

# Executive Reports February 2021

### Mitra Yakubi President



#### **Executive Summary**

Hellooo! Happy end of February. This month was busy but definitely enjoyable. I had the opportunity to participate in some meetings with MP's across the country through the National Lobby Week, met Minister Mendicino and MP Iqra Khalid separately to discuss issues impacting UTM students and how we students can be further supported. Additionally, we continued to successfully offer our most popular services; peer support, laptop rental program and free breakfast wednesday. It is exciting to see the demand increase for these



services over time and the overwhelming support we've got is encouraging. Lastly, this month reminded me of my first month in office as it was filled with interviews and hirings. We hired a Chief Executive Officer (CRO) and Deputy Returning Officers (DRO) for the UTMSU elections as well as CRO's for the society elections.

#### Agenda

- 1. CFS National Lobby Week
- 2. Mental Health Peer Support Program
- 3. Laptop Rental Program
- 4. Free Breakfast Wednesday
- 5. Black in the Kitchen Deliveries
- 6. UofT Student Equity Census Advisory Roundtable
- 7. Ontario Executive Committee
- 8. Departmental Meetings
- 9. VolunTEAM Social
- 10. Hirings
- 11. Meetings Attended

#### **CFS National Lobby Week**

This month I attended the Canadian Federation of Students #LobbyWeek2021 with student representatives and MP's across Canada.More specifically, I was able to virtually meet with MP Adam Van Koeverden, MP Marie-France Lalonde, MP Bob Bratina, MP Salma Zahid, and MP Shaun Chen to discuss issues pertaining to students.In these meetings, we were able to outline the concerns of Post-Secondary Students and discuss solutions to support us through COVID-19, and why a #JustRecoveryForStudents will help us build stronger communities.These meetings were a series of meetings held by various representatives across the country. It was extremely insightful and we look forward to hearing from our representatives about this campaign and the discussions we have in the near future. For more information please feel free to email me at <u>president@utmsu.ca</u> or message me.



#### Mental Health Peer Support Program

We understand that here at UTM there is a lack of mental health resources and support available to students which is why we've created this program. The program's goal is to provide a service that meets the needs of students. Keeping this in mind, Peer Support sessions have been facilitated weekly every Tuesday and Thursday starting in January.

This month we saw an increase in the number of new participants as well as returning participants and we're hoping to further advertise the program by having the peer support workers make videos talking about why they've gotten involved with the program and encourage folks to sign up for this support.

Note: the UTMSU Peer Support services are not crisis services.

#### Laptop Rental Program

The UTMSU's new program - Long-term Laptop Rental Program is fully up and running. UTMSU invested in a number of laptops to rent to students who do not have access to a personal computer. The students will need to fill out the form to submit a request for a laptop. All applications must be submitted to <u>president@utmsu.ca</u> and this month we had few students make use of this program which is great as we are able to meet the needs of our students in terms of technology.

#### Free Breakfast Wednesday

On Wednesday's you may wear pink, but with UTMSU on Wednesday we eat free breakfast. In our fight to tackle food insecurity on our campus, UTMSU continues to provide free breakfast Wednesdays bi-weekly. We held two sessions during this month, with an ever building increase in the number of participants each week.Once registered students received a link for our free breakfast session. After attending the event they were reimbursed a gift card of \$15, as we continue to enjoy our meals together.



#### Black In The Kitchen Deliveries

As part of our Black History Month programming we had a cooking class led by a local chef. To make this event more accessible we delivered the list of groceries that were needed for the dish to over 30 students across the Greater Toronto Area (GTA). We then held the event on the Friday where we made the dish together over zoom.

#### UofT Equity Census Advisory Roundtable

As a member on the census advisory round table me and Noha participate in the logistical decision making with regards to the survey. Actively highlighting the importance of the data and the best practices to ensure that the data is not misused.

#### **Ontario Executive Committee**

As the UTMSU representative on the CFS Ontario Executive Committee I meet regularly with the local representatives from other unions and the CFS executives. This month we met to discuss the audited financial statements.

