Dear Council,

Hi, I hope everyone is surviving the cold. If not, I hear the fireplace in SUB is a nice place to relax and thaw out, so I’d encourage you to check it out. The pace of my job has changed substantially over the past week or so, given recent events, so that has been interesting to adjust to, but overall positive. Here’s what I’ve been working on lately.

Projects in the Pipeline

Before the end of my term, I would like to complete the Dewey’s strategic plan and the SU catalogue, both of which were campaign points of mine. The former is very exciting and fun to work on, and will hopefully help guide the future of the business to becoming a profitable, sustainable one that reflects the desires of students. The catalogue too will be of use to our members, especially student groups, so that they have a better idea of the resources and services available to them to assist in hosting events. Both of these projects are off the ground already, however will take quite a bit of work over the next couple of weeks. Looking forward to the finished products!

EDI Award Nomination Committee

I sat on the UAlbertaEquity Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) Award committee to decide which nominations deserve to be awarded. The purpose of these awards is to highlight individuals or initiatives within the UAlberta Community that are advancing EDI to enhance our campus’ equity goals. It was great to see all of the great efforts that people are putting into this cause, and I am thrilled to have chosen some very deserving winners. The awards breakfast will occur at 7:30 on March 16th in SUB, so if you are interested in attending, I will share the event with Council.

Student Spaces Levy

The recent failure of the Student Spaces Levy proposal was rough for sure, but also gave the organization a lot to learn from. Although it didn’t pass, there is still the need to find a long term capital plan for SUB. I am doing a formal review of the process in
order to give recommendations to my successor, should they want to pursue it again next year. This entails timeline tweaks, consultation improvements, and media relations recommendations. Furthermore, as I have mentioned, I will be coming to consult with Council at the end of the semester, to gain any insight or ideas that you may have surrounding the SSL process or a potential new plan to address the capital plan. Please gather your thoughts between now and then.

Elections and Office Hours

If you’d like to book a meeting at any point, please reach out at emma.ripka@su.ualberta.ca. Elections are coming up, so that should be spicy! The office will be calm, but I’m sure campus will be buzzing with class talks and one on ones. Good luck to everyone running, and if you’re not directly involved with any campaigns, remember to take part in forums if you get the chance.

Kind regards,

Emma Ripka

UASU VP Operations & Finance
Emma Ripka