



2018-2019 Executive Board Meeting

Topic: Executive Board Meeting 18-21
Date & Time: Thursday, January 17, 2019
 11:30 a.m.
Place: MSU Boardroom, MUSC 201

Items:	Time		
	1)	Adopt Agenda	
	2)	Adopt Minutes EB 18-20	
	3)	MACycle Report – FINAL	David Zaslavsky
	4)	CLAY Report	Giancarlo De-Ra
	5)	Diversity Services Report	Mijia Murong
	6)	EFRT Report	Samantha Aung
	7)	Food Collective Centre Report	Hannah Philip
	20	8) Committee of the Whole – Organizational Updates (Student Engagement & Retention)	Farah
	9)	Closed Session	Scott
	10)		
	11)		
	12)		

Objectives	
	1) Adopt Agenda
	2) Adopt Minutes
	3) Report
	4) Report
	5) Report
	6) Report
	7) Report
	8) Approval/Discussion
	9) Approval
	10)
	11)
	12)
	13) Provide Information & Answer Questions
	14) Unfinished/Other Business
	15) Time of Next Meeting and Motion to Adjourn

Motions

8. **Moved** by Farah, **seconded** by ____ that the Executive Board move into Committee of the Whole to discuss the topic on the agenda, as circulated.

Executive Board Meeting 18-21
Thursday, January 17, 2019 @ 11:30am
MSU Boardroom, MUSC room 201

Called to Order 11:33am

Present Bertolo, Epifano, Farah, Florean, Hackett, Robinson, Roshan, Warwani

Late

Absent Gandzi

Others Present J. McGowan (General Manager), V. Scott (Recording Secretary), Hannah Philip (FCC Director), Giancarlo Da-Re (CLAY Coordinator)

1. Adopt Agenda

Moved by Warwani, **seconded** by Robinson to adopt the agenda, as presented.

Amendments

- Scott – Strike MACycle and EFRT Reports
- Farah – Strike Committee of the Whole – Organizational Updates
- Epifano – Move CLAY Report to end of Agenda

Moved by Warwani, **seconded** by Robinson to adopt the agenda, as amended.

Passes Unanimously

2. Adopt Minutes

Moved by Warwani, **seconded** by Bertolo to adopt the minutes of Executive Board meeting 18-20 – January 10, 2019, as presented.

Amendment

- Warwani – EFRT was Gandzi, not Warwani

Moved by Warwani, **seconded** by Bertolo to adopt the minutes of Executive Board meeting 18-20 – January 10, 2019, as amended.

Passes Unanimously

3. Food Collective Centre Report – Hannah Philip presented

- Philip summarized the report.

Questions

- Robinson asked if Philip had any insight on the increase of usage in November. Philip responded that they weren't sure, but it's quote possibly because the services has cemented who they are as a brand, and Second Course. They added that it might also be because of having a conversation with Financial Aid and them telling students about the services.
- Florean stated that the service was doing really well and asked if they were thinking of continuing Second Course or just focus on Ladles of Love. Philip responded that they will be focusing on Ladles of Love and making it more frequent. They added that they are making sure the food given is healthy while being accessible.
- Robinson asked what students would do if they don't have Tupperware for the soup. Philip responded that they will be going to ikea and buying some bowls, and hoping to use TwelvEighty's dishwasher.

- Florean asked if Philip had thought of doing Second Course and Ladles of Love at the same time. Philip responded that they haven't but could look into it.
- Florean asked where the money came from for the soup, as they thought Second Course was leftovers. Philip responded that Second Course was envisioned to be leftovers, but didn't turn out to be. They stated that Hospitality thought that giving out leftover food would be impacting the flavours so they gave out fresh food as donations.
- Roshan asked why nine volunteers dropped and if they considered reaching out to those volunteers to get feedback. Philip responded that the main reason was because it didn't fit into their schedules. They stated that they do have a volunteer feedback survey, and will ensure that it will be sent to those who couldn't make it back.
- Florean asked if there could be two different surveys, one for those who left and the rest of the volunteers. Florean asked if Hospitality was okay with baking fresh things from hospitality. Philip responded that this wasn't something they discussed, but felt that by baking items that were heartier then it would be diverting from hospitality's business units.
- Florean asked how much was the soup. Philip responded that they have an estimate for 80 cents per person, and they asked for 50 portions.
- Florean asked for a more outlined budget so that they can see where everything was coming from.

4. CLAY – Giancarlo Da-Ré presented

- Da-Ré summarized the report.

