



ANNUAL REPORT

The background of the lower half of the page is a photograph of a student sitting on the floor, reading a large book. A laptop is open to the right, and several papers and a notebook are scattered around. The scene is lit with warm, natural light.

THANK YOU
FOR A GREAT
YEAR!

2023-24

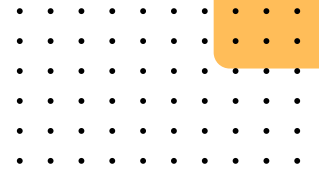
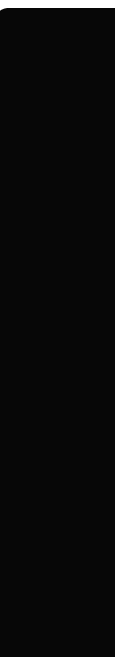
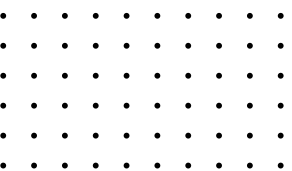


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WELCOME MESSAGE

Lily Schaerer

President

Dear Members,

It is with great pleasure and enthusiasm that I extend a warm welcome to each and every one of you as we gather to reflect on the past year's accomplishments and set our sights on the exciting opportunities that lie ahead. As the President of the Medicine Hat College Students' Association, I am honored to present to you our Annual President's Report, a testament to the dedication, resilience, and collective efforts of our vibrant community.

This past year has been unlike any other, presenting us with unforeseen challenges and remarkable opportunities for growth. Together, we have navigated through uncertain times, adapted to new realities, and emerged stronger and more united than ever before. Through it all, our unwavering commitment to serving the needs of our fellow students and enriching the college experience has remained steadfast.

In this report, you will find a comprehensive overview of our achievements, initiatives, and the impact we have made within our college community and beyond. From organizing engaging events and fostering meaningful connections to advocating for student rights and championing causes close to our hearts, each page is a testament to the passion and dedication of our members.

As we look to the future, let us continue to embrace change with open minds and compassionate hearts, remaining steadfast in our commitment to excellence, inclusivity, and student empowerment. Together, there is no limit to what we can achieve, and I am confident that with your continued support and active participation, we will continue to thrive and make a positive difference in the lives of our fellow students and the broader community.

Thank you for your unwavering support, dedication, and commitment to the vision and mission of our association.



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The Vice Presidents of the 2023-24 Year



Shintaro Iwata
Vice President Internal



Nikita Kovalev
Vice President External



Rebecca Hirsch
Vice President Community

The Council Representatives of the 2023-24 Year



Antwayne Hardie
Council Representative



Lee Chuen Tong (Jen)
Council Representative



Collins Ricky Abrefa
Council Representative



Jesica Philistin
Council Representative

About SAMHC



Purpose

The Students' Association (SAMHC) is the heart of student life and engagement at our institution. SAMHC is a student-run organization committed to enhancing your college experience, advocating for your are rights, and providing a platform for your voice to be heard.

Mission Statement

"The Students' Association of Medicine Hat College is a transparent organization run for the students, by the students. We are committed to improving student life by informing, representing, and advocating for its members. Our purpose is to provide a sense of pride in education, and give every individual the opportunity to experience college life to the fullest extent."

Vision Statement

"Empowering Student Success"

SAMHC VALUES

Student Focus



The SA recognizes the needs of MHC Students while providing services such as Health & Dental, information & referrals, and advocacy on multiple platforms. The SA supports the growth and success of individual students, and encourages the best college life experience by building community and relationships.

Accessibility



The SA provides equal opportunity access to all its services while supporting an inclusive and safe environment. The SA believes in assisting students with what they need when they need it, with kindness and integrity in a non-judgmental manner.

Adaptability



Each year, the MHC community presents itself with new and uniquely diverse environments and distinct needs. The SA adapts to act in the best interests of students while being flexible and mindful towards changes.



SAMHC PRESIDENT REPORT

Community Engagement:

In fostering strong relationships with Medicine Hat College stakeholders and the local community, the President played a pivotal role in establishing collaborations, and opportunities that benefit students and enhance their college experience.

Executive Job Description Revision:

One of the key accomplishments of the President during the reporting period was the revision of Executive job descriptions within the Students' Association. By meticulously reviewing and updating job descriptions, the President ensured clarity, accountability, and alignment of roles and responsibilities, thereby enhancing organizational efficiency and effectiveness.

Council Representative Training Program:

Recognizing the importance of equipping council representatives with the necessary skills and knowledge to fulfill their roles effectively, the President developed a comprehensive training program. This initiative aimed to empower council members with the tools and resources needed to advocate for student interests, navigate governance structures, and engage with stakeholders successfully.