#### **Departmental Meetings**

Over the last few weeks, me, Anushka, Jihan, Mary and Felipe have been meeting with various departments of the University of Toronto Mississauga to discuss the possibility of three new initiatives incorporated into each department. We have been discussing the following three topics:

- Embedded Mental Health Counsellors
- Class Representatives Project
- Academic Integrity Modules.

These three proposals discuss the opportunity of creating resources and services for students that are department-specific.Thus far, we have met with the Department of English and Drama, Sociology, ICCIT, Political Science, Geography, Visual Studies, Department of Biology, Psychology and Chemical and Physical Sciences.



#### VolunTEAM Social

This month we were able to hold a very small and intimate social for the volunteers. We played a series of games, story sharing and just socializing in breakout rooms, we then at the end of the event announced that all attendees will receive gift cards as a token of appreciation for all their hard work.

#### Hirings

This month was busy in terms of seasonal hirings, we began with interviews and hiring for the Chief Executive Officer (CRO) and Deputy Returning Officers (DRO) for the UTMSU 2021 Spring Elections. We then proceeded to do interviews for the CRO's for the society elections and then the hiring committee hired four candidates for this role. I look forward to working with them this semester!

#### **Meetings Attended**

- Feb/1 VC Check-in
- Feb/1 Departmental Meeting
- Feb/1 Meeting w/MSA
- Feb/1 PT Staff Meeting
- Feb/2 DRO/CRO Interview
- Feb/2 Presidential Team Meeting
- Feb/2 OFL Campuses that Care
- Feb/3 Free Breakfast
- Feb/3 DRO/CRO Interview
- Feb/3 Team Meeting
- Feb/3 DRO/CRO Interview
- Feb/4 CFS Black Student
- Experience
- Feb/4 Mitra x Grayce x Mudassir

- Feb/4 Women's Day Discussion
- Feb/5 Departmental Meeting
- Feb/5 EARC Meeting
- Feb/5 Career Centre x UTMSU
- Feb/5 Office Meeting
- Feb/5 Meet w/Noha
- Feb/5 ASAC Meeting
- Feb/5 Emergency BOD Meeting
- Feb/6 Community of Care Meeting
- Feb/6 Reading week video shoot
- Feb/6 Volunteam social
- Feb/8 UTM Psychtalks Panel
- Feb/8 VC Check-in
- Feb/8 UTMSU x Admissions
- Feb/8 Campus Groups Planning
- Feb/9 Food Centre Discussion
- Feb/9 BHM LSR event
- Feb/10 Meeting w/CFS



- Feb/10 Meet w/Nour
- Feb/10 Financial Literacy

Workshops

- Feb/10 LAUS Event
- Feb/11 Mitra x Grayce x Mudassir
- Feb/11 Interviews CRO (AS)
- Feb/11 Interviews CRO (AS)
- Feb/11 Food delivery discussion
- Feb/11 EARC Meeting
- Feb/12 Exec Committee
- Feb/12 Interviews CRO (AS)
- Feb/12 Interviews CRO (AS)
- Feb/12 Departmental Meeting
- Feb/12 Interviews CRO (AS)
- Feb/12 Interviews CRO (AS)
- Feb/12 Meeting w/lqra
- Feb/12 Chinese New Year Event
- Feb/16 Discussion CRO (AS)
- Feb/16 CFS Lobby Prep
- Feb/17 Meeting w/CUPE 3902
- Feb/17 Black to the Kitchen
- Deliveries
- Feb/18 Black to the Kitchen
- Deliveries

Feb/19 - Lobby Week Meeting

Feb/19 - Lobby Week Meeting Feb/19 - Lobby Week Meeting Feb/19 - Lobby Week Meeting Feb/19 - Lobby Week Debrief Feb/19 - Lobby Week Meeting Feb/22 - UofT Student Equity Census roundtable Feb/22 - Campus Groups discussion Feb/23 - Executive Committee Feb/23 - Black Professional Panel Feb/24 - Prayer Spaces Discussion x admin Feb/24 - Student Centre Renos Feb/24 - Team Meeting Feb/24 - Presidential Team Meeting Feb/25 - Departmental Meeting Feb/25 - Mitra x Grayce x Mudassir Feb/25 - GTA Coalition

