

MEMBERSHIP ADVISORY

RE: UTMSU Awarded with the Adams' Sustainability Student Grant in Support of New Service, the Seed Library

The University of Toronto Mississauga Students' Union (UTMSU) is excited to announce that students will soon be able to access a Seed Library with the receipt of the <u>Adams' Sustainability</u> <u>Student Grant</u>. The University of Toronto's Committee on the Environment and Climate Change and Sustainability (CECCS) awarded the UTMSU the grant to assist in the creation and further development of a Seed Library for the UTM Community; an initiative that will encourage sustainability, innovation, and creativity.

The UTMSU Seed Library will aim to supply students, staff, professors, and community members with free access to indoor friendly seeds, gardening materials, rentable equipment, community garden plots, and educational workshops.

This service aims to

- supply members with the necessary materials to support food growth to assist in the mitigation of food insecurity on-campus and within our community.
- provide members with access to free gardening workshops to ensure individuals have the technical skills and basic knowledge necessary to begin gardening.
- transform individual and collective perceptions of food insecurity through challenging the social stigmas of food assistance programs.
- highlight local and global instances of environmental inequity and how this informs food accessibility and wellbeing.

In light of the current Covid-19 provincial restrictions, the UTMSU aims to develop and deliver gardening care packages in the near future to safely provide members with access to these services. Be sure to sign-up for your Seed Library, Gardening Care Packages when made available in the next few weeks to ensure you can access this amazing new service soon to be available at your students' union!

For additional support, questions, and assistance, please send an email to <u>food@utmsu.ca</u>.