

# ADVOCATING FOR BETTER STUDENT EXPERIENCE



## TEJAS PATEL PRESIDENT (HE/HIM)



- What do you wish to accomplish this year for URSU?
  - Promote mental health and wellness by organizing events and activities to enhance campus life and foster connections and extend support to all students.
  - My aim is to prioritize the well-being of students by advocating for mental health and wellness resources.
  - I am eager to build relationships and a student community that is inclusive of all.





2023 -24

PRESIDENT'S ANNUAL REPORT

#### **ROLE & RESPONSIBILITY**

The President of URSU acts as the Chief Executive Officer of the corporation. They are ultimately responsible for managing URSU in order to maximize benefits to members, the proper functioning of URSU's operations and its sustained growth. They responsible for developing and implementing the mission, the vision and the strategy of URSU approved by the Board of Directors. In so developing and implementing, they determine the shortterm, midterm and long-term objectives of URSU in consultation with the Executive Committee and the URSU General Manager and ensure that action plans or policies are in place to meet those objectives. . They are accountable for developing and maintaining sound and ethical business practises, relations with the internal and external clients of URSU, the community and governments. The President acts as a direct liaison between the Board and management of the Company and communicates to the Board on behalf of management.



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I HAVE ATTACHED ALL OF MONTH- TO - MONTH WORK IN A SEPERATE PDF



## **DUTIES OF TEJAS PATEL**

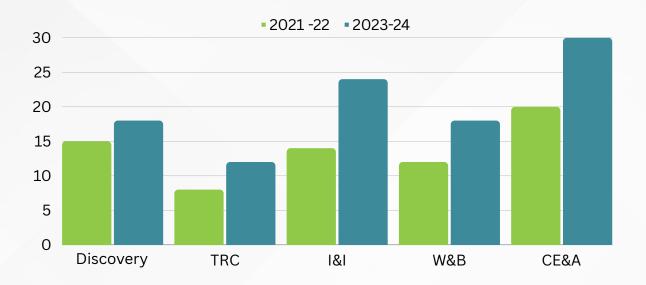
- 1. Developing a strategic direction for the organization.
- 2. Act as a liaison between the General Manager and the Executive Committee (e.x. Communicating updates about the organization, managing the General Manager, collaborating on strategic planning for the organization.)
- 3. Handling the public relations of URSU (e.x. Speaking at events, informing the public of the ongoing activities of the organization, acting as a "figurehead" etc.)
- 4. Making appointments to University Council, University Senate and other boards and committee (exception: Graduate Students who self-appoint in some cases)
- 5. Being the primary contact point for URSU societies.
- 6. Ensuring that the concerns of the Board of Directors (and individual members) are brought to the attention of the Executive Committee.
- 7. Chairing the Executive Committee, the Varsity Club Athletics Board (VCAB), and the President's Advisory Committee (PAC).
- 8. Finding a replacement or chairing the Board meetings when the Regular chair is unavailable (see Meeting Policy).
- 9. Organizing and planning the new board member orientation and training activities (in conjunction with the General Manager and/or outgoing Executive).
- 10. Initiating and coordinating the regular strategic planning activities.
- 11. Initiating and coordinating Board of Director Development and training.
- 12.Acting as the student representative on the Board of Governors.
- 13. Ensuring members comply with the constitution, policies and bylaws of URSU
- 14.Advancing and maintaining a good working relationship with members of URSU, University administration, the municipal, provincial and federal governments, the private sector and the nonprofit sector.
- 15.Being a signing authority for URSU.
- 16. Overseeing/performing policy development.
- 17.Being generally knowledgeable of all URSU's activities.
- 18.Creating detailed and comprehensive transition documents for informing executives
- 19. Performing other similar duties as they arise or are delegated by the Board of Directors.

## STRATEGIC PLAN 2023 -24



## KEY DATA HIGHLIGHT CHART

#### **COMPARITIVE BAR GRAPH**



The University of Regina Students' Union (URSU) is committed to enhancing the overall university experience for its students. As we move forward into the academic year 2023-24, we recognize the importance of aligning our strategic plan with the URSU Vision and Mission Statement. This plan aims to prioritize six key areas that are central to our mission and vision, allowing us to foster a stronger, more inclusive, and supportive community for all students at the University of Regina.

- 1. Discovery.
- 2. Truth and Reconciliation.
- 3.Impact and Identity.
- 4. Well-being and Belonging.
- 5. Comunity Engagement and Advocay.