Questions

- Hackett asked if there was a way to contact Da-Ré on the website for subsidized options. Da-Ré responded that there was, and the student can just send an email to CLAY.
- Roshan asked if the MSU has a way to make an accessible conference because of funding concerns. They stated that they had concerns about making the students reaching out and it was creating barriers. Robinson responded that currently the MSU's investment was \$23,000 and the cost of the conference was \$42,000. They stated that if they wanted to move towards a free conference they would have to increase the sponsorship or the amount the MSU was to invest, which wasn't a priority of the Board.
- Farah asked what Da-Ré needed to know for subsidies. Da-Ré responded that they don't ask for info, but if someone wanted to be subsidized CLAY would give them a spot. Da-Ré added that they could see what Roshan meant, but was hesitant to reach out and that it might be a larger issue. Epifano stated that they could talk to Pauline about inserting the email right into the application rather than the student sending as separate email. Epifano stated that they're still emailing but easier than using copy and paste. Roshan stated that was their line of thinking, accessibility doesn't mean free just no barriers. Farah stated that they could follow up for the next meeting.
- Robinson asked about the EFRT presence and the increased attendance at conference. Da-Ré responded that two years ago there was maybe three calls, and last year there was 8-12 calls per day. Da-Ré stated that they needed more than one person but it also depends on what the weekend is going to look like.
- Warwani stated that in terms of long-term strategy they could look into the University helping to fund that.
- Florean asked what the numbers were of those who paid in full, who was partially funded, and who didn't pay. Florean asked how the conference makes that determination. Da-Ré responded that they had 90 delegates registered for the full amount, 21 partial subsidies, and 15 who were fully subsidized. Da-Ré stated that there isn't a specific solid answer on how they decide on partial or full subsidies, but the direction they're going right now is to see what the demand was for both sports and work with funding as it comes in as funding fluctuates each year.
- Florean asked when people are applying for subsidies does the conference tell them their options or do they just ask for it. Da-Ré responded that they would be speaking to Pauline about that for applying online, and they would be asking the student about their own funding options.

5. Diversity Services Report – report attached

- Epifano went over the report.

6. Closed Session

Moved by Epifano, **seconded** by Warwani that the Executive Board move into Closed Session.

Passes Unanimously

7. Return to Open Session**Information and Questions**

- McGowan apologized for being late to the meeting, and that they were dealing with the press released from the Ministry of Training, Colleges, and Universities.
- Bertolo stated that at 11am, there was a press release from the provincial government about tuition affordability. Bertolo stated that the government will be lowering tuition by 10%, freeze tuition until 2020/2021, and give more of a choice of fees to students. Bertolo stated that they are trying to get more clarification on what choice students get with the fees they pay and will be having more conversations with the government. Bertolo added that OUSA will be working on this, and they will provide more information as it comes.
- McGowan reported that there will be a meeting this Friday with the University to talk about next steps, and to get an idea of costing.
- Hackett reported that they have finished the budget submission and that it was being printed. Municipal Advocacy Week is starting in a week.
- Robinson reported that 'Life after Mac' happened, and the events went well. SLEF idea voting opens next Wednesday.

8. Adjournment and Time of Next Meeting**Time of Next Meeting:**

Thursday, January 24, 2019

11:30am

MSU Boardroom, MUSC 201

Moved by Florean, **seconded** by Warwani that the Executive Board meeting be adjourned.

Passes by General Consent

Adjourned at 12:30pm

/vs



REPORT

From the office of the...

Food Collective Centre Director

TO: Members of the Executive Board
 FROM: Hannah Philip
 SUBJECT: Food Collective Centre Report [#7]
 DATE: January 17th 2019

YEARPLAN UPDATE

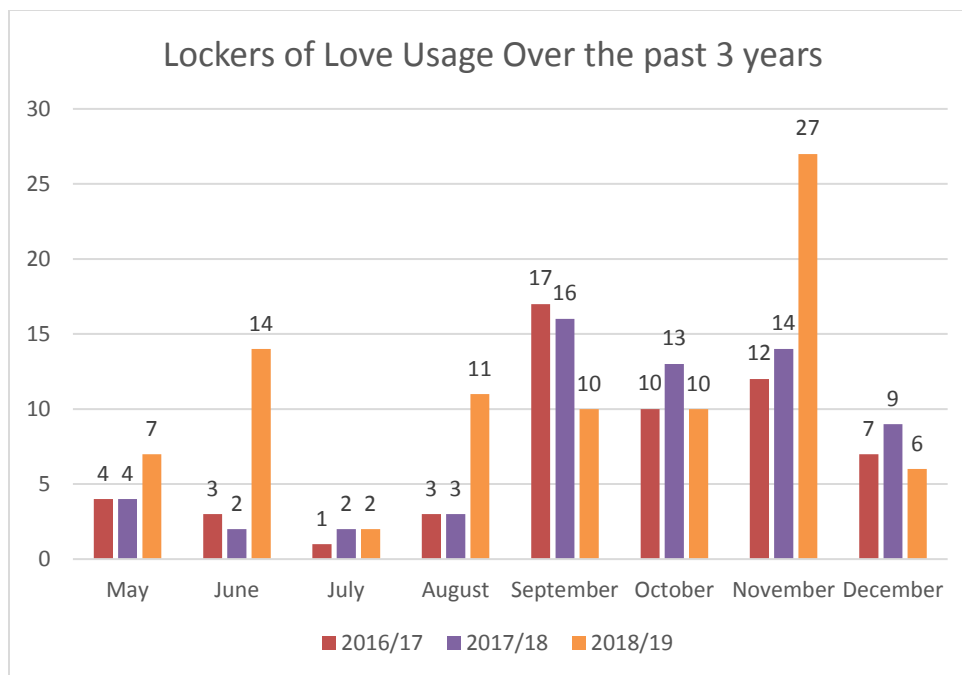
Food Collective Centre is sailing smoothly! Last month we had Study Snacks and Support- a recurring event where we bring snacks and coffee to students to help them through that late-night exam study grind.