University of Toronto Mississauga

LOCAL 109 OF THE CANADIAN FEDERATION OF STUDENTS

Students' Union

- Feb/26 Executive Committee
- Feb/26 Departmental Meeting
- Feb/26 UTMSU x Stellas
- Feb/26 Sexual violence peer
- support chat
- Feb/26 VC Check-in

Sincerely,

Mitra Yakubi

Mitra Yakubi (she/her) President



# Fahad Dayala

#### **Executive Summary**

Hello hello everyone! I hope you all are doing well. Throwing light on February, we have worked on a lot of things this past month. As February being Black History Month, we had a lot of programming related to that, and the Black History Committee did an amazing job in getting people together on a virtual platform, creating safe and open spaces for all. We continued our usual programming, such as the Free Breakfast Wednesdays, Learning & Unlearning Seminar Series, and our VolunTEAM programmings. We did our first ever Financial Literacy Workshops, which were very well attended by our students, and are also working on UTMSU Spring Elections, and Academic Society Elections. We also had the reading week break, which was a nice break from classes, and an even better opportunity to connect with students, and do our planning for the upcoming events. All this, and much more coming your way in March, so stay tuned.

#### Agenda

1. Hirings



- 2. Financial Literacy Workshops
- 3. Tax Clinic
- 4. Student Business Promotion
- 5. UTMSU x Career Centre
- 6. UTMSU Spring Elections
- 7. Meetings Attended

#### Hirings

During the past month, we hired our Chief Returning Officer (CRO) and our Deputy Returning Officers (DRO) for our upcoming Spring Elections. The interviews took place, and the Elections & Referenda Committee (EARC) decided on the best candidates to be hired. They are now in full swing, doing the preparations to ensure a smooth election process. Even though the elections look significantly different this year, we are still hiring Poll Clerks to assist with the voting process. These positions will be entirely virtual, and the Poll Clerks will be working in a completely unique environment. We also hired 4 CROs for our Academic Society Elections, to assist and overlook the change in executives for our Academic Societies on campus. Having said this, this is not all, more job opportunities coming up for you to get involved. Keep an eye out for more opportunities at: <u>https://utmsu.ca/opportunities/</u>.

#### Financial Literacy Workshops

This past month, UTMSU organized its first ever Financial Literacy Workshops, where we invited representatives from Canada Revenue Agency (CRA), to discuss, and explain Taxes. We had two sessions, first one on February 10, which was catered more towards the domestic students, and the second one on February 12, which was more for our International students. These sessions were very informative, and very well attended, with over 100 students across the two sessions.

#### Tax Clinic

I'm sure you've heard about the Tax Clinic at UTMSU. Well if you haven't, UTMSU provides free tax filing services to all eligible<sup>\*</sup> students. This year, we are providing this service virtually. We have a solid team of volunteers, who will



be the backbone of this service, to ensure that we can cater to as many students as possible. During the reading week, we had a long training session with CRA, where all volunteers were trained on how to file tax returns, and their questions were answered. Since the Tax Filing software is not compatible with Mac, we are also providing laptops for a temporary basis to these volunteers, so they can still be a part of this program, and play their valuable roles. The Tax Clinic starts March 8th, and we are super excited for helping out students this Tax Season. I highly encourage you all to make use of this service, and save valuable dollars. Happy Tax Filing!

\* Eligibility criterias are based on guidelines set by the Canada Revenue Agency.

