



# REPORT

*From the office of the...*

## Student Community Support Network

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TO: Members of the Executive Board  
FROM: Erika Richter  
SUBJECT: Student Community Support Network Report 3

### **UPDATE**

Since coming back after the holidays SCSN has been preparing for this term, generating ideas, meeting up as a team and organizing schedules. After an off campus meeting, SCSN has developed some ideas for this term that will be aimed at engaging disenfranchised students. We had lots of success in first term and plan to continue to develop the service during second term.

### **PAST EVENTS, PROJECTS & ACTIVITIES**

The peer-to-peer program, has been going well. CA's have just started conducting their weekly patrols for this term and reporting back to the CA Coordinator. They have been able to talk to students and inform them about the by-laws that are in effect in Hamilton, in order to help students avoid fines and mitigate tensions within the community.

SCSN once again partnered with Red Door to run an open mic night, the CA's facilitated games and different activities, gave away prizes, and informed those attending about SCSN and the services we offer. We had a variety of student and permanent resident performers come out to this event and also ran craft activities. Everyone really enjoyed themselves and it was a great opportunity for permanent residents and students to interact.

SCSN's get cultured program decided on the winner of the photo context. Students have sent in submissions which represent why they love Hamilton. The winning photo is now going to be featured in My Dog Joe's. We are currently working on getting the photo framed so that it can be put up in the café. This has also helped increase the visibility of SCSN and the Get Cultured program. As many people who were not previously involved are participating in the event and from having the winning photo posted in public space.

We have also been promoting SCSN as well as different activities that are going on in Hamilton through our column in the Sil.

This week we hosted a focus group to get student's perspectives on the potential of running a party registration program on campus. This would involve students registering their party and that information being passed along to the police department. If a party was registered it would receive a warning via the phone before being shut down. It is

hoped that this would cut down on the time police spend dealing with noise complaints and would work to improve community relations. We received incredibly positive feedback from the students and in speaking to a few community members we have also gotten positive feedback. The next step in developing this program is having a more in depth conversation with the University.

SCSN also met with the SOCS president Jen Kleven from OCRC, Siobhan and Huzaifa to discuss off campus students, their needs, how are programs are meeting those needs and where there is room for improvement. Programs including a change camp, and a notes of encouragement (warm fuzzies) campaign were discussed as potential ways that SCSN could facilitate the engagement of off campus students and community members. In addition, it was determined that more collaboration among these bodies is necessary in order to best serve off campus students. In addition, SCSN is going to be having a discussion with the SSC in order to ensure that each understands their respective roles in community engagement and that we are managing resources intelligently in order to maximize the benefits for students.

### **UPCOMING EVENTS, PROJECTS & ACTIVITIES**

We are going to be hosting another Red Door event on February 9th. This will also involve a collaboration with some other campus groups. We will be featuring clubs at the event and will also be inviting campus performers and relevant clubs to act as part of the entertainment for the evening.

We are also going to be recruiting volunteers for the Snow Angels program. Where students sign up to shovel a neighbours sidewalk. We have table days booked for the month of February where students can sign up and be matched with a house that needs to be shoveled.

Upcoming potential events include a change camp “unconference” and a letter writing campaign with the involvement of students and permanent residents. The letter writing campaign would involve leaving anonymous letters of encouragement to strangers and would serve to develop a sense of community, engage students on campus and develop a sense of a support system. This will hopefully involve a collaboration with other services.

### **BUDGET**

SCSN is on track with it’s budget, as it is expected that more expenses will be incurred during first term.

### **CURRENT CHALLENGES**

Ensuring accountability of staff has continued to be a challenge. We are going to be doing a lot of feedback this month, in order to ensure transparency and help ensure that this term all staff members are being accountable.

### **SUCSESSES**

SCSN has been successful in gaining more visibility and drawing more attention towards our service on campus. By advertising on the MSU website, putting up lots of posters, having an article in the Sil and being featured in the daily news, we have successfully gained visibility on campus. This is something that we are going to continue to work on.