We ran our third Good Food Box event of the year which went smoothly, and our second Community Kitchen workshop.

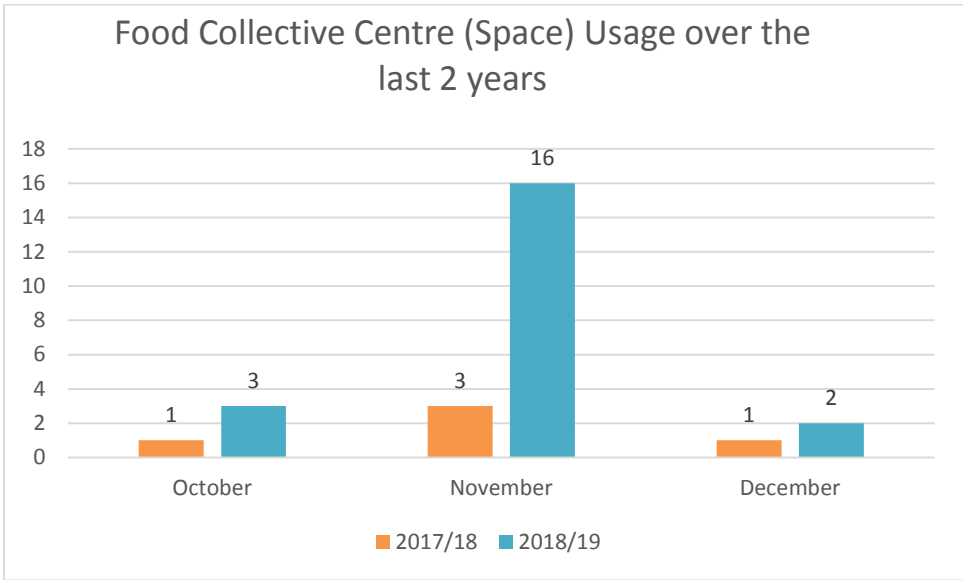
This semester we're hoping to move away from our Second Course events for a healthier, heartier alternative called Ladles of Love in collaboration with The Grind (more details below).

Most of our volunteers are re-trained and our physical space is open for all to use! Overall, we find that we're investing more on hygiene products than we have in previous, which is interesting.

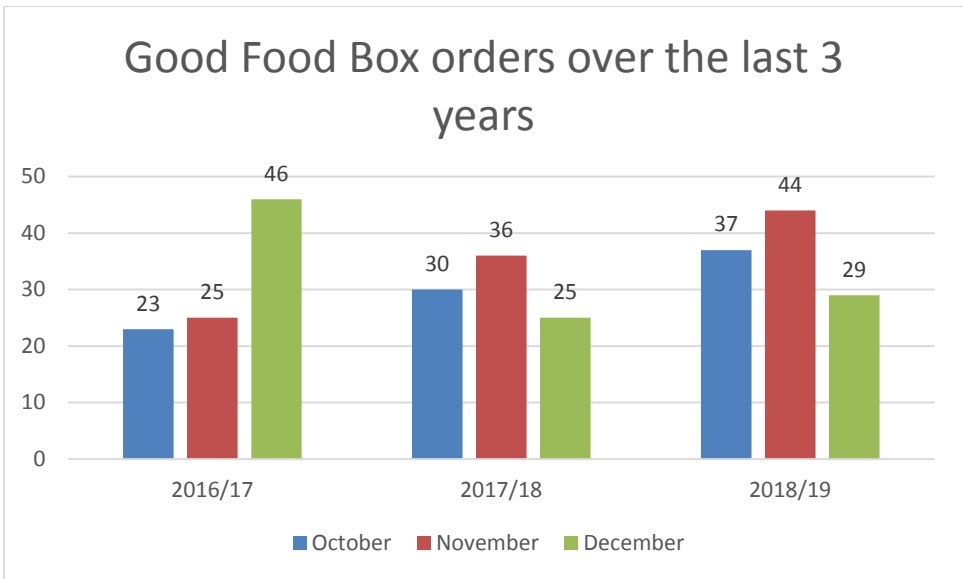
SERVICE USAGE



Lockers of Love Usage sky rocketed in November, hopefully due to increased promotions of our service as opposed to a greater need in our community during that month. Service Usage for December has been low, which is most likely attributed to the fact that McMaster Students aren't on campus for a large part of that month.