#### **Student Business Promotion**

Once again, for the first time ever, your UTMSU is introducing a Student Business Promotion series, where we will be sharing the stories of UTM student-run businesses. We want to encourage and promote small businesses, run by students on campus, to appreciate the efforts and hard work they put in. Also considering the adverse effects of the pandemic, this is an opportunity for us to come together, and support such businesses, to help them grow and succeed. We are planning to organize Instagram Lives with these student business owners, and discuss their stories, the hardships they might have faced, and their plans for the future. Personally, I'm super excited and can't wait to know more about these businesses, and learn about their stories. If you are a UTM student business owner, or know someone who is, I highly encourage you to be a part of this. The deadline to apply is March 8, and the form can be found in our Instagram bio, at @myutmsu. If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to me via <u>vpinternal@utmsu.ca</u>

#### UTMSU x Career Centre

We are collaborating with the Career Centre at UTM, to provide students with a set of events, one catered towards resume & cover letter building, and the other catered more towards finding summer jobs. Knowing the tips and tricks behind resume and cover letter writing is a very key component of getting an opportunity, since it's the first impression of you, to an employer. Thus, we want



to provide an opportunity to students to build on these skills and improve their applications, in order to achieve successful positions in the fields they pursue. We are anticipating having these events towards the end of March. Please keep an eye out on our social media to know about the details.

#### **UTMSU Spring Elections**

It's that time of the year, and I can't believe me and my team have made it this far, so soon. It looks like yesterday when we started our terms. The UTMSU Spring Elections are coming up in March, and all UTM undergraduate students can run for either an Executive position, or a Board of Directors position. The nomination period starts March 1, which is the first step of being a candidate. This year, due to the pandemic, the election process looks significantly different. The elections will be carried out virtually, and our CROs, DROs, and other staff are working tirelessly to make this a smooth and successful election process. If you are passionate about student issues, and want to be at the forefront of student advocacy and betterment, this is for you. I highly encourage you to be a part of these elections. If you want to know more about the role of the executives, or the Board of Directors, feel free to reach out to me at <u>vpinternal@utmsu.ca</u>, or any of the other executives. For more information, please visit our website at: <u>https://utmsu.ca/about-us/election/</u>.

#### **Meetings Attended**

- Feb 1 Check-in w/ Hamid
- Feb 1 Meeting w/ MSA
- Feb 1 PT Staff Meeting
- Feb 2 DRO Interview
- Feb 2 DRO Interview
- Feb 2 DRO Interview
- Feb 2 CRO Interview
- Feb 2 CRO Interview
- Feb 2 TCF Event
- Feb 3 Free Breakfast Wednesday
- Feb 3 DRO Interview
- Feb 3 Team Meeting
- Feb 3 CRO & DRO Discussion
- Feb 3 BHM: Red Table Talk

- Feb 4 Check-in w/ Mary
- Feb 4 BHM Event
- Feb 5 EARC Meeting
- Feb 5 UTMSU x Career Centre
- Feb 5 Office Meeting
- Feb 5 Check-in w/ Nour
- Feb 5 Emergency BOD Meeting
- Feb 6 Community of Care
- Feb 6 VolunTEAM Social
- Feb 8 Check-in w/ Hamid
- Feb 9 BHM: LSR
- Feb 10 Team Meeting
- Feb 10 Financial Literacy Workshop
- Feb 10 Seminar Series



Feb 11 - New Year's Gala Feb 11 - CRO Academic Society Interview Feb 11 - CRO Academic Society Interview Feb 11 - EARC Meeting Feb 11 - Food Purchasing Feb 12 - Executive Committee Meeting Feb 12 - CRO Academic Society Interview Feb 12 - UPass Meeting Feb 12 - UPass Meeting Debrief Feb 12 - Financial Literacy Workshop

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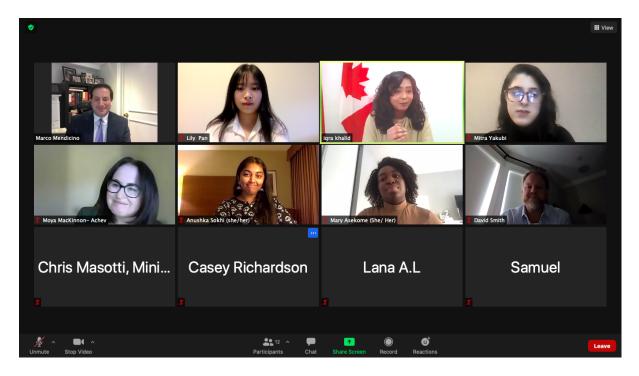
> Feb 12 - Clubs Committee Feb 12 - New Years Dinner Feb 14 - Emergency BOD Meeting Feb 15 - UTMSU Speed Friending Feb 15 - Check-in w/ Hamid Feb 15 - Speed Friending Feb 16 - Tax Clinic Training Feb 16 - CRO Academic Society Interview Feb 16 - CRO Academic Society Discussion Feb 18 - Meeting w/ Hamid Feb 22 - Check-in w/ Hamid Feb 23 - BHM Event Feb 24 - Team Meeting Feb 24 - Clubs Committee Feb 26 - Executive Committee Meeting Feb 26 - HR Meeting Feb 26 - Board of Directors Meeting

