Informational Package:
Saskatchewan Provincial Student Union
What is the SPSU? Referendum

We are proposing the creation of a Saskatchewan Provincial Student Union, a provincial organization that will fight for students rights across the province.
Why Sask. Provincial Student Union?

Students need a provincial organization to fight for student rights provincially and lobby the government on our behalf.

Since approximately 2017-2018, there has been no major movement towards advancing the needs and rights of students in the province.

The two former representative organizations, Sask Students Coalition and CFS are dormant.
Budget Breakdown

Proposed Budget if Referendum is successful

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Budget</th>
<th>Revenue Per Year</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Professional Expenses</td>
<td>$10,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rent</td>
<td>$10,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Provincial Coordinator</td>
<td>$50,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Campaigns</td>
<td>$40,000</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>$110,000</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Student Fees:</td>
<td><strong>$100,000</strong></td>
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Budget Breakdown

SPSU’s budget is small, and is based on a small nonprofit budget whose main purpose is to campaign and lobby for students.

The main expenses are having a provincial coordinator, who can lobby the government on student issues and collaborate with other student unions. This would cost approximately $50,000.

The other major expense is campaigns. A provincial organization will need a budget to campaign for student issues and raise awareness on long term issues that affect students, like tuition fees, unpaid internships, funding issues and others.
What about CFS?

The Canadian Federation of Students is a national student organization with provincial bodies. Students at the UofR are members of CFS. The CFS-Saskatchewan is currently dormant. In 2020, students at the University of Regina voted to order URSU to withhold student fees from CFS. These funds are held in trust, and URSU would be held liable if these funds were used for anything other than holding them in trust until a settlement is negotiated with CFS with regards to this money.

Until URSU and CFS work out this legal conundrum, there is no provincial body to represent students, which leads to many costs to students, from housing, to food, to education. After that conundrum is settled, SPSU could either dissolve if students prefer CFS, or continue to independently fight for students if students prefer to leave the CFS.

For more details on the CFS and the issues related to it on campus, please visit ursu.ca/cfs or for more information on CFS, visit cfsfcee.ca
What about SSC?

The Saskatchewan Students Coalition is an on again, off again ad-hoc committee type organization where the student unions of Saskatchewan get together to try and do provincial work. While the SSC has been able to organize on occasion, the SSC lacked any formal structure and as such went through periods of inactivity. By creating a structure and then asking other student unions to join an existing structure, this would ensure more stability and the viability of student organizing provincially.
Why should you support this?

Governments need organizations they can rely on to advise on laws and push the issues important to citizens. These organizations include labour unions, NGOs, and other organizations that lobby on behalf of their members. Students noticeably have no provincial organization other than the individual student unions at institutions to fight for them. Such unions will need an office and staff for its day-to-day activities, which requires funds to function.

By creating SPSU, we avoid the mistakes of the past and create a functioning provincial organization that can change student lives for the better, permanently. In 3 years, we will know there is a consistent group.
Timeline

The vote for the SPSU will be during URSU’s general election. The vote will take place March 29th and 30th.

The Campaign Period is March 15th – to March 28th.

Voting is March 29th to March 30th.
THANK YOU!

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