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This Month in Review (Meetings, Events, Programs, Etc.)

April 27-May 2nd: Transition Week.

May 2nd: ABCS Introduction Meeting.

May 4th: Setting up + Introduction emails to SUS and UFV sent out staff.

May 5th: Executive informal meeting, and scheduling calendar setup.

May 6th: Meeting with Executive + Executive Director.

May 6th: Looked into streamlining communications onto home desktop and mobile phones.

May 7th: Set up accounts on Slack w/ CASA and ABCS + Reviewed Policy of CASA and ABCS.

May 8-10th: Media Consumption (News) + Figured out work laptop + Emailed a bit over the weekend.

May 11th: Furthered communications of Mailwire client and its compatibility Slack, Google Calendar and Mobile devices.

May 11th: Slack finalized with ABCS (previous account reset as G in the Chairperson capacity used to it).

May 12th: WEM (Executive Meeting) informal.

May 12th: Reviewing new CERB and CESB policies.

May 13th: Communicating with Ops to improve the streamlining method for mobiles.

May 13th: WEM formal meeting.

May 14th: ABCS Meeting on COVID Response.

May 15 – 17th: Tracking Abbotsford Outbreak.

May 18th: Stat Day.

May 19th: Meeting CIVIL Radio (Aaron).

May 19th: Meeting on HR update policy.

May 20th: Got Outlook + Outlook Calendar working on Android Users (Jessica + Andrew).

May 20th: Accessibility Advisory Committee (AAC) Meeting – Discussed Struggles of students and professors.

May 21st: Put name forward for nominations for Chairperson of the AAC.

May 21st: Monthly Report.

May 22nd: Finished Monthly Report.

May 22nd: Entered data for SUS profile website for "Meet the executive" profile.

May 22nd: Got Outlook + Outlook Calendar, contacts, etc. working on iPhone Users (Prab).

General Updates from the VP External

1.1. Canadian Alliance of Student Associations (CASA)

I have connected with the CASA group over Facebook and their Slack channel; however, their Slack channel is dead. There will be an incoming CASA online conference on May 26 – 28, 2020 and any in person conference as not been scheduled in the coming months due to COVID. The upcoming topics are mostly COVID related.

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1.2. Alliance of BC Students (ABCS)

In the transition meeting with the ABCS meeting new executives were voted in. All the nominations were experienced and from the Capilano Student Union and after questions for the nominates, as the primary delegate, I was satisfied they would serve the ABCS effectively and UFV SUS supported all three nominations.

In a follow meeting for ABCS and COVID issues were discussed:

Fall 2020 Term:

- Emergency Funding to Post-Education institutions.
- Allow Post-education University to go into debt to create a buffer.
- Student do not pay for textbooks.
- Student book stores charging delivery fees for books.
- Grant funding for students to have an internet high-speed connection + software.
- Mental health services provided specifically to a continuous counselling service (meeting with same person) increased funding.
- Transit not an issue, but students need to move to public transit.
- International students stuck in home countries still need to study online through online means.
- Logistics/hardships = basic needs not being met => academic performance drops.
- More Indigenous student funding.

Bought up by us:

- Mental health services = sharp increase in services -> specific to increase funding here (increase counselling on campus capacity on own Campus).
- Less so, transit being an issue for us.
- International student = problems w/ COVID-19 lockdown.
 - Losing jobs but have access to CERB.
- Childcare is an issue now for [larger] niche older students.

1.3. Student Union Society (SUS)

Right now, the SUS still has the building in lockdown and the executive are discussing the SUB and Operations side with our ED. There is a few meeting occurring in the coming weeks to take place between the Executive team and ED to flesh out the details and discuss what options we have that is safe for everyone involved during the COVID crisis.

1.4. Communications Streamlined

The process of communication and getting it working took a substantial amount of communication and time to be sorted out. Slack was set up all of the executives' devices (computers and mobiles) to have a better





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record of communication and dedicated channel for us to converse. Slack was chosen over Facebook and What's App for Executives, the ED, and Operations staff to talk.

A second major development we had was Outlook and its interface with Mailwire (a Canadian hosting service) needing a specific plugin to work properly. I worked on numerous methods to connect Slack, Outlook, and Google Calendar all to synchronize together, however after some help from Rodrigo and connecting with Mailwire that was not possible. So, Outlook app has been connected to our phones with a live sync of events, schedules, contacts, etc. across our work computers, home computers, and mobiles for easier access for future executives and us. As of May 22^{nd,} all of the executives and ED have their phones to be able to use their Outlook accounts fully over mobile. This will assist Executives and staff to add appointments on the go, especially useful for executives that attend long distance conferences and can make appointments while being able to be seen from office admin able to enable planning around their conference(s) times. This increases accountability and seamless administrative planning for the long run.

1.5 Civil Radio

I have been in contact with the Civil Radio and I have had a meeting with the CIVIL and we both agreed we would like to rebuild the relationship between SUS and CIVIL. I have arranged for a meeting that carries as a welcome and introduction with both executive teams from CIVIL and SUS. For context, the history between both organizations being relatively awfully outside of Suhki doing some groundwork of communication with the CIVIL 3 – 4 years ago. It was mutually decided between the SUS executive team members that the relationship is to start from complete scratch for the relationship to be improve, and we will bring updates as they develop.

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