



The  
SUB  
Lounge

# 21/22 Executive Goal Plan

Final Update

Prepared by  
The UFVSUS Executive Committee

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# Introduction

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*"Take every opportunity,  
because you never know  
what kind of doors are  
going to open."*

Hey everyone,

As we come to the end of the 2021-2022 semester I want to thank everyone for being a part of such a pivotal year for SUS. It has been a year met with many different challenges, but nonetheless one that we pushed through with resilience. I am proud of what our team has accomplished this year and were able to provide for the UFV student body.

As we continue to improve and grow, I am confident that SUS will be an organization that all students can be proud of. Below is the list of achievements that we have accomplished this past year and projects that are still ongoing. We are dedicated to providing students with the best post-secondary experience possible and work towards excellence everyday.

- Nikiel Lal, President 2021-2023

# Advocacy

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01

## **What the SUS - *Delayed***

Due to the prioritization of other projects, the SUS info series "What the SUS" has been delayed to launch for Fall 2022.

02

## **Know Your Rights - *Completed***

When "Know Your Rights" began as an idea last May, it began as a collection of UFV policies on a SUS webpage with written explanations and highlights to show students the information that matters. Almost 12 months from when that idea was born, Know Your Rights has become so much larger than we could have imagined and has now become SUS' flagship video advocacy program. By the time this report is presented in late April, we will have released our first season of 5 KYR episodes covering a variety of topics. With the collaboration of UFV Administration, Faculty, and Staff, we look forward to enshrining KYR as a staple of SUS programming for years to come.

03

## **Student Priorities Survey - *Completed***

We released our Student Priorities Survey in January in order to get information about students' priorities regarding advocacy, programs and services, and events. The survey also gauged familiarity with SUS as an organization, including our programs and services, executive committee, club and association funding, and opportunities. Some of the main trends in the survey included vague familiarity with SUS and the Executive Committee, but more familiarity with our main services, like UPass and the campus shuttle. Other trends from the survey highlighted students support for social events like Kickback, students' mental health and food security concerns, support for more mental health resources, and support for a Fall Reading Break. The information from this survey has been used in the remainder of this term and will be used going forward in the next term to guide the direction of SUS in these areas.

# Advocacy (cont.)

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04

## **Fall Reading Break - *In-Progress***

During this term, we began advocacy under the Vice President External portfolio to UFV for a Fall Reading Break as a way of supporting students' mental health. This has been a major advocacy project this term. Fall Reading Breaks are common at most major Canadian universities and are effective at relieving stress and anxiety for students. The idea of a Fall Reading Break has been introduced to UFV administration, who have been open and receptive to the idea. This goal is still in progress as it is still in the process of going through UFV's Senate, where it will need to be approved.

05

## **Mental Health Information and Support - *Completed***

Following the by-election, Vice President External Ashley McDougall ran a social media campaign called "Take-Care Tuesday", which focused on delivering information about coping with anxiety and stress, common mental health struggles that students face. Each week focused on a different pillar of wellness. The goal of this campaign was to provide mental health support while meeting students where they're at on social media. The campaign generated engagement with students online and awareness about common mental health challenges. Feedback has furthermore helped hone the Executive Committee's understanding of UFV Student's unique mental health challenges and informed us on possible actions and advocacy to take.

# Governance

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01

## **SUS Board Structure Changes - Completed**

Having completed the first Board term with our first ever representatives At-Large, it is safe to say that the changes enacted by last years' bylaws revisions have been overwhelmingly positive. Candidates in both the 2021 byelection and the 2022 general election reported feeling much more positive about their ability to work with other Board directors and recruit others to fill their positions. Allowing students to run for representative positions that are no longer confined by academic discipline has significantly opened the SUS Board to be more accessible than ever!

Additionally, SUS recruited its newest Board Chair this year, resulting in better run meetings, more engaged discussions, and even better governance practices put into effect.

02

## **Executive Accountability - Completed**

As reported in our Fall update, after long discussion the Board decided that the most appropriate forms of executive oversight were already in place via the Board and duplicating this body could only cause more internal governance conflict. However, the Executive Committee Policy has been reviewed and revised to allow for more discussion and stability within the Executive Committee, as well as more internal controls that allow for greater transparency and accountability to the student body.