## **ATTENDANCES**

### EXECUTIVE MEETINGS

- Organized the Executive Meeting in timely manner
- 100% of (Executive)
  Attendance

https://ursu.ca/aboutursu/governance/executivecommittee-attendancereports/

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- Organised BOD's meeting on timely manner.
- I assumed the position of chair in the majority of meetings, where my primary responsibilities included facilitating agendas.

https://ursu.ca/aboutursu/governance/meetingminutes/

### BOARD OF GOVERNORS

- Attended all the Board of Governors meetings.
- URSU report was provided in each of the meeting.

https://www.uregina.ca/president/governance/board-of-governors/past-minutes.html

### PAC & VCAB

- Organized PAC meetings.
- Participated in VCAB meeting. Worked to improve URSU relations.

### **URSU CARES PANTRY**

We're thrilled to share the incredible success of the URSU Cares Pantry, a service that not only received recognition from the Lieutenant Governor but has also become a shining example of sustainable initiatives within the United Nations program.

This fall semester, we have served an average of 220 unique individual students every month through our biweekly pantry program. This showcases the substantial engagement and impact this initiative has on our campus. As we have recently seen an increase in support from various donors and sponsors in our community, we are delighted to announce that we will be able to open the program to 40 more students every two weeks in 2024!

It's heartening to note that among the participants, 49% are our talented undergraduate students, while 51% are dedicated graduate students.

The heartfelt expressions of gratitude from our students speak volumes about the positive impact of the URSU Cares Pantry

- "This program has been really helpful in providing necessities for students, and it helps meet students' needs. Thank you, URSU Pantry!"
- "I really appreciate it because I can't always find everything or in good quality, pantry helps a lot."

We also received a generous \$6000 grant from Farm Credit Canada, and URSU is poised to increase the registration limit from 140 to 180 students per pantry week. This achievement marks a milestone in bolstering food security initiatives, ensuring more students benefit from essential pantry services. The grant was approved due to the phenomenal efforts of our food security coordinator.

These statements are a testament to the profound difference the pantry is making in the lives of our students. It goes beyond providing essential items it by creating a supportive community that understands, cares, and creates resilience.

Let's continue supporting one another and making URSU a community that cares. If you are interested in supporting the pantry program, please contact the Food Security Coordinator at <a href="mailto:food@ursu.ca">food@ursu.ca</a>. Thank you to everyone who has contributed to the success of the URSU Cares Pantry!



Welcome Weeks
Fall & Winter

#### **Fall Events:**

#### 1. Club Fair (Fall):

- Participated by 2500 students and featured over 25 clubs, fostering consense of community engagement.

#### 2. URSU Breakfast:

- Hosted a complimentary breakfast for all students, promoting inclusivity and community bonding.

#### 3. DJ Night - Battle of DJs:

- An electrifying event featuring a DJ battle with three talented DJs, creating an energetic atmosphere.

#### 4. Band Show on the Greens:

- Ethan and the team delivered a captivating performance, setting a vibrant tone for Welcome Week.

#### 5. Open Concert on the Greens:

- The first-ever open-air concert showcased six talented artists, providing a unique musical experience.

#### 6. Paint and Bingo Night:

- Hosted a creative and entertaining night, featuring special mocktails by Lazy Owl YQR.

#### 7. Casino Night with Hill BSS:

- A highly attended event, offering a fun-filled evening of games and entertainment.

**Supporting Student Experience:** All events were offered free of charge, emphasizing our commitment to enhancing the overall student experience on campus. The diverse range of activities aimed to create an inclusive and vibrant community, fostering lasting connections among students.

### **WINTER EVENTS**

#### 1. Club Fair (Winter):

- An indoor edition featuring 25+ clubs, offering students opportunities for involvement.

#### 2. DJ Night (Winter):

- A continuation of the popular DJ night series, ensuring a lively and entertaining atmosphere.

#### 3. Fire and Magic Show:

- A captivating performance that filled the venue, adding a touch of magic to the winter festivities.

#### 4. Karaoke Night:

- Provided students with a platform to showcase their vocal talents in a fun and interactive setting.

#### 5. Snowman and Hot Chocolate:

- A winter-themed event bringing students together for outdoor enjoyment and warm beverages.

#### 6. Open Mic Night:

- Featured student artists and local musicians, celebrating the diverse talents within our community.

#### 7. Paint and Bingo Night (Winter):

- Another successful installment, offering a blend of creativity and entertainment.

