



Dalhousie Student Union Building | 6136 University Avenue  
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## DSU Vice-President, Student Life

Report for the period *June 19 – July 24*

**Current projects:** *Within VPSL Portfolio:* O-Week, Dalfest, Student Wellness Committee

*Outside VPSL Portfolio:* Student/Admin Relations, Restructuring, Staff Unionizing

### Successes/Challenges:

#### O-Week

- Successes:
  - Leader applications and o-week registration flooding in
  - Committee planning and training is coming along really well
  - Adding FRIES Consent campaign to O-Week, working more education and progressive/social justice work to O-Week
- Challenges
  - Working with smaller budgets than previous years, as are many university departments—collaboration is limited
  - Sponsorship and donations are slowly rolling in
  - Working on sponsorship opportunities with the Keep It Social Campaign (through the NSLC)

#### Dalfest

- Successes:
  - Offers sent out and accepted – the line-up is looking fantastic!
- Challenges:
  - Coordinating sponsorship

#### Student Wellness Committee

- Successes:
  - Working with student health promotion on creating a wellness committee to streamline communication, share resources and mandate student consultation.
  - This idea has been well-received and supported by admin
- Challenges:
  - Originally focused on creating an official mandate and formal proposal to help encourage admin to get involved – their feedback was to provide a more casual and open mandate and then zero in on a formal proposal/mandate once the committee can begin meeting.
  - Planning a Mental Health town hall to help with this mandate creation and to figure out what this committee will look like
  - Trying to develop it into a “caucus” as opposed to committee to try and provide more decision making power as opposed to just being another advisory committee



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## Committee Updates:

### O-Week Committee

- Our committee has been working tirelessly to help ensure that our O-Week programming is safe and accessible and of course, as fun as possible.
- There are still plenty of opportunities to get involved with O-Week – both in planning and for volunteering during O-Week
- Please email me ([dsuvpsl@dal.ca](mailto:dsuvpsl@dal.ca)) or my fantastic commissioner, Meghan ([dsu.programmingcommissioner@dal.ca](mailto:dsu.programmingcommissioner@dal.ca)) for more info

## Programming Commissioner Updates:

- Ensuring all spaces are booked and can accommodate specific event needs
- Coordinating all committee communications and facilitating society events/involvement
- Coordinating residence life engagement and leader training
- Working on licensing for movie viewings
- Busy being Ruby's #1 Hero and keeping her sane

## Additional information:

As I'm sure most folks are aware, this has been a very hectic time at the DSU. Between the restructuring of management and the unionization processes of both part-time and full-time staff, all executives, including myself have nearly doubled our portfolio workloads. I would like to assure students and staff, that we have not been pulling attention away from our main portfolio projects, and instead have been working longer hours to ensure all work is getting done.

All executives, including myself, have been staying true to our platforms and have not broken any "promises". We were elected into these positions with big dreams, huge goals and only a year to ensure we leave the DSU in a better position than it was when we were elected – I wholeheartedly believe we are doing this, and all I ask is you trust our judgement.

In terms of communications, we are only allowed to share information on the outcomes of the restructuring and process we followed – we are bound by the law and are unable to share information on any of the HR surrounding this process. This is included but not limited to salaries of staff and costs of severance.



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The DSU executives have followed the law throughout our term, and obviously plan to continue doing so. We have had legal consultation throughout these processes and again, will continue doing so.

I just wanted to take this space to thank students for cooperation, understanding and support and to acknowledge my fellow executives for long hours we have been working – I don't think any of us have worked a week short of 50 hours since starting our term. Between strategic planning, executing these plans and our typical portfolios, we have had some really long days. The only thing keeping me motivated is knowing that we truly are working to ensure the DSU supports students the best it possibly can.

Shout out to our fantastic for baring with us a supporting us throughout this process.