03

## **C&A Support Overhaul - Completed**

The Executive Committee is proud to unveil its new policy reforms of the SUS C&A funding system! While these changes may not appear substantial on the surface, the funding system has been professionalized with greater checks and balances for funding, more specificity in what is required and allowed to be funded, as well as more clear assurances for students for when money can be received.

# Governance

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## 04

### **VPS Role Development - Completed**

With the aim to promote greater transparency, professionalism and have a long-standing impact on the UFV community VPS role was redesigned to include the requirement to further collaborate with a variety of departments, more emphasis on social media promotions and greater connection with the student body. The VPS job description has been tailored to suit the needs of both Students and SUS by taking a more collaborative approach and acting as the facilitator between the Executive Committee and the SUS Programs and Services Department.

Additionally, the Executive Committee took the opportunity to review all Executive roles and responsibilities, resulting in a comprehensive update to the committee and your student representation.

# Engagement

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01

## ***Orientation - Completed***

On September 23, 2021, we pulled off one of the greatest orientation events the student body has seen at UFV. We understood that the need to have an exciting on campus event was not only wanted, but was needed. In the Spring of 2021, we got hard to work to ensure we could bring students an event they would be proud of. With the overwhelming positive feedback, we have received over Kickback, I am excited to announce that this event will be happening annually. This event was designed to help students relax, get comfortable on campus, make friends, and get connected with their Student Union and University.

02

## ***UPASS - Completed***

Upass benefits are coming in May! The SUS Student Perks Program (SPP) will launch at the beginning of summer and will allow UFV students with a valid Upass to collect discounts and benefits from local Abbotsford businesses. Some such businesses include: Field House Brewing Co., Townhall, BIPOC & Local, Spin Co, Smoking Gun Coffee Roasters, Lepps Daily Market and Fraser Valley Cidery.

03

## ***Inter-Campus Shuttle - In-Progress***

Our first year of the revised Inter-Campus Shuttle contract has been a great success, but nonetheless one that we are constantly striving to improve via continuous feedback and consultation from our student body. In the past several months, we have used surveys in order to hear UFV students' needs, but in the future we hope to utilize tools like focus groups in order to better design the service and make good on our commitment to deliver excellence in our programs.



# Engagement

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04

## **Employment/Volunteering - Completed**

This year has been a huge year for SUS hiring and expansion. We've expanded almost all major departments with student positions. In the Finance department, we've hired a new Finance Assistant, in Communications and Marketing we've hired a new Social Media Assistant, and in Facilities we've hired countless crew members and Barista's for Fairgrounds. Additionally, SUS has begun working towards a robust volunteer application system to allow students to participate more substantially in event facilitation. Keep your eyes peeled for new update about careers and opportunities at SUS.

05

## **National Coalition for VPS' - Completed**

Over the course of our term, we were able to establish partnerships that would help UFV culture and promote an opportunity to share ideas, problem solve on university wide issues and probe with aspirations for student development. We were successful in implementing the first of its kind National Coalition for all Vice President Students across the country that allowed for regular interactions between student unions and idea sharing.

06

## **Networking - Completed / In-Progress**

We were able to further build bridges between many departments and student organizations within UFV. Connections with Campus Living, Student Life, UFV International, Campus Recreation and many other departments were established and actively improved the promotion of SUS's values and assist in student advocacy.

# Conclusion

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2021-2022 was a formative year for SUS, both in the projects, programs, and series initiated, but also one for the identity of the organization. 2021 is the first year since the onset of remote learning and campus closures in early 2020 and a strong reminder of our responsibility to our membership to provide the support, advocacy, and leadership we're expected of. Over my two years at SUS, the Society has overcome numerous obstacles and made leaps and bounds in terms of governance, fiscal responsibility, and the delivery of high quality events and services. As I make my leave, I want to assure students that the future is very bright indeed for UFV, and I only wish I could experience the great things SUS has planned with you all!

-Duncan C. Herd, Vice President Internal 2020-2022

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*We thank you for your continued support in our efforts to represent your interests and provide an impactful student experience!*

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UFV Student Union Society

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