Usage of our physical space also increased greatly in November. However, the majority of Food Collective Centre partners still prefer the anonymity of our Lockers of Love program. In terms of items taken, we're seeing a larger portion of our FCC partners who are interested in our hygiene products, but we're still primarily running out of chickpeas, beans and soups.



Good Food Box orders have remained relatively stable, but dropped from November to December. Mostly due to the fact that students are leaving their student houses in Hamilton and were worried about using up the contents of their box especially during exam season when they might have less free time to cook.

PAST EVENTS, PROJECTS & ACTIVITIES

Community Kitchen workshop: Brunch for dinner

Our Second Community Kitchen workshop of the year went well! We made biscuits, eggs benedict and eggs Florentine (as a vegetarian version). We had good turn out, and taught a few new cooking techniques. Unfortunately, we're still getting used to the oven which took a little longer to cook biscuits than expected, but we're correcting for this in future events by primarily using the stove top.

Study Snacks and Support

Our Study Snacks and Support event in collaboration with FYC went well! We consistently had a lot more turn out than last year, we're not sure if the days we picked were more useful for students or if having the doors open for people to walk in made us a little more visible.

However, it seems like we were a little redundant because the chaplaincy centre provides freshly brewed free trade coffee and treats on Second Floor MUSC. This April, we're hoping to collaborate with them which will allow us to spend a lot more on fresh fruit and healthy snacks, or simply have this recurring event a little more frequently.

Smoothie Station at FYC's First Year Chill event

We bought fruit and milk for a smoothie station! The event went well (due to FYC's incredible planning).

UPCOMING EVENTS, PROJECTS & ACTIVITIES

Ladles of Love

Our first Ladles of Love event is coming up on January 24th 2019. This program is in collaboration with The Grind, and seeks to provide students with a heartier, healthier meal in a more central location. We will be purchasing soup from 1280 and using The Grind's space after hours.

Ladles of Love is an alternative to the Second Course program that ran last semester in Bridges. While there were always students lining up for the pastries and muffins we would provide (in collaboration with Hospitality services) I felt that Food Collective Centre had a responsibility to serve healthier meals. Since Ladles of Love will be serving hot vegan soups, bread and fruit, we will probably not appeal to students who were looking for a quick pastry; which means that we will probably be serving less people but reaching our demographic of food insecure students better.

According to the preliminary results from the “Hungry for Knowledge Survey” distributed to McMaster students, around 80% of survey participants have not accessed Food Collective Centre, which may be due to a lack of knowledge around the resources available at McMaster. This event aims to be a space for students to sit and eat with us to encourage conversations around food insecurity but also to let them know about our upcoming events as well as the resources available to them.

Community Kitchen Workshop

Our next community kitchen workshop is coming up on Jan 29th 2018. It will take place in Alumni house Kitchen, with about 10-12 participants. In the past, we’ve run into issues with planning recipes that might be too ambitious in a limited time frame, so we’re hoping to focus on more transferable skills while still making an impressive dish for beginners.

Good Food Box

Our next Good Food Box delivery will be on February 5th. Packing will take place in the Grace Lutheran Church and we use Hamilton Cab’s to deliver to individuals living in Hamilton. Unfortunately we’re running into issues on the back end of our website to order, so we’re directing people to the accounting office to purchase the Good Food Box for this month.

BUDGET

Spent \$91.85 on a Walmart run for hygiene products- pads, toothbrushes, toothpaste, diapers, razors. Spent \$93.34 on Walmart on various soups and cans of tuna. \$415 remaining in Reserve.

Spent \$47.51 on a fan from amazon.ca because our volunteers deserve it!
\$2.49 remaining in office supplies.

Spend \$103 on pizza, snacks, hot drinks and a projector screen for volunteer appreciation as well as a volunteer refresher/retraining/bonding to remind volunteers; \$247 remaining in volunteer appreciation.

Spent \$341.98 total shared with FYC to run Study Snacks and Support! Our share was \$170.99 from our Events budget line. We also spent \$30.55 on fruit and milk for smoothies which brings our events budget to \$837.45.

VOLUNTEERS

We held a volunteer appreciation event in December where we ate food, watched Harry Potter movies and chatted. It was organized as more of a drop-in event, a few volunteers stayed for the entire time, but most of the volunteers who came only dropped by for some food, a quick chat and left. I think we could’ve gotten more turn out if we had planned this event in late November.

Our volunteer training in January took the form of volunteer appreciation 2.0 as we aimed to make training more interactive (i.e. a fun trivia game on FCC protocols with timbit prizes) and pizza and socializing after. I think this

probably worked better as people were less stressed and presenting the information in a game made people more likely to remember things as opposed to a dry presentation.