Sincerely,

Fahad Dayala (he/him) Vice President Internal



## Lily Pan Vice President External



#### **Executive Summary**

Time flies and February really felt short, especially with the reading week. But there were still quite a lot of exciting events that happened, such as the Black History Month events and the Lunar New Year events. It felt great to reconnect with a lot of folks as well as making new friends. During the package delivery for "Black to the Kitchen" also gave me chances to meet some of our members in person!

#### Agenda

- 1. Lunar New Year
- 2. Meeting with Ministers & MPs
- 3. COSS (Council on Student Services)
- 4. Meetings Attended



#### Lunar New Year

On the morning of February 2021, the WeChat team held a synchronous event live streaming the Chinese New Year's Gala. Students attended on Zoom through a drop-in style. On February 12's night, we also hosted the New Year Dinner event inviting students to eat/cook with us. We also played some games while chatting about some new year traditions. It is the first time for us to host such an event. Less people showed up than expected, but we were able to track some students that have never been to any UTMSU event. This week, we are just finishing up with the delivery of the giveaways.

#### Meeting with Minister & MPs

We were invited to a roundtable with Minister Mendicino, MP Khalid and MP Sidhu as a small community consultation from the Minister. The topic was about the pandemic and the impacts around international students. Mitra, Anushka, Mary and I attended the meeting, and we focused on items such as communication, financial support, health and vaccine plan. The Minister responded to most of our inquiries.

#### COSS (Council on Student Services)

On February 16, I attended the COSS meeting as a voting student representative. There were four motions, included the fee increase for Hart House, fee reduction for Sports and Rec, fee changes for Student Life (Student Services and Health & Counselling). All motions were passed with the following votes:

- Hart House: Students in favour (6), Students opposed (3), Administrators in favour (6);
- **Sport & Rec:** Students in favour (9), Students opposed (0), Administrators in favour (6);
- **Student Life Student Services:** Students in favour (6), Students opposed (2), Students abstained (1), Administrators in favour (6);
- **Student Life Health & Counselling:** Students in favour (7), Students opposed (2), Administrators in favour (6).

This result will be presented at the University Affairs Board – Cycle 4.

#### **Meetings Attended**

February 1 External team check in



	PT Staff meeting
February 2	DRO & CRO interviews
February 3	Free Breakfast Wednesday
	Team meeting
	CRO & DRO discussion
February 4	Women's Day discussion
February 5	EARC #5
	Emergency Board meeting
February 8	External team check in
February 10	Team meeting
February 11	EARC meeting #6
February 12	Executive meeting
	UTMSU meeting with Minister & MPs
February 14	Emergency BOD meeting #3
February 16	COSS meeting
	Meeting with OHS
February 22	External team check in
February 24	Team meeting
February 26	Executive Committee meeting



## Noha Farawi

#### Vice President Equity



#### Agenda

- 1. Food Centre
- 2. Seed Library
- 3. UofT Equity Census
- 4. XAO x Culture Fest
- 5. Bursaries
- 6. LAUS

#### Food Centre

The food centre has reopened! It's open every Monday from 12-3 p.m for pick up. The food centre is open to all students, no prior questions are asked beforehand. In February, the food centre received generous donations from Ecspert and UTM Residence. The centre was also able to collaborate with Black History Month and help in hosting the Black to the Kitchen event. We



distributed groceries to students in the GTA to follow along the event with. The food centre is also going to be renovated very soon!

