



REPORT

From the office of the...
Executive Board

TO: Members of the Student Representative Assembly
FROM: Parth Arora, Member of the Executive Board
SUBJECT: SRA 23F Report
DATE: Monday, September 2nd, 2024

To the distinguished, illustrious, prestigious, renowned, noble, celebrated, respected, and last but not least, esteemed members of the SRA,

Since our last EB report, we have convened for three productive Executive Board meetings, each characterized by thoughtful discussions and strategic decision-making. Here's a summary of the key activities and updates from our latest sessions:

In July, **WGEN** completed its first round of volunteer hiring and inventory checks, preparing for a planned space opening on September 9th. They hired 17 Safe(r) Space volunteers and 3 Events and Advocacy Volunteers, with training scheduled for August 31st. An open house event during Clubsfest is also planned to increase visibility. While there has been no spending yet, upcoming purchases include training supplies and restocking gender-affirming gear. Challenges include ensuring full participation in training sessions, with contingency plans being considered. Overall, WGEN's team is enthusiastic and prepared for the months ahead.

In July, **DEN** focused on planning events, hiring executives, and developing a new literature-based peer support model. They began discussions for an Indigenous Affairs Liaison role and gained 40 new social media followers. A \$3,000 budget was set for promotions. Current efforts are on refining the peer support framework and enhancing outreach..

EFRT has been busy with summer operations, responding to 33 calls and conducting training, including Advanced Medical Life Support (AMLS) and first aid courses. They completed a promotional photoshoot and are preparing for Welcome Week and Homecoming. While social media engagement has slightly dipped, outreach efforts continue. Budget spending is focused on training and equipment. Staffing for August remains a challenge, but overall team morale is high.

In July, **FCC** held its first executive meeting, completed volunteer training, and continued the Lockers of Love service. Plans for the new FCC fridge were finalized with SWC and MSU, and upper-year volunteer hiring began. Due to low response from partners, the Resources Hub project is on hold. Budget spending remains low, with funds reserved for future initiatives. Team morale is high, and preparations for the year are progressing well.

The **Maroons** focused on planning for Welcome Week, organizing rep training, and bonding through team socials. Uniforms were ordered, and preparations for the Welcome Week Marauder Games, benefiting Youth Mental Health Canada, are ongoing. During Welcome Week, the Maroons successfully boosted student morale with events like the Marauder Games, Monday Night Lights, Headphone Disco, and an impressive airbands performance.

Spark progressed well with its year plan, focusing on hiring Team Leaders (TLs) and planning summer programming. TL applications were open, with hiring completed by early August. Summer programming included faculty and service webinars held in early August. Outreach efforts centered on recruiting TLs, using testimonials and reels to boost engagement. So far, budget spending was minimal, mainly on hiring graphics. Team morale was high, and executives actively prepared for the upcoming academic year. The main challenge was securing responses from all faculties for the webinars.

Macademics stayed on track with its year plan, focusing on volunteer hiring, finalizing the Resource Hub for a virtual launch, and conducting one-on-one meetings. Volunteer hiring was set from August 16th to September 8th, targeting 13 volunteers. They promoted the Resource Hub and volunteer roles during the Spark webinar on August 11th. Although in a lull for self-promotion, preparations for future initiatives were underway. Executive morale was high, with strong teamwork and no significant challenges reported.

Maccess prepared for the school year by hiring and training executives, opening Peer Support Volunteer (PSV) hiring, and upgrading their space. Collaborations were established with SAS and other campus groups for summer programming and workshops. Plans for Welcome Week included a chill space with snacks and activities. Social media focused on PSV recruitment, and budget spending went towards space improvements. Team morale was high, despite challenges in managing multiple projects.

PCC followed its year plan, focusing on training the new Assistant Director and onboarding the executive team. Coordinator hiring was underway, with interviews completed by July 31st and training set to finish by August 9th. Efforts to partner with businesses for gender-affirming items were planned for August. Although PCC's physical space was closed over summer, social media was used to promote hiring and communicate with interested students. Social media engagement increased significantly, but no new followers were gained. Budget spending was minimal, with only one purchase for a past Queer Prom event. Future plans include improving outreach beyond Instagram and setting up an email notification service.

SHEC made progress on its year plan, focusing on hiring Peer Support Volunteers (PSVs), installing new condom dispensers, and developing a volunteer reward system. Upper-year PSV hiring was completed, and first-year hiring is set for late August to mid-September. New condom dispensers were installed and stocked, reflecting high demand. Social media engagement spiked due to hiring promotions. Expenditure has been minimal, with major spending expected in September for inventory restocking and training events. The executive team is functioning well, with volunteers engaging positively on Discord. The main challenge is the absence of an Assistant Director, leading to an increased workload for the Director. However, I believe the Assistant Director has now been hired.

Aside from service reports, there were various operating policy changes reflecting the opening of the Hub, among other items. They are listed below:

1. **Technical Upgrades for The Hub and 1280:** Changes were proposed for adding electrical outlets and speaker installations to improve the functionality of The Hub and the 1280 space. This includes new circuits and the installation of patio speakers to enhance the audio experience in outdoor areas.
2. **Fire Safety for 1280 Drapes:** The current drapes in 1280 require treatment every three years to meet fire safety standards, costing approximately \$1,300 each time. A proposal was made to purchase inherently fire-retardant (IFR) drapes for \$3,800, offering a long-term, cost-effective solution by eliminating the need for frequent treatments.
3. **Hub Operating Policy:** A comprehensive policy for The Hub, opened in February, was introduced. The policy outlines the purpose of the space, designated areas (such as the Student Market, Blue Lounge, and Multi-Faith Prayer Rooms), and the responsibilities of the MSU Hub Facility Coordinator. The MSU will manage operational costs, while McMaster University will handle capital and maintenance expenses.
4. **Student Life Services Policy:** A new policy defined the role of the Student Life Director, who will oversee MSU Clubs, Campus Events, and The Hub. This restructuring aims to improve coordination among these key services and enhance student engagement by integrating management and reporting structures.
5. **Clubs Operations Policy Updates:** Proposed changes to the Clubs Operations Policy were suggested to align with the new organizational structure, designating the Student Life Director as the primary supervisor for the Clubs Department, replacing the Human Resources Generalist in certain consultative roles.
6. **Campus Events Policy Revisions:** Amendments were made to the Campus Events policy to reflect the broader role of the Student Life Director, which includes facilitating event creation and execution, particularly for Welcome Week and other major student events. This role will ensure events align with student life directives and improve coordination across departments.

These policy changes are designed to enhance the operational efficiency of The Hub, improve safety and functionality in campus spaces, and strengthen student life services.

That sums it up for my report! If you have any questions, or feel extremely passionate about anything brought up, or just want to roast my writing skills, feel free to reach out!

Warm Regards,
Parth Arora, Executive Board, SRA Science