



REPORT

From the office of the...

Maroons Coordinator

TO: Members of the Executive Board
FROM: Hemantika Mahesh
SUBJECT: Maroons Report 1
DATE: [Date of EB meeting here]

Yearplan Update

Hello! This year has been a bit of an alternative start for the MSU Maroons, nonetheless we are working towards our goals as a service and fulfilling our mandate. This year the biggest challenge will be to fulfill our roles and continue to provide support to the student body through a completely virtual platform.

According to the year plan, we are on track as we have hired our full team and proceeded to facilitate team dynamic through socials and groups on social media! We are currently in the process of planning and determining our role this year during WW, as it is a completely virtual platform and our usual events which the Maroons spearhead are no longer happening (ie: faculty fusion). I am setting up meetings with stakeholders to develop a better understanding of where we will be needed during WW. Furthermore, the exec team is in the process of planning and developing ideas for our own programming during WW. We are also in the process of developing rep names and numbers for jerseys as we are not getting suits this year, and I am setting aside time to individually meet with each exec member to understand their goals and expectations.

Service Usage

We are currently hoping to increase our social media presence, and the online platform this year provides us a huge opportunity to develop and grow our social media pages. Furthermore, we are looking forward to hosting virtual spaces where students can access resources, learn about opportunities, and further engage with the McMaster community.

Past Events, Projects, & Activities

We have successfully conducted online interviews, hired our team, and hosted a virtual social event for the team (Teams hangout with virtual board games and icebreakers). With meticulous planning and organization from the LT we were able to conduct these events smoothly and in a timely manner. Furthermore, we were able to learn some key take-aways from these experiences such as screen-time exhaustion, and smoother avenues for communication.

Additionally, we have successfully received charitable giving applications from each faculty to determine the WW charity. We are currently in the process of selecting the charity.

Upcoming Events, Projects & Activities

We are hoping to continue running socials for our team to facilitate team dynamic, especially because we will not be able to meet in person throughout the year. Furthermore, in light of the

current situation with regards to the Black community and the BLM movement, the service is currently planning on collaborating with McMaster Black Students Association (BSA) to advocate for and support our Black communities, and to become a better ally as a service. We are currently in the planning process, but some ideas include show-casing local black-businesses on our social media pages and promoting and supporting events by BSA.

Furthermore, we are planning on integrating better training for our reps (ie: anti-oppressive training, and training to deal with online WW and online peer-support).

Currently Working On

We are currently working on developing a fundraising plan for the chosen MSU WW charity. We are hoping to obtain protected time during the WW schedule where students have an opportunity engage with our fundraising initiatives and learn more about our local charity of choice, and any related opportunities.

Budget

We have currently not spent any of our budget, but we are hoping to make a \$100 donation to BLM Toronto (once we get approval). Furthermore, we are projecting to spend money on jerseys for the team, and we are still in the process of receiving quotes for these jerseys.

Volunteers

The largest challenge at the moment is connecting with the volunteers and developing unique and individual relationships with them. I want to develop positive team dynamic, but relying on only online interaction has proved to be difficult. I am planning on spending time with each individual pods that we create to provide an opportunity to interact more genuinely with each rep. Furthermore, I feel that breaking up the team into smaller pods will give them an opportunity to develop stronger relationships with each other!

Current Challenges

The largest challenge would be working around current restrictions and regulations and adapting to the changing plans and goals of services. I find that everyone is still developing and adapting to online platforms, which makes it difficult to confirm and develop long-term events and planning. However, we have been trying our best to over-come these challenges by keeping open lines of communication and developing alternative planning that are flexible to changing conditions.

Successes

I would say our largest success is the adaptability and flexibility of the team throughout these difficult and uncertain times. The uncompromised level of enthusiasm and imitative is what makes this team and this service such an essential part of the McMaster community. I am confident in our skills to continue to serve the student body and create a nurturing community at Mac.