Representation on Committees and Boards:

The President demonstrated exceptional commitment to student representation by actively participating in 22 committees and boards throughout the year. By serving as a voice for Medicine Hat College students, the President contributed to decision-making processes and ensured that student perspectives were taken into account in various aspects of college governance and planning.

Support for Office Initiatives:

In addition to their core responsibilities, the President provided valuable support for office initiatives and projects undertaken by the Students' Association. Whether assisting with event planning, coordinating outreach efforts, or contributing to strategic initiatives, the President's dedication and expertise were instrumental in driving the success of office endeavors.



SAMHC VP INTERNAL REPORT

Academic Appeals Assistance:

An integral aspect of the Vice President Internal's role involved providing essential support to students facing academic challenges. Over the reporting period, the Vice President Internal assisted 21 students with their appeals, offering guidance, advocacy, and resources to navigate the appeals process successfully. By championing student rights and ensuring due process, the Vice President Internal played a pivotal role in safeguarding academic integrity and fairness.

Policy Development and Implementation:

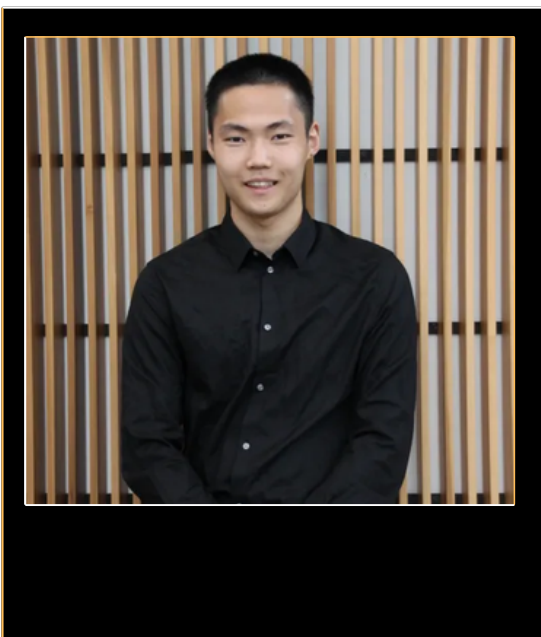
Demonstrating proactive leadership, the Vice President Internal spearheaded the development and implementation of crucial policies aimed at promoting student safety, wellness, and organizational effectiveness. Key initiatives included the formulation of a comprehensive Club Conflict Policy to address and mitigate conflicts within student clubs and organizations, as well as the establishment of a robust Safety and Wellness Policy to prioritize student well-being and create a conducive campus environment for all.

Recruitment and Leadership Development:

Recognizing the importance of strong leadership and representation within the student body, the Vice President Internal undertook the responsibility of recruiting exceptional student representatives and executive candidates. Through strategic outreach efforts and engagement initiatives, the Vice President Internal successfully attracted talented individuals to run for executive positions, ensuring continuity and effectiveness within the Students' Association.

Student Advocacy and Support:

In a testament to their unwavering dedication to student advocacy, the Vice President Internal successfully defended a student from an alleged college policy violation, facilitating a fair and equitable resolution. Additionally, the Vice President Internal played a pivotal role in assisting a student in reclaiming a significant portion of their tuition deposit, exemplifying a commitment to supporting students in navigating complex administrative processes and advocating for their rights.



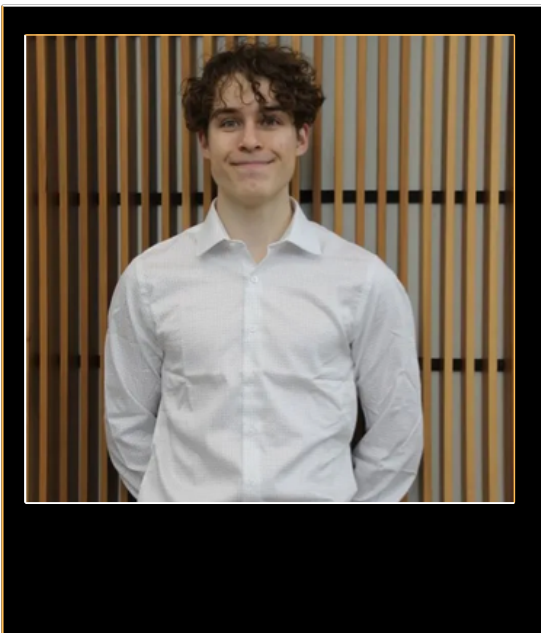
SAMHC VP EXTERNAL REPORT

Chief Editor of the SAMHC Newsletter:

The Vice President External has released the SAMHC monthly newsletter to inform, engage, and connect with the student body at Medicine Hat College. Through thoughtful content curation and strategic distribution, the newsletter effectively supports the mission of enhancing the student experience and fostering a sense of community and belonging.