#### Seed Library

The seed library is slowly starting up. We launched a pre-interest survey and got some very important and helpful answers from our membership. We're going to be collaborating with sustainability week for our very first initiative, so keep an eye out for it. We're also being supported by Ecosource, an environmental organization based in Mississauga. They are providing us with very crucial and helpful information for the seed library.

#### **UofT Equity Census**

I am one of the Co-Conveners for the equity census roundtable. We've had two very productive meetings with the UofT community to talk about the census and next steps the census should take. We've also collaborated with the SCSU to create an equity census commercial to help in promoting the census to the UofT community.

#### XAO x Culture Fest

For the first time ever Expressions Against Oppression and Culture Fest are uniting. We have awesome ideas for all our clubs to be involved in during the week of March 22 to 25. Keep an eye out for the sign up form if you're in any club!

#### **Bursaries**

Winter bursary deadline was on February 19th and we're now assessing them all. Folks should be hearing back if they're receiving a bursary in two weeks.

#### LAUS

For our February Learning and Unlearning Sustainability: Seminar Series we had an Environmental Justice and Law panel with speakers Dr. Nicole Laliberte



and Dr. Andrea Olive in collaboration with the Social Justice Club and Leap UofT. The seminar went great and attendees expressed learning a lot.



# Anushka Sokhi

Vice President University Affairs



#### **Executive Summary**

This month we worked on different things like Academic Advocacy Events, additionally we have continued to meet with UTM Departments to lobby the different initiatives that the UTMSU has been working on. We also met with members of the federal government and discussed different issues faced by students

#### Agenda

- 1. Academic Advocacy Week
- 2. Societies
- 3. UTMSU Lobby Meetings with Minister Mendicino & MP Iqra Khalid
- 4. CFS International Students Constituency Meetings
- 5. UTMSU Departmental Meetings
- 6. UTMSU Peer Support Program
- 7. Meetings Attended



#### Academic Advocacy Week

After a successful Academic Advocacy Week in November, we have decided to bring back Academic Advocacy Events in the month of March, this semester we will be having a FAQ session with the Office of the Registrar focusing on different things like Program of Study and other accommodations. The links of the events can be found at <u>www.utmsu.ca</u>.

#### **Societies**

This month along with the Campus Groups Team, the VPUA team has focused on approving the society audits as presented and have approved them at ASAC. Additionally, the Academic Society Advisory Committee also met to discuss the winter semester funding for all societies. Additionally we also discussed Society Elections at the ASAC level to have that information approved by the committee. If you are interested in knowing more about the same please email me at <u>vpua@utmsu.ca</u>.

#### UTMSU Lobby Meetings with Minister Mendicino &

#### MP Iqra Khalid

This month Mitra, Lily and I met with the Minister of Immigration, Refugee and Citizenship, Marco Mendicino as well as MP Iqra Khalid, to talk about the response of the Federal Government about COVID-19 Pandemic especially for International Students. In this meeting we discussed issues like Tuition Fees, OHIP as well as communication between the federal government and the international students.

#### **CFS** - International Students Constituency Meetings

As the International Student Constituency Co-Commissioner, I have had the chance to advocate for International Student Rights provincially, bringing to the table the issues faced by students. This provincial space is open to all students who want to be part of these conversations and if you are interested please contact me at <u>vpua@utmsu.ca</u>.

#### **UTMSU** Departmental Meetings



This month we have also started meeting with the different departments here at UTM. The goal of these meetings is to discuss different programs that exist interdepartmentally to be implemented across all departments at UTM. For example, one of the agenda items is to discuss the Embedded Counsellors that exist in the English and Drama departments, this program has seen a lot of success because of its nature of function and we believe that implementing such a program across all departments would be beneficial to UTM Students. If you would like to know more about these meetings please contact me at <u>vpua@utmsu.ca</u>.

#### UTMSU Peer Support Program

This month the UTMSU finally launched our Peer Support Program, after months of preparation we have launched this service for our students. The goal of this program meets the needs of our students and this program runs every Tuesday and Thursday. Understanding the need for such programs, more information can be found on our website.