CURRENT CHALLENGES

Unfortunately, a few of our volunteers let us know that they would not be continuing with us this semester so we're looking for 5 individuals to join our team. This means an additional training date to make our team whole again.

We're having some technical difficulties on the back end of the website for Good Food Box orders. Unfortunately, despite our best efforts it seems like the website has a mind of its own and doesn't want to comply with us so we're directing people to the accounting office instead of online. I think this will probably lower our usage for the February Good Food Box.

SUCSESSES

We have a cool new program! I'm super excited about Ladles of Love and I hope you're excited about it too!



REPORT

From the office of the...

CLAY Coordinator

TO: Members of the Executive Board
FROM: Giancarlo Da-Ré
SUBJECT: CLAY Report 2
DATE: January 15, 2019

YEAR PLAN UPDATE

Since my last year plan update, I have more or less stayed on track with the timeline outlined in my year plan. In late November, I was able to **hire 9 amazing executives** for our Planning Team. This left us with one Events Coordinator spot to fill, which prompted the re-release of applications from December 7th - December 21st. Over the break, I interviewed one person who was then **hired as the final executive** on the CLAY 2018/19 Planning Team.

I was also able to **meet with all hired executive members** prior to the break to discuss the upcoming year. (I had a meeting over the break with the final hired executive member as well) This was incredibly helpful as it allowed all members to be able to have a plan moving into the break and new year. I also had our first team meeting the evening of December 6th. This was very exciting, and everyone seemed happy to start this journey together.

Our Planning Team Retreat was scheduled for this past January 7th in IAHS, however, in days leading up to the retreat there were some members who were unable to make it, prompting me to push this to an undetermined further date. Instead, we met for an hour and a half (with some members skyping in) to cover parts of the retreat schedule that were pertinent to CLAY planning as opposed to other team bonding parts. This mainly covered a discussion about Staff Applications which are being released on January 27th and the process that our team will use to create Staff Application questions, as well as how application marking will work.

I was also able to meet with Scott before the break to make a detailed plan for the year's budget. Scott and I were able to work with the accounting office to find all of the purchases made last year after May 1st which were not originally reflected in the budget I received, so this was quite insightful and helpful in planning the year's budget. I changed some things around based on the number of delegates we had last year and based on our projected delegate registration for the upcoming year. (Two years ago we had roughly 180 delegates, last year we had roughly 120, and this year we are **aiming for**

roughly 160 delegates) This allowed me to place a further **\$1000 towards buffer room** for the weeks leading up to the conference and during the conference.

SERVICE USAGE

Since my last report, there has not been a lot of social media activity from CLAY accounts. That said, we had **7 applications** for the re-opening of the **Events Coordinator position**. I was pretty impressed with this considering the application was open in the middle of exams.

I have also had **three delegates** reach out to me about registration which is super exciting! I have written down the names and contact information of these potential delegates so that I can personally email them once our delegate registration opens at the end of the month!

PAST EVENTS, PROJECTS & ACTIVITIES

Before the break, I was able to sit down with Khadijeh Rakie from the **EIO** to talk about potentially collaborating for **AOP** training later in March. This was a great first meeting as I learned a lot about the training style of the EIO, and Khadijeh was able to learn a lot about CLAY. I would however like to have further conversations with last year's Coordinator for her input on this training before I commit to working with the EIO. I am hoping to know in the next couple weeks who I will be working with for AOP so that I know if our conversations will continue.

I also met with Kristina Epifano to discuss strategies for re-building the relationship between the **MSU** and the **HWDSB**. We were able to set up a meeting with Dave Heidebrecht from the Office of Community Engagement, however, he had to reschedule the meeting for health reasons. (See more in the Upcoming Events section on this)

I met with Pauline Taggart to discuss the creation of an **online platform** where individuals could make **donations to the CLAY** conference. This has previously **never been done** and was an idea that one of our current Sponsorship & Fundraising Coordinators brought up in their interview. We are just finalizing the details of this page, but it will be a page on the MSU McMaster website, and will allow anyone to donate either \$15, \$30, \$50 or \$100 to the conference. If they wish to donate an amount that is not listed here, my contact information is provided, and they are encouraged to reach out to me. While we were limited to having strict options of how much individuals can donate, the use of the MSU website for this platform should increase the legitimacy of the donation, and money will go **directly to the Accounting Office** which I can also monitor from my administrator account.

Our Media and Design Coordinator, Kristy, and I had **CLAY promotional training** with Haley Greene and Michael Wooder before the break which was incredibly informative. We learned a lot about the year through the lens of MSU CLAY advertisements, and as well a line of communication has been opened between Kristy, Haley and Wooder. This meeting lead Kristy and I to

set up a meeting with Emilia and Kayla Da Silva for January 7th where we discussed the upcoming year, ideal timelines and strategies to make things run as smooth as possible. This seemed to be a great start to the year for the relationship between CLAY and the Underground as last year it seems that tight deadlines lead to some frustrations.