Representation on External Committees and Boards:

A key responsibility of the Vice President External has been to represent the interests of Medicine Hat College students on various external committees, boards, and advisory groups. By actively participating in these forums, the Vice President External has ensured that student perspectives are considered in decision-making processes that impact higher education policy, funding allocations, and student services provision.

**Government Relations and Advocacy Campaigns:**

In collaboration with the Alberta Student Executive Council, the Vice President External has led advocacy campaigns aimed at influencing government policies and securing resources to support student needs. Whether meeting with elected officials or organizing OER initiatives, the Vice President External has been instrumental in advancing legislative priorities that benefit Medicine Hat students and the broader post-secondary community.

Community Outreach and Partnerships:

Recognizing the importance of building strong relationships with the local community, the Vice President External has forged partnerships and collaborations with community organizations, businesses, and civic leaders. These partnerships have facilitated opportunities for students to engage in community service projects, volunteer initiatives, and experiential learning opportunities that enrich their college experience and contribute to the broader community.

SAMHC VP COMMUNITY REPORT

Event Organization:

Throughout the year, the Vice President Community has been instrumental in organizing a diverse array of events aimed at enhancing the student experience and promoting community engagement. From social gatherings to cultural celebrations, these events have provided students with valuable opportunities to connect, learn, and grow. Through meticulous planning, coordination with campus partners, and effective promotion, the Vice President Community has successfully executed numerous events that have resonated with the student body and contributed to a positive campus culture.

Student Club Coordination:

As part of their role, the Vice President Community has worked to support and empower the 12 student clubs within the college community. Through proactive outreach, guidance on event planning, and assistance with logistical arrangements, the Vice President Community has played a critical role in ensuring the success of student-led initiatives. By fostering collaboration and providing resources and support, the Vice President Community has helped student clubs thrive and make meaningful contributions to campus life.

**Social Media Management:**

In addition to event organization and club coordination, the Vice President Community has effectively managed the SAMHC social media presence to engage with students, share important updates, and promote upcoming events and initiatives. Through strategic content creation, regular posting, and interactive engagement with followers, the Vice President Community has amplified the reach and impact of SAMHC activities, fostering a sense of community and connectivity among students both on and off-campus.

SAMHC EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT

Operational Management:

As the chief administrative officer, the Executive Director was responsible for the overall management and administration of SAMHC operations. This encompassed overseeing human resources, financial management, policy development, and compliance with relevant regulations. The Executive Director implemented efficient processes, optimized resource allocation, and fostered a culture of accountability and transparency within the organization.

Financial Stewardship:

The Executive Director exercised prudent financial stewardship to ensure the fiscal health and sustainability of SAMHC. This involved developing and managing the annual budget, monitoring revenue and expenditures, and identifying opportunities to maximize financial resources. The Executive Director implemented cost-saving measures, pursued alternative funding sources, and promoted financial literacy among staff and students to enhance financial resilience and long-term viability.

Professional Development and Training:

Throughout the year, the Executive Director invested in professional development and training opportunities to enhance leadership skills, stay abreast of emerging trends, and foster continuous improvement within SAMHC. This included attending conferences, workshops, and seminars relevant to higher education administration, student affairs, and nonprofit management. The Executive Director also encouraged professional growth among staff members, providing mentorship, coaching, and professional development opportunities to support their career advancement and job satisfaction.

Conclusion:

In conclusion, the Executive Director of the Students' Association of Medicine Hat College demonstrated exemplary leadership, vision, and dedication in advancing the interests of students and the organization as a whole. Through strategic leadership, effective advocacy, and collaboration with stakeholders, the Executive Director contributed to the enhancement of student experiences, the promotion of student success, and the realization of SAMHC's mission.



SAMHC ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT REPORT

Administrative Support:

The Administrative Assistant provided comprehensive administrative support to the SAMHC executive team, committees, and student members. This included managing calendars, scheduling meetings, drafting correspondence, and maintaining records. Additionally, the Assistant facilitated communication between stakeholders, responded to inquiries, and ensured timely dissemination of information.

Event Coordination:

Throughout the year, the Administrative Assistant contributed to the planning and execution of various events and activities organized by the SAMHC. This involved logistical coordination, the creation of marketing materials and procurement of supplies. The Assistant played a pivotal role in ensuring the success of events such as orientation sessions, social gatherings, fundraisers, and awareness campaigns.