#### **Meetings Attended**

- Monthly UTMSU Office Meeting
- Executive Committee Meeting
- Team Meeting weekly on Wednesday
- Academic Advocacy Week Prep Meetings
- Academic Advocacy Week Meetings with UTMSU, AIU, RGASC, IEC and DLS
- Committee on Standing Meetings
- Weekly Meeting with Deepti (Associate to VP UA)
- Meeting with Jihan Biweekly (Academic Coordinator)
- International Student Advocacy Meeting with CFS and other SUs
- Meeting with the Office of the Registrar
- Meeting with Dean of Academics Amrita
- UTMSU Lobby Meeting with Minister Mendicino and MP Iqra Khalid
- UTMSU Departmental Meetings
- Part-time Staff Meetings
- Board Meeting
- Weekly ASAC Check-in with Felipe (Campus Group Coordinator) and Deepti (Associate to VP UA)
- Campus Groups Meeting Awards, Gala and Elections
- Academic Society Advisory Committee Meeting



### Tarwah Afrah Vice President Campus Life



#### **Executive Summary**

Happy Black History Month! My favourite month of the year! Campus Life is traditionally based on in-person events, we have not faced times like this in recent UTMSU history, so it is challenging and fun maneuvering through this "new normal". The Campus Life team has now become a pro at figuring out quality virtual programming. A portion of the month consisted of Campus Groups with our campus groups coordinator.

#### Agenda

- 1. Black History Month
- 2. To Be A Black Student In Canada
- 3. Free Breakfast Wednesday
- 4. Campus Groups Elections
- 5. Campus Groups Social
- 6. Multicultural x XAO

#### **Black History Month**

Black History Month has been a blast, working with the black history month committee which includes Black Students Association, Caribbean Connection, African Students Associations, Black Literature Collective. We have offered vast variety of events such as



Opening Ceremony: In this interactive event, we will be discussing a range of topics from black mental health to being black in post-secondary.

Love, Sex and Relationship: This was a safe and positive space for students to ask questions and engage in a discussion about all things love, sex, and relationships.

Black In The Kitchen: This was a cooking event in collaboration with the food center where we delivered fresh ingredients to attendees, we also have the pleasure of hosting a chef who taught us how to make West African cuisine Jollof Rice.

Black Professional Panel featuring black professionals from various fields maneuvering through their careers while being black, the conversation was centered on any trial and tribulations they faced due to systematic oppression and how they were able to deal with it.

Closing Ceremony was our final event before the end of black history month. This was a feel-good event, centred around games and music, and creating a sense of community.

#### To Be A Black Student In Canada

This event was run by the Canadian Federation of Students and the Black Caucus, this space was an all-day event with various workshops around the black student experience, as well as unity throughout various movements. It was a pleasure being able to sit in these teach-ins and learn so much about being a black student leader, the event ended in a documentary that showcased testimonials of black students in post-secondary in Canada and their experiences.

#### Free Breakfast Wednesday

Free Breakfast Wednesdays are one of my favourite events hosted at the UTMSU by the presidential team. These series of virtual events are always great timing allowing us to eat the most important meal of the day while connecting with our members.



#### **Campus Groups Elections**

Campus Groups elections are fast approaching, I spent the month working with our Campus Groups Coordinator Felipe, devising an efficient plan to execute elections for our clubs despite the current pandemic. This begins with our CRO training that will happen in the first week of March, training our CRO on how to conduct impartial elections with their campus group.

#### **Campus Groups Social**

Along with our Campus Groups coordinator and with our campus groups team we are conducting an end of year social for our campus group execs, to show them some appreciation for all the hard work folks have done in this very difficult year. The event will consist of entertainment, awards and lots of surprises!

#### Multicultural x XAO

This year we are taking a new route to Multicultural fest and teaming up with the Equity team to combine both classic UTMSU events Multicultural fest and XAO. The collaboration will allow shine a light on the beauty of diversity on our campus, as well as taking an educational approach in discussing different adversities faced by different groups on campus. This series of events will be happening the end of March!