I have remained in **communication with Theresa Merwin of Crown Ward** Hamilton, and while she has distributed our information to all of her contacts across the Greater Hamilton Area, there has been no response without funding from our end. I will remain in communication with Theresa so that she is updated when subsidized spots become available for delegates that she can help us get in contact with.

Lastly, I have been in **communication with EFRT** about sending EFRT members to CLAY this year. It seems the best strategy for this is to wait until closer to the conference when EFRT members have a better idea of their summer commitments, as EFRT scheduling is typically done a month in advance, I will remain in contact with EFRT executive members so that when the time is appropriate, we can work to get EFRT members to CLAY again this year.

UPCOMING EVENTS, PROJECTS & ACTIVITIES

I previously mentioned that the **meeting with Dave Heidebrecht** was rescheduled to January 15th. From this meeting, we hope to learn more about the situation and ensure everyone is on the same page, find out how we can try to work with the HWDSB without it feeling like they are endorsing our conference (as this was a previous concern of theirs) and any advice for meeting with the **HWDSB Partnership & Community Engagement Supervisor, Mike Desjardins**. We hope to meet with Mike either later in January or during February to discuss tangible next steps for the re-building of this relationship.

The only Hamilton organization that has gotten back to me so far is **Empowerment Squared** and we have a **meeting scheduled for January 9th** at their location. Our Outreach Coordinators are following up with other organizations this week to begin setting up other meetings, and they will be meeting with me prior to our meeting on Wednesday to ensure that everyone is well prepared for the meeting. This is incredibly exciting as it is our first in-person meeting (of many) with a local Hamilton organization.

I will also be setting up **meetings shortly with Haley and Wooder** to discuss **promotional strategies for Staff Applications and Delegate Registration release**. I hope to open Delegate Registration by the end of the month, to hold off on a large promotional push until our Staff Application promotional push is over so as to avoid overlapping promotions. The meeting regarding Staff Applications will take priority.

Haley has also agreed to help us with **Planning Team member Facebook profile picture headshots for Staff Application promotions**. We will be finalizing time slots for two 30 minute times when Planning Team members can have their pictures taken the week of January 14th to give Haley plenty of

time to edit the pictures for us. This is incredibly appreciated by everyone on the team!

There is a meeting scheduled for January 10th with Jane Luft, the two Spark Events Coordinators, Melissa Paglialunga and Emma Thomas to begin planning the **Applicant's Workshop** which will be held in February. This timing should also be very helpful for our Staff Team hiring as our interviews will be held on the weekend of March 2nd, so any students who attend the Applicant's Workshop who are also offered interviews will have quick opportunities to utilize new tools they may gain from the workshop.

Our **Sponsorship and Outreach packages** are just being finalized before we send them to the Underground for creation. They should be sent to the Underground by early next week after our Media & Design Coordinator has finished with them.

I have also been in contact with **Paul Luciani from Camp Trillium** to set up a **CLAY team trip** to Camp Trillium, and Paul has suggested February 7th as a potential date for this trip. I will be presenting this option to our team this week and we will go from there. I am very happy that we are working to have this trip during early February so that our team has knowledge of the space early in their planning process.

As previously mentioned, our **Staff Applications will be released on January 27th**, and will be out for two weeks until February 10th. This will give our team a week to mark applications, and a week for selected individuals to accept or decline an interview and choose an interview time slot. **Interviews will then be held on March 2nd – March 3rd**, so that we have a team chosen by the evening of March 3rd. The current plan is to have **two available Staff Applications**: one for the Leadership Developer position, and one for the Leadership Developer Events and Media Events positions. There has been increasing interest in Events positions in the past year and this year, which has prompted the decision to make it a separate application.

I will be **meeting with Pauline** shortly to discuss strategies for **Delegate Registration online** and how the Registration for subsidized spots can be made available for only those who contact me directly. Once this is set up, I plan to open Delegate Registration by the end of January and keep it open until a few weeks before the conference in late May.

Finally, I will be **contacting LIFT church** within the next week or so to learn the best way to have LIFT volunteers provide a breakfast option for our staff at training in May. I assume I am extremely early in contacting them for this, but this is only an assumption, and I hope to learn more about the process for booking LIFT through this communication. This would alleviate some of the costs associated with training from last year, as fruit and bread was provided for breakfast, but there was not nearly enough to feed all the staff. If I am successful in booking LIFT, there will be no costs associated with the breakfast on either day of our May 18th and May 19th training, and I will also be

encouraging staff to have their own breakfast prior to training in the event that there is not enough food for them.

BUDGET

The only money I have spent so far is on a **new full-size CLAY pull-up banner**. I am extremely happy with how the banner turned out, and I believe with its durable material and timeless design, it will be used for many years to come!