Student Engagement and Support:

As a frontline representative of the Students' Association, the Administrative Assistant provided support and assistance to students on various matters. This included guiding students on accessing resources, addressing concerns, and navigating campus services. The Assistant also played a role in promoting student engagement initiatives, encouraging participation in club activities, and fostering a sense of community among students.

Documentation and Reporting:

The Administrative Assistant was responsible for maintaining accurate documentation of SAMHC activities, including meeting minutes, reports, and organizational documents. The Assistant compiled relevant data and information to prepare periodic reports for the executive team, board members, and external stakeholders. These reports facilitated informed decision-making and provided insights into the Association's activities and achievements.

Professional Development:

The Administrative Assistant engaged in continuous professional development activities to enhance skills and knowledge relevant to their role. This included attending training workshops, participating in webinars, and pursuing certifications to stay updated on best practices in administrative support, event management, and student services.



SAMHC

HEALTH & WELLNESS COORDINATOR

REPORT

Program Development and Implementation:

Throughout the year, the Health and Wellness Coordinator developed and implemented various health promotion programs, initiatives, and campaigns aimed at enhancing student well-being. These programs addressed a wide range of topics, including stress management, healthy eating, physical activity, mental health awareness, and substance abuse prevention. The Coordinator collaborated with campus partners, community organizations, and healthcare professionals to deliver engaging and informative programming that met the diverse needs of students.

Workshops and Educational Events:

The Health and Wellness Coordinator organized and facilitated workshops, seminars, and educational events designed to empower students with the knowledge, skills, and resources to make informed decisions about their health and well-being. These events covered topics such as mindfulness meditation, sleep hygiene, nutrition and wellness, sexual health, and healthy relationships. The Coordinator invited guest speakers, experts, and professionals to present information and lead discussions on relevant health-related issues.

Health Promotion Campaigns:

The Health and Wellness Coordinator launched health promotion campaigns and initiatives to raise awareness, reduce stigma, and promote positive health behaviors among students. These campaigns utilized various communication channels, including social media, posters, flyers, and campus events, to reach a broad audience of students. Topics addressed by these campaigns included stress awareness, mental health stigma reduction, healthy lifestyles, sexual health education, and substance abuse prevention.



Collaboration and Partnerships:

The Health and Wellness Coordinator collaborated with campus departments, student organizations, community agencies, and healthcare providers to enhance the availability and accessibility of health and wellness services for students. They participated in campus committees, task forces, and working groups focused on student health and well-being to advocate for student needs and priorities. The Coordinator also forged partnerships with local businesses, healthcare facilities, and wellness practitioners to expand the range of resources and services available to students.

SAMHC

BROOKS CAMPUS COORDINATOR

REPORT

Campus Leadership and Representation:

Throughout the year, the Brooks Campus Coordinator provided strong leadership and representation for students at the Brooks campus of Medicine Hat College. Acting as a liaison between students, faculty, and the SA MHC, the Coordinator advocated for student needs, concerns, and interests. They actively engaged with campus stakeholders to ensure that student voices were heard and considered in decision-making processes.

Event Planning and Coordination:

The Brooks Campus Coordinator was responsible for planning, organizing, and coordinating various campus events and activities aimed at enhancing student engagement and fostering a sense of community. These events included orientation sessions, welcome week activities, social gatherings, and educational workshops. The Coordinator worked closely with student clubs, organizations, and campus departments to deliver a diverse range of programming that catered to the interests and needs of Brooks campus students.

Student Support and Services:

As the primary point of contact for student support services at the Brooks campus, the Coordinator provided assistance, guidance, and resources to students seeking academic, personal, or social support. They facilitated access to campus resources, such as counseling services, academic advising, and disability support, to ensure that students received the assistance they needed to succeed. The Coordinator also played a key role in promoting student wellness and mental health awareness initiatives on campus.

**Community Engagement and Partnerships:**

The Brooks Campus Coordinator actively engaged with the local community to establish partnerships, collaborations, and opportunities that benefit students and enhance their college experience. They forged relationships with local businesses, organizations, and community leaders to provide students with access to employment opportunities, internships, and experiential learning opportunities. The Coordinator also organized community service projects and volunteer opportunities to encourage student involvement and civic engagement.

REPRESENTATIVE SUMMARY

Enhanced Library Hours

The Council Representatives of SAMHC undertook an initiative to extend library hours, recognizing the vital role of academic resources in student success. Understanding that access to library facilities outside of traditional hours is crucial for students with diverse schedules and commitments, they worked closely with college administration to implement this change.

