



# REPORT

*From the office of the...*

## Vice-President Administration

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TO: Executive Board Members  
FROM: Shaarujaa Nadarajah, Vice-President Administration & CAO  
SUBJECT: TRRA Update  
DATE: October 28th, 2016

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Dear Executive Board members,

Last year, Executive Board approved the creation of the Training Resources Research Position which was a position dedicated to providing more support for our peer support part-time managers with respect to training and ongoing support. I wanted to provide regular updates on the use of this position and some of the tasks they have been working on as we will be evaluating whether this should be a permanent position at the end of the year. I have asked Shruti to provide an update on some of the work she has been doing since the start of her role in May.

### Summary

#### September Peer Support Training

Initial training took place September 10-11, with additional training such as Trans 101 being facilitated on later weekends in the month. Training was well-received, and currently focus is being placed on collecting/consolidating the feedback to inform the January re-training. Focus groups will be held later in the term to help determine the priorities of the Winter training as well.

#### Accessible Peer Support Module

As some individuals were unable to stay for the entire training weekend, or wanted clarification/review on some topics, currently underway is a makeup module (essentially a narrated slide show with case scenarios), which volunteers will be able to access through their PTMs to review training content.

#### PTM debrief group

The need has arisen for Part-time Managers of peer support services to have a space to discuss and debrief the unique experiences of managing a support service. To address this, a monthly (possibly bi-monthly) debrief group is being formed to create a space to check in, and raise/address and concerns that have come up in service operations with respect to peer support.

## Suicide Awareness

Currently in the process of evaluating the feedback on the separate Suicide Awareness piece provided as part of the peer support training. This training module needs to be evaluated separately, as we are trying to determine whether or not a peer-led training can be a viable alternative for SafeTalk, in the event that is not feasible for all peer support volunteers to be ASIST trained. Feedback from the training will be passed along to the Student Wellness Centre, to continue to conversations around suicide awareness from the summer.

Please feel free to ask any questions should you have any.

Sincerely,

Shaarujaa Nadarajah  
Vice-President Administration  
McMaster Students Union  
vpadmin@msu.mcmaster.ca