Dear Council,

Hello again! It hasn’t been long since we’ve seen each other, but I’ve still missed you. It’s hard to believe I’m saying this, but I hope your midterm prep is going well! Where did September go? My NS 201 midterm is this week, and in usual fashion I will share something I have been learning. I spend a lot of time thinking about food, so I will tell you about pemmican and its role in the fur trade. Pemmican is a nutrient-rich food which is made of bison fat, dried meat, and berries, and contains around 2000-3000 calories per pound! It was made by many Indigenous nations during the fur trade, especially First Nations of the plains, such as the Blackfoot. Pemmican (literally) fuelled the fur trade in the Athabasca region. The Pemmican Proclamation of 1814 was issued by Selkirk Governor Miles McDonnell in an effort to ban the export of pemmican. This did not go over well with the Métis producers who were, at the time, economically dependent on their ability to trade pemmican.

**Sustainability & Capital Fund Committee**

I have been busy doing lots of work with the SCF Committee. We now have a planning and goals document that outlines the work that this committee needs to accomplish this year, in order to get SCF’s operations fully off the ground. This is a unique year for the committee, as all of our processes must be carefully considered and written out to set up SCF processes for long term success. We are being very considerate of our adjudication and assessment guidelines, by creating supplementary documents that will guide this (and future) SCF committee’s understanding of its criteria. This will ensure a fair and meaningful application process, which will in turn ensure that students’ money is funding projects that students will find valuable.

**Stride Launch!**

As many of you know, Stride is the UASU’s campaign school that supports women and non-binary students in their governance journeys. Some of you may know that it is a major reason why I am here today. I remember walking into the Stride orientation, with no clue why I had signed up. The growth and friendships that emerged from that program have been non-stop to this day, and I am forever grateful for this program’s incredible work on our campus. The launch “party” was held recently, and it was a privilege to be involved as a panelist. I encourage you to visit uasu.ca/stride to find out more about the program. All the best to this year’s Striders!

As always, if you have any questions about the contents of this report, or simply want to talk, please feel free to reach out! Stay safe and healthy.

All the best,

**Alana Krahn**

University of Alberta Students’ Union Vice President (Operations & Finance)