Hello Council!

As many of you know, a Federal election was called last Sunday on August 15th. This means that on September 20th, eligible students will be voting to choose their federal leaders. This also means that the Giga-Get Out The Vote is upon us and I hope you are all excited to help get students to the polls!

**CASA GOTV**

The Canadian Alliance of Student Associations launched its GOTV campaign last Monday. This campaign will include lots of digital resources with important election and voting information such as how to register to vote or how to vote by mail. It also contains work opportunities for Elections Canada and other ways to get involved in this election. To get more information about CASA's GOTV campaign, follow CASA on IG or Facebook or got to [getoutthevote.ca](http://getoutthevote.ca). I encourage you to share all these resources with classmates, friends, and even family. I will also be providing the council with more updates as the weeks go on and new things in the campaign develop. So keep an eye out in the council chat or on your emails for this information. We are also currently planning a Federal Election Candidates forum for the candidates of Edmonton Strathcona.

**Edmonton Student Alliance**

**ESA Meeting**

The Edmonton Student Alliance was able to meet. In this meeting, we discussed amendments to our charter, methods of expanding our social media presence, and we formed the Mayoral forum planning working group. This working group will be made of the Chair, SAMU, NAITSA, CEYC and UAGSA.
Mayoral Planning Working Group

The planning group met this past Tuesday to begin planning for the Mayoral forum. We have a date and time in and are currently reaching out to mayoral candidates to send out invitations. Once we hear back we will begin to discuss the forum format, draft questions, recruit a moderator, event promotion strategies and much more. As always I will keep the council updated on any developments and when you can RSVP for this event.

Important Meetings and Updates

Vote on Campus

We are currently working with Edmonton Elections about setting up a voting station for advanced voting. The Advance Voting station would be available to students, staff and any eligible voters on campus and will take place for one day between October 4-8, 2021 from 11am-4pm to have the voting station open. We are currently trying to establish which date that shall be. The municipalities of Strathcona County and St. Albert may also be in attendance at the voting station to provide the option for voters living in those jurisdictions. Edmonton Elections will coordinate directly with Strathcona County and St. Albert and advise us if these municipalities are also able to join the Advance Voting station.

Meeting with Armajeet Sohi

Some of the execs had an in person meeting with Mayoral candidate Armajeet Sohi. Sadly I was not feeling well that day but I still was able to join in virtually. We raised concerns surrounding important issues of expanding access to transit, having more affordable housing spaces for students, we discussed campus security and policing and also discussed student employment and how to combat brain drain and retain more students in Edmonton. Mr. Sohi expressed support for improving access to transit for students, addressing the root cause and social inequities that often lead to crime that may make its way to campus and ways we can address this through better social and public policy. Mr. Sohi also discussed ways the City, Post-Secondaries and community members can better collaborate.

As always, I look forward to hearing from you and answering any questions you have. I hope you enjoy the rest of your week and take some time to have fun as we gear towards returning back to classes this fall!

Yours Externally,

Christian Fotang

University of Alberta Students’ Union Vice President External

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