

Office of the Vice-President (External Affairs) Bureau du Vice-président (affaires externes)

Report to SSMU Legislative Council

November 1, 2012

"I write for those women who do not speak, for those who do not have a voice because they were so terrified, because we are taught to respect fear more than ourselves. We've been taught that silence would save us, but it won't. " – Audre Lorde

Community relations:

- The video project seems to be rolling along. The topics of History of the Neighbourhood, Living in Milton-Parc and Community/Residents have been chosen, with a 1-2 minute video for each. The hope is to have a bunch of the shooting done this semester, and then release them sometime early in the New Year.

Community Engagement Day

- We had a good meeting between CED and myself and Inna to discuss how Community Engagement Committee can work together to move forward from the Day. I think more discussion will be had once CED folks have had a chance to put together their report and start to plan their follow-up events.
- I also had a CED Advisory Committee meeting, in which we spoke about some of the follow-up plans themselves and chatted a bit about how that Committee could help as things move forward. Again, it is still undetermined, but I'd be interested in thoughts from anyone here who attended the Day or heard about it in terms of improvements for next year.

Community Ambassadors

- Our meeting two weeks ago went quite well, and I'll have a meeting next week to talk about funding for a pilot project specifically.

Provincial affairs:

Education Summit

- We are starting to have conversations about putting together the website for the process. Simon has been working hard at putting together material that we can have available for reference/inspiration. I hope that informal discussions in the Faculties will be able to start soon! I'm excited to know what people have to say about these issues.

TaCEQ:

- Had their meeting with Duchesne, and by the time we have our meeting my translated version should be available on Vibe. It sounds like he is thinking hard



Office of the Vice-President (External Affairs) Bureau du Vice-président (affaires externes)

about how to make the education summit a productive process, rather than simply having a bunch of groups with very different opinions disagreeing with one another.

- Another interesting element to our meeting was methods of transparency and accountability, which had been raised as a concern. We will be fleshing out our policy around this at our next meeting, but in the interim there will be an effort to make meeting minutes and the reports of officers available on the website.
- We also have a preliminary calendar for all the meetings of the year now. The next one to be held here at SSMU will be January 20.

Campus

- Went to a Vision 2020 working group about Governance. Good conversations, but once again I had to leave before we could really get deep into the issues.

Committees

Community Engagement:

- Had a second meeting, that I unfortunately had to miss, which clarified some of the projects and will be starting to do some work organizing a film series about some of the neighbourhoods in Montreal.

External Affairs

- Will have met on Tuesday. Can report orally.

Other

PowerShift

- Was an absolutely amazing conference. At the time of writing I'm still processing it all, but will be happy to talk to anyone who'd like details!

Respectfully submitted,

Robin Reid-Fraser, VP External