on the theatre currently is planning out our fall consultation. We have some creative and engaging methods of consultation planned that I am excited to share once they are finalized. Expect to hear more over the next few council meetings!

I look forward to any questions during question period and open forum!

Cheers,

Robyn Paches