

**Arts Undergraduate Society of McGill University**

**Office of the Vice-President of Social Affairs**

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Report of the AUS VP Social Affairs, AUS Council September 9th, 2015

My name is Christine Koppenaal and I’m your Vice-President of Social Affairs for the upcoming school year! My job is to help foster an AUS student identity by planning events that appeal to a wide range of interests. From long-standing traditions like Frosh, OktoberhAUS, and Bar des Arts, to newer events like Arts Attack, there are almost endless opportunities to meet students and join the AUS community. If you’re interested in getting involved in the VP Social portfolio feel free to reach out to me – we’d love to have you on board!

**Willy Wonka’s Candy Frosh**

This summer I was tasked with organizing Arts Frosh on behalf of the AUS. Frosh officially ended this past Sunday, September 6th, and as such I do not have a comprehensive report to present to AUS Council at this time. The Arts Frosh Committee co-chairs and Equity Commissioners are scheduled to present a debrief at next Council. In the meantime I can provide everyone with a detailed schedule of events as well as steps taken (and to be taken) to avoid problems that have arisen in the last two years.

1. Schedule
   1. Wednesday September 2nd
      1. Group formation was from 11:30-3pm on lower field; we provided Pizza Navona and Freshii to students. Students who were on the second leg of the Montreal Crawl stayed on lower field until 5:30pm. Alcohol and non-alcoholic beverages were available for consumption.
      2. The Montreal Crawl ran from 3-8pm. All students went to Gerts. On the east route we had Muzique, Ivy, Café Campus, and McKibbons for bars and Chef on Call and Cacao70 for food stops. On the west we had XO nightclub, Carlos and Pepes, BdA and La Boom, and for food we have Chef on Call and Basha.
      3. The Frosh concert took place at two different venues this year. At New City Gas we had Cash Cash and Sultan + Shepard performing while at Club Soda we had This Side Up (a cover band) and a throwback DJ. New City Gas was 18+ and Club Soda was all ages. Both venues served alcohol. There was a shuttle bus running between the venues between 10:00pm and 1:00am.
   2. Thursday September 3rd
      1. We had a tailgate on lower field from 3-6pm in collaboration with Management in anticipation of the Alouettes game. We sold alcoholic beverages as well as hot dogs.
      2. Kickoff for the Alouettes game was at 7:30pm; I’m really glad we decided to try and break the mold of a typical frosh schedule by collaborating with the Alouettes.
      3. After the Alouettes game we booked out Frappe on St. Laurent in case there are some participants who wish to stay out for a bit longer.
   3. Friday September 4th
      1. The first boat began boarding at 5:00pm, left at 5:30pm, and docked at 7:00pm. The second boat began boarding at 7:30, left at 8:00, and docked at 9:30.
      2. The night event for that evening was La Mouche; doors opened at 10:00pm and closed at 1:30. Attendance was pretty low since Beach Day was the next day but the participants who made it out had a fun time.
   4. Saturday September 5th
      1. Saturday was Beach Day and like every year we bused students from the park next to Molson Stadium to Beach Club at Point Calumet. This was the only event of Arts Frosh not planned by the AUS as historically SSMU has taken on the programing and logistics for this event. This year, the logistics of Beach Day were not well thought out and had a detrimental effect on participants and Frosh coordinators alike. This will be addressed in the Frosh exit report as well as privately among faculty and SSMU Frosh organizers.
      2. Our night event was a screening of Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory from 7-10pm on lower field. Music, Management, ArtSci, and Science all attended. We had cotton candy and Clif bars for snacks.
   5. Sunday September 6th
      1. The breakfast on Mount Royal took place from 9:30-12pm and we provided juice, water, breakfast sandwiches, and muffins. The faculty of Education collaborated with Fit For a Cause for some yoga activities and we hired a guitar/violin duo to play music for our participants.
      2. From 12:00-5:00 Frosh groups hung out at TamTams.
      3. Our last night event was at L’Olympia from 10-3am.
2. Frosh Finances(Please refer to the VP Finance report for more details)
   1. At the beginning of my term, I had neither a budget nor an exit report from Frosh 2014. I only had an incomplete list of expenses that projected a $10,000 loss for Jurassic Frosh, so I thought we could avoid that loss this year by not using one of the unnecessary venues from last year as well as increasing the price of a Frosh ticket by $10 from last year (which also was meant to account for the extra day of Frosh this year). Eight weeks into planning Frosh, after having signed contracts for certain venues, the audit was unable to be completed and after a more in-depth analysis of Quickbooks, Mirza and I discovered that Jurassic Frosh lost around $30,000. This was a huge problem because I had been operating under the assumption of only 1/3 of that loss. I then had to make up for a projected $18,000 loss in this year’s Frosh budget in the middle of June by increasing the price of a Frosh ticket by $20 from last year, increasing the price that Frosh leaders and o-staff pay to participate, reducing the amount of beverage tickets distributed to our leaders and o-staff for going above and beyond their contractual obligations, cutting our budget for some events to nothing (like Sunday afternoon), selling food for our tailgate on Thursday instead of providing it for free, and attaining more in-kind sponsorship than last year. This year Arts Frosh sold out and was officially the largest McGill Frosh of all time which helped us close the gap on the projected deficit. Mirza and I anticipate that we should be very close to breaking even once all of our expenses are finalized in the next few weeks. To prevent this problem from happening in the future, we need 1) a reliable VP Finance to accurately input expenses into Quickbooks as well as oversee all Frosh expenses and 2) to create a comprehensive budget and exit report for Candy Frosh so next year’s VP Social isn’t starting from scratch like I had to.

**Bar des Arts**

If you refer to the VP Finance report, Bar des Arts lost $8,000 last year. I’m meeting with my co-chairs and Mirza this upcoming Monday the 14th to go over last year’s budget and see what we can do to prevent such a huge loss again this year. Some ideas that have been bounced around include selling more grilled cheese as well as pizza for profit, potentially increasing the price of beer sold at BDA to reflect the increased prices of beer in the Sleeman contract signed by last year’s VP Social, and selling BDA apparel. One expense we should not incur this year is the cost of having a security agent outside of BDA as I’ve discussed with the Leacock building director and she agrees that it’s no longer necessary for us to be supervised by security. The first BDA will take place on Thursday, September 17th.

Anyone interested in applying to be BDA staff can find the application here: <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1vdNoFR4CFqQqZf6vapW6qaIbUjybmTxOgkLROt5NoU4/viewform?c=0&w=1>

Our Facebook page is <https://www.facebook.com/ausbar.desarts> and our email is [bdamcgill@gmail.com](mailto:bdamcgill@gmail.com).

**Event Planning and Involvement Committee**

Applications for open EPIC positions are now open and can be found at <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1IBFPD1jjweOzilvIPB4px9mWp9jyINAKfdyNugRZvpQ/viewform>. The committee hiring process will conclude on September 21st.

Our first event of the year is OktoberhAUS on Friday, October 2nd at Gerts. Other events we would like to host this year include Stache Dash, Arts Attack 2.0, and potentially a concert.

Our Facebook page is <https://www.facebook.com/EPICaus> and our email is [epicausevents@gmail.com](mailto:epicausevents@gmail.com).

Respectfully submitted,

Christine Koppenaal

Vice-President Social Affairs