



UWSA'S STATEMENT ON COVID-19

WINDSOR, March 14th, 2020

The UWSA has been actively monitoring the COVID-19 outbreak. We are in active and regular communication with the University Administration and will follow the lead of UWindsor and public health authorities. While the Public Health Agency of Canada has deemed the public health risk as "low," the situation can quickly develop. The University is taking extreme caution that prioritizes social distancing, in hopes that all of us will do our part to contribute to the fight against COVID-19. On March 13th, UWindsor President Dr. Gordon outlined next steps in a mass email to the campus community (www.uwindsor.ca/coronavirus). The UWSA's top priority is the health and safety of students, staff and the UWindsor community.

As your student union, here are our next steps:

- We are working closely with the University to prioritize student interests as changes/transitions in curriculum and course delivery are rolled out. **Per the President's memo, all classes will be cancelled from Monday, March 16th to Wednesday, March 18th. Classes will resume on Thursday, March 19th in an online/alternative format.**
- The UWSA's 150+ student groups host numerous events between now and the end of the year. Until further notice, all student groups events open to the public are cancelled. This includes both on-campus and off-campus events.
- We appreciate the extraordinary amount of effort, time, and energy that have gone into these events. We are working closely with student groups to ensure they have the support necessary to mitigate any financial loss from last-minute event cancellations. We encourage groups to reach out to us should they require our support.
- The UWSA's service centres, including the Peer Support Centre, Campus Pride Centre, Womxn's Centre, and WalkSafe will be closed until further notice. We encourage students to download and access MySSP, a 24/7 mental health support service (www.uwindsor.ca/myssp).



- **The Campus Food Pantry will remain open during regular hours, in order to provide students with free and secure access to healthy foods during this extremely precarious time.**
- The University has a pandemic response committee, which we have a UWSA student representative sitting on to ensure students' interests are at the forefront of the University's decisions.
- We are urging the University to develop a unique approach to support some of the most vulnerable students on our campus, including international and residence students.
- The UWSA main office will remain open during regular hours to answer any questions regarding health/dental benefits, bus pass, etc.
- We are following the guidance of local, regional, and national public health authorities to educate and protect our staff, volunteers, and the students visiting our offices.

The University is relaying information to us on a continuous basis. We will continue to provide updates to ensure students are informed and prepared. Should you experience any issues during this transition, or have questions/concerns, please do not hesitate to reach out to us at uwsa@uwindsor.ca.

We know that this is difficult as to many it will feel like we are losing a community. Some students have already opted to return home, out-of-town, to be with their families. Remember that this pandemic transcends borders and race. No matter who we are or where we are, we are always a Lancer family that must care for and support each other. Stay positive, Lancers, and don't overstock on the toilet paper.

In solidarity,
Jeremiah Bowers
President

The University of Windsor Students' Alliance (UWSA) is the student union representing the full-time undergraduate students at the University of Windsor.



Follow campus update on www.uwindsor.ca/coronavirus and www.uwsa.ca/news.

For more information please contact:

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