



**President Bi-Weekly Report  
to the Students' Representative Council**

**Presented by: President Stevie DeMerchant  
June 11<sup>th</sup>, 2023**

Greetings all!!

I hope your summer break has been fantastic so far!!

These past few weeks have been busy and fun to say the least! The executive team has been doing amazing work and we are very excited to share our efforts with the student body.

Throughout the summer, students will receive both bi-weekly reports from myself, and a monthly report on behalf of the executive team. The purpose of these reports is to ensure our student body is informed on what we work on throughout the summer.

I am very excited for the 23/24 academic year and to work with all of our amazing STUdents!

**Kind regards,**  
Stevie-Rae DeMerchant  
STUSU President

## Meetings

### **Meeting w/ National Indigenous Advocacy Committee**

NIAC co-chairs have been completing weekly touch-base meetings with the Canadian Alliance of Student Associations (CASA) Executive Director and Member Relations Officer. These meetings focused on our upcoming board retreat and Policy & Strategies Conferences.

### **Meeting w/ Transition Advisory Committee**

This meeting was comprised of our Welcome Week Chair and STU faculty and staff that are committed to providing a comfortable welcome week. During this meeting we provided updates and discussed rebranding and activities such as Harvest Jazz and Blues, Shinarama.

### **Senate Committee on Reconciliation**

The Senate Committee on Reconciliation were able to meet online and provide some updates on the upcoming Wabanaki Center renovations and the hiring of a new Director of Indigenous Initiatives.

### **New Brunswick Student Alliance (NBSA)**

The New Brunswick Student Alliance (NBSA) is a provincial advocacy organization that represents students from St. Thomas University, University of New Brunswick SJ and Mount Allison University. Reports regarding NBSA include:

- Meeting with Sydona Chandon to discuss the upcoming Maritime Student Congress Conference and the role our union will play. This year, the conference will be held at St. Thomas University, and we will host universities from across the Maritimes and together we will participate in workshops and other educational opportunities to build on our leadership skills.

### **Canadian Alliance of Student Associations (CASA)**

The Canadian Alliance of Student Association (CASA) is a national voice for Canadian post-secondary students. CASA is a non-partisan, non-for-profit student organization composed of students across Canada. Reports regarding CASA include

- The Executive Director and I had the chance to attend a meeting with Senator Greenwood to discuss the Post-Secondary Student Support Program and The Indigenous Skills and Employment Training Program. The conversation was grounded in the implications and barriers these policies have on Indigenous students across the country and how our leaders can support the change necessary to ensure Indigenous students have access to equitable education.
- I had the chance to attend the first CASA Board of Directors meeting after electing a new board at Foundations. During this meeting, the board began

discussing intentions for the year, when to begin committee work, upcoming conferences, and expectations for the year.

### **Miscellaneous**

#### **Participated in the hiring of the new Director of Indigenous Initiatives**

A committee comprised of our Elder in residence, VP Enrolment, Dean of Humanities, Director of Student Services & Residence Life and STUSU President had the honor in participating in the hiring of this new role. There were two phenomenal candidates that we were able to meet with and luckily, we were able to unanimously agree on a candidate.

—End of Report—