



Council of Alberta University Students
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For immediate release

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100,000 strong: university students united as Mount Royal and MacEwan Students' Associations join CAUS

Edmonton, Alberta – The Council of Alberta University Students (CAUS) is closing out the 2013/14 academic year by welcoming the Students' Association of Mount Royal University (SAMRU) and the Students' Association of MacEwan University (SAMU) as members of CAUS. With the addition of SAMRU and SAMU, CAUS now represents over 100,000 undergraduate university students at all of the brick and mortar universities in Alberta.

"We are excited to unite university undergraduate students in Alberta under the CAUS banner," said Conner Brown, chair of the Council of Alberta University Students and VP External at the University of Calgary Students' Union. "The past year has been a difficult one for university institutions and it is absolutely critical that student concerns are strongly represented at the provincial level."

The Students' Association of Mount Royal University joined CAUS effective January 1, 2014 and the Students' Association of MacEwan University joined effective March 13, 2014. Both SAMRU and SAMU currently hold observer member status in CAUS, and are anticipated to bring in the next academic year by transitioning to full member status on May 1, 2014.

"This year, students at Mount Royal University saw the introduction of a \$240 Mandatory Non-Instructional Fee at our institution," said Sadiq Valliani, President of the Students' Association of Mount Royal University. "Since January, we have been working with CAUS to advocate for the regulation of such fees and for greater affordability of post-secondary education for all students."

Together, student leaders from the University of Alberta Students' Union, the University of Calgary Students' Union, the University of Lethbridge Students' Union, the Students' Association of Mount Royal University, and the Students' Association of MacEwan University will meet in Edmonton from April 7-10 for the CAUS lobby conference. During this annual event, student leaders bring forward important post-secondary issues to MLAs from all parties on behalf of the students they represent.

"MacEwan University has grown considerably in the past five years," said Cameron McCoy, President of the Students' Association of MacEwan University. "With that growth has come new issues for our students that are best brought to government with other university students. CAUS was a natural fit for us and we couldn't be more excited to join them."

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The Council of Alberta University Students (CAUS) represents the interests of students at the University of Alberta, the University of Calgary, the University of Lethbridge, Mount Royal University, and MacEwan University.

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