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REGIONAL BOARD REPORT

Subject: BCSA Update	**Purpose:** **For Approval** ☐ **For Discussion** ☐ **For Information** ☒
Prepared by: Ann Letham	**Date:** 23 November 2020
Purpose: Students' Association Update	
Linked to Strategic Ambition: Create high quality learning and training opportunities which are relevant, enabling and flexible	
Executive Summary: A brief roundup of action since the last Board Meeting	
Recommendation:	
Previous Committee Approvals:	

For publication ☒	**For publication with redactions** ☐	**Not for publication** ☐

Board Report

November 2020

Operational Theme 1: Sustainability

- Officer Team: We now have our officer team in place and have completed our Officer Training. We are currently project planning for events in January and beyond.
- Baxter Storey funding: We gather that we will not receive any funding due to the state of business but we have been guaranteed an operating budget from the College in the absence of the usual contribution.
- Cycle project: We are looking at ways to make sustainable travel more accessible to students

Operational Theme 2: Unity

- Christmas events: 8 Days of SAs – We have teamed up with 5 other institutions to put on a programme of events in the first 2 weeks of December, including a Bake Off, Gamers tournament, creative writing competition and an inter-SA quiz
- Involved in IMT discussions: We have been involved in helping design communications to go to students regarding the changes in college due to coronavirus restrictions.
- Final stats for Recharge Week: Disappointing numbers of attendees but we were offering sessions such as refreshers on Teams and Word. A lack of engagement from students could mean that they have the support necessary and are using programs effectively.
- Partnership agreement: We have worked on this and brought it to this meeting for approval.
- Student Mental Health Agreement: We are consulting with different student groups to ensure it meets the needs of students in the pandemic.
- Friday Feedback: We intend to send one-question pulse surveys on Fridays to gauge student opinions on various issues
- Planning refreshers: As mentioned in Operational Theme 1, this is underway.

Operational Theme 3: Personal Growth

- We have attended training sessions with Sparqs, NUS, Rural Mental Health Forum, Think Positive and Education Scotland and we are bringing back best practise and ideas to give students the opportunity for personal growth
- Equalities Calendar – we have concentrated on Mental Health in October and Mens' Health in November. These have been linked through Moodle as well as promoted on social media
- GBV module for students – aiming for 16 days of action in December

SEC round up –

- Actions regarding disabled students – separate meeting to look at barriers with Clare Nairn
- Students and staff need more awareness of mental health services available
- helpdesk email system – making it more accessible – this is underway.
- update off the back of SEC to send to students in Newsletter form
- Evaluating effectiveness of survey, updating to make more accessible for BDU, looking into the effectiveness of comms and incentivisation