Engaging Events

The Council Representatives of SAMHC took an active role in helping plan and organize events such as Bingo After Dark and Frost Fest, aiming to foster a positive and engaging campus community.

Accountability Practices

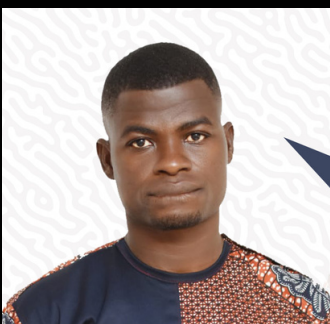
The Council Representatives of SAMHC took on the responsibility of overseeing the SAMHC Executives to ensure effective leadership and representation for the student body.

Understanding the pivotal role of SAMHC Executives in advocating for student interests, the representatives managed a framework for accountability and support.

Student Welfare Enhancements

The Council Representatives of SAMHC took proactive steps to address the concerns of international students, recognizing the importance of fostering a supportive and inclusive environment for all members of the college community.

Understanding the unique challenges and experiences faced by International students, the representatives initiated a series of discussions, surveys, and focus groups to identify and prioritize their concerns. They actively sought input from international student organizations, and support services to gain a comprehensive understanding of the issues at hand.



KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

Enhanced Communication Channels

- Successfully implemented Microsoft Teams as the primary project management platform, improving collaboration and communication efficiency across campus.

- Actively engaged in various committee meetings and events, fostering transparent communication and stakeholder engagement.

Effective Governance Practices

- Demonstrated commitment to governance by actively participating in committee meetings and ensuring adherence to scheduled agendas.

- Successfully implemented policies and procedures discussed in governance meetings, enhancing transparency and accountability.

Increased Campus Engagement

- Organized and participated in various campus events and activities, such as the Cinco de Mayo celebration and Welcome Back Bash, fostering a positive campus community.

- Improved student engagement through proactive planning of future meetings and events focused on training, advocacy, and strategic planning.

Student Welfare Enhancements

- Received positive feedback on the Welcome Back Bash, demonstrating responsiveness to employee satisfaction surveys.

- Advocated for student welfare through meetings with MHC stakeholders, attendance at ASEC conferences, and engagement in other advocacy efforts.



KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

Partnerships and Advocacy Successes

- Strengthened partnerships with external organizations such as ASEC, fostering collaboration and advocacy opportunities.
- Successfully engaged in advocacy efforts, leading to positive outcomes such as lobbying opportunities and insights gained from the Minister's Reception and ASEC's Advocacy Week.

Financial Stewardship and Sustainability

- Maintained sound financial management practices, with budget adherence and variance analysis indicating responsible financial stewardship.
- Diversified revenue sources, contributing to the association's financial sustainability and resilience.

Operational Efficiency Improvements

- Provided feedback on administrative processes, leading to improvements in areas such as fees and hiring plans.
- Actively participated in meetings to discuss ongoing projects, ensuring progress and adherence to timelines and budgets.

Conclusion

These achievements reflect effective leadership in driving positive change, fostering campus engagement, and advancing the institution's strategic objectives. They demonstrate her commitment to governance, advocacy, student welfare, and financial sustainability, thus contributing to the overall success of the college community.



LOOKING FORWARD

SAMHC

Executive Team

As we reflect on the achievements and challenges of the past year, we are filled with gratitude for the unwavering support and dedication of the Medicine Hat College community. The collaborative efforts of students, faculty, staff, and administration have propelled us forward, driving positive change and enhancing the student experience.

As we look ahead to the future, the Student Association of Medicine Hat College (SAMHC) remains committed to our mission of advocating for student interests, fostering a sense of belonging, and empowering individuals to reach their full potential. With a renewed sense of purpose and enthusiasm, we are excited to embark on the journey ahead and continue building upon our successes.

In the coming year, SAMHC will focus on several key areas to better serve the needs of our diverse student body

As we embark on this journey together, we invite all members of the Medicine Hat College community to join us in shaping a brighter future for our campus and beyond. Together, we have the power to make a meaningful difference and create lasting impact for generations to come.

Thank you for your continued support, and we look forward to the exciting opportunities and challenges that lie ahead.





YOUR HUB FOR STUDENT SERVICES

We deliver relevant services aimed at helping you are each an optimal student-life balance

Our Services

- ✓ Health & Dental Plan
- ✓ Printing & Faxing
- ✓ Food Bank
- ✓ Locker Rental
- ✓ Student Clubs
- ✓ Reproductive Health Products



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