

## Activities Report

### **On June 6th ab-GPAC meet with Edmonton Regional Post Secondary Mental Health Committee (ERPSMHC) Chair (Kevin Friese)**

- ab-GPAC ED and Vice-Chair Marc Waddingham met with Kevin Friese chair of the Edmonton ERPSMHC to learn about the role of the regional committee.
- ab-GPAC talked about graduate student stressors and needed supports
- UAlberta has conducted research into *Students Who Parent* and *Students that are Homeless* - which would be good resources for our policy development work.
- ERPSMHC would be willing to either have an ab-GPAC representative at their committee meeting- or to engage ab-GPAC on an issues basis to ensure the graduate perspective is represented.

### **ab-GPAC ED met with Undergraduate Advocacy ED's & Staff on June 20th**

- ab-GPAC ED met with CAUS ED, ASEC Policy Director and Interim ASEC ED.
- Discussion focused on upcoming SLO to Government and priorities for 2019/2020.
- CAUS shared highlights of their meeting with AE Minister who discussed plans to launch Chicago Principles on Alberta campuses.
- ASEC seeking access to consultancy report on funding framework commissioned by the previous government; will share when accessed.

### **ab-GPAC annual Board Retreat held in Rocky Mountain House on June 21/22, 2019**

- Directors and ED crafted a vision statement.
- Created a 3-year strategic plan for ab-GPAC to 2021/2022.
- Identified External Advocacy Priorities as: (i) scholarships and (ii) Streamlining Immigration & PR.
- Indigenous research and consultation will continue by directors.

### **ab-GPAC ED and Chair attended Student Leader Orientation to Government June 24th and 25th at Government House with graduate student leaders from member GSA's**

- Information & relationship building session for new student leaders, Minister of Advanced Education and Senior Advanced Education Staff
- Attended ASEC Social Mixer and CAUS MLA Mixer on June 24th

### **Call for Volunteers**

The Alberta Graduate Provincial Advocacy Council (ab-GPAC) is looking for graduate students interested in participating in working groups to develop advocacy policy on (i) scholarships (ii) Streamlining Immigration & PR and (iii) Indigenous Student Research. If you are interested in experience with policy research &/or development and have 2-3 hours per week for a 3-4 month period commencing August 2019 come join us in making a difference.

If you are interested in participating email: [ed@abgpac.ca](mailto:ed@abgpac.ca) on or before **August 10, 2019** and include your area of interest. For more information visit: [abgpac.ca](http://abgpac.ca)

### **Upcoming Information, Activities and Events**

- ab-GPAC Vision Statement
- ab-GPAC 3-Year Strategic Plan
- July 18th Meeting with Advanced Education Minister
- August 15th Alberta Innovates Meeting
- August - Initiate External Advocacy Policy Development Working Groups
- Stakeholder Survey (Graduate Students)
- Stakeholder Interviews & Focus Groups

**If you require any points of clarification or additional information please contact:**  
Nicole van Kuppeveld ED at [ed@abgpac.ca](mailto:ed@abgpac.ca) or Marcela Lopes Chair at [chair@abgpac.ca](mailto:chair@abgpac.ca)