**Logistics and Event Management:** Throughout both seasons, our team diligently handled logistics, contracts, recruitment, event execution, and budgeting. We were present on the ground for each event, ensuring a seamless experience for all participants.

## STUDENTS UNITED WILL NEVER BE DEFEATED

"

### **FUND THE FUTURE**

On November 8, the University of Regina Students' Union (URSU) organized a Fund the Future campaign rally and made a planned walk through the university. The rally is held in conjunction with the CFS National Day of Action - events and rallies planned from coast to coast, across the country. URSU has also organized a lobby week and met with Minister Hon. Gordon H. Wyant and the opposition party NDP to discuss student issues and priorities listed in the lobbying document. The issues prioritized by URSU this year are: relieving student debt; replacing students' loans with upfront non-repayable grants for low-income students; increasing scholarships, bursaries, and grants for Indigenous as well as international students; fairness for international students; funding support for graduate students; addressing student mental health needs; creation of sexual assault and violence prevention policies; creation of Trans Rights legislation; addressing student food security; and addressing issues performance-based funding.

- Meeting with USSU regarding Fund the Future.
- Acted as a secondary contact for the Program.
  - Participated in the rally
  - -Meetings with University Administration
- -Meeting with the Minister of Advance Education and NDP Caucus





LAUNCH OF Q-PAY

# AN ALL-NEW PLATFORM FOR CLUBS AND SOCIETIES



- Easy to manage, access, and work.
- User Friendly
- Get Ratification status easily.
- Helps to organize your governing documents easily.
- Handle different memberships.
- Completely free access for clubs and societies.
- Make your website FREE-OF-COST.

For more information contact events@ursu.ca

-worked to negotiate.

-Provide On-boarding to all the clubs and societies.
 -Organised a safe transition protocols.
 -Worked with University



## **URSU** RADIO

URSU Radiostation is flourishing as a creative hub, collaborating with over 40 students to produce engaging podcasts, radio shows, and multimedia content. Students can freely access our equipment, fostering an environment of unrestricted creative expression.

#### Operational Highlights:

URSU Radiostation operates at full capacity, providing students with the tools they need to bring their ideas to life. With a commitment to inclusivity, our station is open to all, offering a platform where creativity knows no bounds.

URSU Radiostation stands as a beacon for student creativity, providing an accessible platform for the development of podcasts and radio shows. With a strong Instagram presence and active student involvement, we are poised for continued growth and success. URSU Radiostation is not just a station; it's a space where student voices resonate.

## URSU LEADERS PROGRAM REPORT

#### Introduction:

The URSU Leaders Program is a flagship initiative designed to enhance student support and engagement within our university community. This report provides an overview of the program, highlighting key achievements, initiatives, and the upcoming launch.

#### Program Overview:

The URSU Leaders Program is a volunteering initiative aimed at actively supporting students in their academic journey. The program focuses on assisting in finding classes, addressing academic needs, and creating a platform for students to voice concerns, seek advice, and share suggestions. As part of our commitment to student engagement, the URSU Leaders Program is complemented by regular events and the popular URSU Breakfast with the executive team.

#### **Achievements:**

- 1. URSU Breakfast Fall 2023:
- The URSU Breakfast has proven to be an invaluable platform for students to interact with the executive team. It serves as an open forum for discussing concerns, seeking advice, and sharing suggestions.
- The positive response from students has led to the continued success and growth of this initiative. Our esteemed URSU volunteers not only helped in logistics but also provided guidance to new students about URSU services

#### 2. Student Support and Engagement:

- The URSU Leaders Program actively supports students in finding their classes and addressing their academic needs.
- Through the program, we have seen a significant increase of over 50 students volunteering their time to contribute to the betterment of the university community.

#### 3. Regular Student Engagement Events:

- In addition to the URSU Leaders Program, we are committed to creating more opportunities for students through regular engagement events throughout the academic year.
- These events are designed to foster a sense of community and provide students with additional platforms to connect and collaborate.

#### **Upcoming Launch:**

As we gear up for the official launch of the URSU Leaders Program, we are excited to announce that our Events team is working diligently to secure special URSU merchandise for our dedicated URSU Leaders. This initiative aims to not only recognize the efforts of our volunteers but also to create a sense of pride and identity among them.

#### **Conclusion:**

The URSU Leaders Program stands as a testament to our commitment to student support and engagement. The achievements highlighted in this report underscore the positive impact the program has already made on our university community. As we move forward, we look forward to the official launch and the continued growth and success of the URSU Leaders Program.





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