VOLUNTEERS

Currently we have a team of 11, and by March 3rd we will have hired another 50 members. By assuming we have 160 delegates registered, that would require 16 co-ships for 10 delegates per group, which would require 48 Leadership Developers. We would also need 6 Leadership Developer Events members, the same as last year, and 2 Media Events members. 5 of our Planning Team members will be acting as Leadership Developers during the weekend, which requires us to hire an additional 43. One Planning Team member will be acting as a Media Events member, meaning we only have to hire one other. The 43 LDs, 6 LDEs and 1 Media Events staff that we will then **have to hire total to 50 staff members**.

Last year we only received 130 application responses while the year before there were over 200, so I am hoping for an increase in the number of application responses from last year.

CURRENT CHALLENGES

There are **two main current challenges** that I am working on. The first is **scheduling** team meetings; our Planning Team of 11 members seem to have vastly differing schedules which has made organizing weekly meeting times difficult. I am hoping that the use of a When2Meet will give us the best possible time slot. Once everyone submits their preferences for the When2Meet, we will go from there.

The second challenge I am working on is trying to **get all gears moving at full speed as we begin the new year**. I had not expected much from the team over the break, but not that we are back, I am hoping for us to be in full swing as soon as possible. It has only been a few days back so I am trying to spread out days when I ask new things of Planning Team members. I know everyone is just settling back in and they are all volunteers so I don't want to burden everyone too much with CLAY tasks when they are trying to get their lives in order as classes start up. It is a fine line of asking too much and trying to get all cylinders going as soon as possible.

SUCCESSSES

The best success so far is that **we have a full team!!** This is incredibly exciting and makes planning much easier now that there are 11 of us and not 1. Shortly there will be 61 of us (hopefully), so that is even more exciting!! I am also very excited that we have a new banner that is not ripping or broken, and that can be used for multiple future years! I am hoping for many more successes this

month as we all start to dive deeper into our roles and responsibilities in the planning process!



REPORT

From the office of the...

Diversity Services Director

TO: Members of the Executive Board
FROM: Mijia Murong
SUBJECT: [MSU Diversity Services] Report [6]
DATE: [January 14, 2018]

YEARPLAN UPDATE

In the past several months, we've held a very successful online campaign on the ethics of traveling. Other than that, a lot of internal work has taken place. The execs have had the chance to really engage and provided more specialized training to their committee members, we've attended and helped to promote the town halls that the associate vice president of equity, Arig, has been hosting to seek feedback about the Equity Diversity and Inclusion framework. The Interfaith Council continued to meet, plan events, and create a space where folks can come in to consult on religion, faith, and spirituality related issues. Finally, we have been working hard to plan a series of programming for Diversity Week, which will take place from Jan 28- Feb 1.

SERVICE USAGE

Last weekend, we provide AOP at the WGEN volunteers' retraining.

Our "Unpacked" campaign addressing the ethics of travel have received a lot of engagement from the McMaster community. In total, the set of 5 posts have reached 16 000 people, with some posts reaching 40+ shares.

We have also been regularly using our social media platforms to share other resources and events with the McMaster community. We helped to promote the PACBIC 3R working group's Lets talk about Race events, and several other initiatives hosed by the EIO.

Finally, in Bridges, we've hosted 20 events in November, 8 events in December, and currently have 8 events planned for January.

PAST EVENTS, PROJECTS & ACTIVITIES

Our major project in late November and early December is the Unpacked campaign. This campaign consists of a series of 5 social media posts inviting our audience to consider the three different opportunities to travel that are frequently presented to students: studying abroad, researching abroad,

volunteering abroad. Our goal for the campaign is to remind students to consider the complicated nature of engaging in work on foreign land, and share some of the tools and resources that can be used to help students differentiate between and helpful and harmful types of engagement as a foreigner.

The interfaith council also hosted an interfaith sushi social at the Indigenous Studies space. The primary organizers were CISSA and Hillel. With the dedication and enthusiasm of these two organizations, the social was a wonderful success. Lots of students showed up, from inside and outside of these CISSA and Hillel’s membership.

UPCOMING EVENTS, PROJECTS & ACTIVITIES

The major upcoming project is Diversity week, which will take place from Jan 28 - Feb 1. The year, the theme that we have chosen is “Freedom of Resistance”, and I have included a brief description

McMaster is said to be a place that celebrates diverse identities. However, when our institutions are built to allow injustice, individuals must find creative ways to advocate for themselves and assert their presence. For many of us, resistance is simply an exercise of our freedom to exist.

There has been a lot of talk, lately, both on campus and in our politics, about the notion of “Free-Speech.” What is often left out of the conversation is that the freedom of speech inherently implies the freedom to challenge what is being said: to voice dissent against injustice, to stand against intolerance, to resist.

