



REPORT

From the office of the...
Executive Board

TO: Members of the Student Representative Assembly
FROM: Malaikah Ahmad, Executive Board Member
SUBJECT: SRA 23H Report
DATE: October 15th 2023

Dear Members of the Student Representative Assembly,

I hope you all enjoyed your reading week! Since the last SRA meeting where an Executive Board report was provided, 2 meetings have taken place (September 25th, and October 2nd). Many of the MSU services have provided updates during this time and it is my pleasure to concisely provide a report on the progress being made in the McMaster community.

The Student Health Education Centre (SHEC) planned to open their space with full operating hours as of October 1st. They had also mentioned that they were in the process of hiring their full team, which should be completed at this point. They have begun planning for their 50th year anniversary celebration of SHEC and are working on a campaign for October (“Swipe Right on Safety”). Resource distribution has been going well with the majority of resources from Pamco or the City of Hamilton Public Health. Promotion and engagement through their Instagram have been going well and in-person meetings have been successful (first time meetings have been in-person since pre-covid).

The Pride Community Centre (PCC) was working to open their physical space which opened September 18th and the turnout has been good so far. They are planning several events/initiatives for this semester and are looking to conduct one-on-one meetings with volunteers as a check-in for support and concerns. A meeting will be held in October to go over the roles with Peer Support Volunteers. One challenge mentioned was the time commitment for the director role (regularly going over 14-hour weekly maximum).

The Maroons completed their welcome week events and helped with the Side-Walk Sale and ClubsFest where they were able to interact with a number of students. They are planning more involvement with varsity games and have begun facilitating free intramural teams for undergraduate students. They would like to have more responsibility in planning their own events as opposed to a supporting role.

The Women and Gender Equity Network (WGEN) has been working on their first campaign, (Trans)forming Mac for the month of November. They will be holding a Halloween event on October 23rd at the Altitude Bonfire pit. Their online service usage has been good, and they expect increased numbers in the physical space. The Student Walk Home Attendant Team (SWHAT) completed 107 walks from August 29th to October 3rd. There is the highest usage of their service during the weekdays and

users can request walks in-person, via an online form, or over the phone. They have also added the option to book recurring walks for users that might need the service at the same time and location each week. It was mentioned that SWHAT would like to use the \$1000 budget allocated for volunteer travel by Uber for extenuating circumstances to improve their service. It was suggested that this be used to bring volunteers back after farther walk requests (> 30-min walk radius) or to accommodate late requests that might come in.

Spark sessions have begun, and attendance has been around 70% higher compared to last year at this time. The events coordinators have been collaborating with First Year Council to plan First Year Formal. They have been focused on promoting their service, especially during Welcome Week and ClubsFest with rave cards, stickers, and buttons. One challenge mentioned was finding enough rooms available to book for the session training in MUSC. They had also noted concern about keeping retention high throughout the semester, especially during midterm/exam season.

Finally, the Executive Board approved the allocation and expenditure request of \$3271.59 for one mobile cabinet workbench and two storage cabinets for the Storage Space for the Marketing and Communications Department.

Thank you for taking the time to read my report, I hope it wasn't too long. Please do not hesitate to reach out to me or any other members of the Executive Board should you have any questions or concerns regarding these matters.

Best,

Malaikah Ahmad
Executive Board
McMaster Students Union