There is no one way to resist, and it is important that we are always critical of ideologies and policies that attempt to police methods of dissent. This diversity week, we encourage students to exercise and celebrate their freedom to resist, in every sense of the word. Acknowledging that laughter can be healing, artworks can be mobilizing, and anger can be channeled productively, we hope to create spaces for students to celebrate what resistance looks like and feels like for them.

	Event	Description
Monday, Jan 28th	Resistance in Canada: A Centennial Retrospective	Starting with the Winnipeg General Strike in 1919, we take a look back at the last 100 years of dissidence and resistance in Canadian society. The campaign consists of a timeline with 19 events, displayed at the Atrium.

	The Art of Anger: A Collaborative Paint Splash Party	We create a collaborative art-piece by allowing students to splash paint at a blank canvas. By allowing for a kind of physical release, the event is meant to be a cathartic experience for students, and illustrating that anger can, in fact, be productive.
Tuesday, Jan 29th	Marketplace: Celebrating Creators on the Margins	Through a marketplace where marginalized artists are welcome to showcase and sell their works without being charged for the venue, we hope to celebrate the ways in which artists and makers in our community, particularly those who are marginalized, are finding and demanding creative spaces to exist and pursue their passions, despite existing in a society that often impedes upon our right to express ourselves through creative mean
	Interfaith Council Coffee House	By collaborating with the organizational members of the Interfaith council, we hope to provide another opportunity for general members of these clubs to socialize and share with one another.
Wednesday, Jan 30th	Acknowledging Land: Workshop	This workshop is designed to, explain, deconstruct, and critique the idea of Land Acknowledgements for a non-indigenous audience. We are working with CISSA, MISCA, the Indigenous Studies Program, and several other partners to think more critically about what it means give land acknowledgements, how does one contextualize oneself within the land, and what lies beyond the acknowledgement.
Thursday, Jan 31st	Responding to Hate: Workshop	We are partnering with PCC, Hillel, and hopefully some other campus partners to discuss how hateful symbols, actions, and messages can be recognized and reported on campus.

	Resistance at McMaster: Panel Discussion	This panel discussion will focus on how projects of resistance are taken up within an academic institution such as McMaster. We have invited 3-4 faculty members, coming from a range of academic background and appointments, to speak on what resistance means to them, and how/why they resist within an institution that seeks to pacify certain forms of resistance and silence dissent.
Friday, Feb 1st	Poetic Justice: Poetry Workshop	This is a poetry-writing workshop facilitated by a member of Hamilton Youth Poets. The event is closed off to BIPOC, and designed to be a space that allows for reflection and healing.

BUDGET

<i>ACCOUNT CODE</i>	<i>ITEM</i>	<i>BUDGET / COST</i>
6103-0317	MISCA Avtek Equipment	886.61
	TOTAL SPENT IN LINE	1189.91
	REMAINING IN LINE	6773.39
6501-0317	Unpacked Campaign	-200
	TOTAL SPENT IN LINE	923.27
	REMAINING IN LINE	1576.73
TOTALS		
TOTAL BUDGETED DISCRETIONARY SPENDING		
TOTAL ACTUAL DISCRETIONARY SPENDING		
REMAINING DISCRETIONARY SPENDING		

VOLUNTEERS

The two committees of volunteers continue to work closely together. Some of the execs and volunteers, including myself, made plans to attend Eggnog together and had a great experience! We hope to bring all of the volunteers together for re-fresher and volunteer training in the upcoming weeks.

CURRENT CHALLENGES

One of our current challenges is the Acknowledging Land: Workshop event planned for Diversity Week. After extensive discussions with MISCA, we realized that there were many aspects of the Land Acknowledgement that we had not fully considered or explored. We are currently looking to consult with

Dr. Vanessa Watts and other Indigenous academics and organizers in our community, who may be able to clarify some of these issues before we proceed with the event. If we are not able to complete the consultations in time for Diversity Week, we may cancel the workshop and move it to a different date.

I am also having trouble with booking a space on campus for the Responding to Hate workshop and the resistance at McMaster panel. We are hoping to book LR Wilson for the Responding to Hate workshop, but however are no familiar with the booking procedure. In terms of the panel, we have not decided on a lecture hall that is both central to campus, and has a comparatively smaller capacity.

With regards to food for some of the events we plan to host, we were hoping to provide folks with Kosher, Halal, and vegan dietary options. However, through paradise catering, we are unable to provide Kosher food selections. Any insight how/where they can be ordered would be very helpful!

SUCSESSES

Our ethics of travel campaign was one of the most successful campaigns that Diversity Services has ever run. Other than receiving great feedback from students online, it also spurred one-on-one conversations among students, as my execs have shared with me.

The IFC social was also an exciting success. As the first interfaith initiative put on this year, the event demonstrated the capacity that the council has to bring together exciting partnerships and alliances, and create spaces on campus that may not otherwise exist.