

External Advocacy at the UASU

Presented by VP External Adam
Brown to Students' Council

July 2, 2019

Overview



- Advanced Education and Government
- Internal Structure
- Edmonton Student Alliance
- Council of Alberta University Students
- Canadian Alliance of Student Associations
- Questions



Objectives

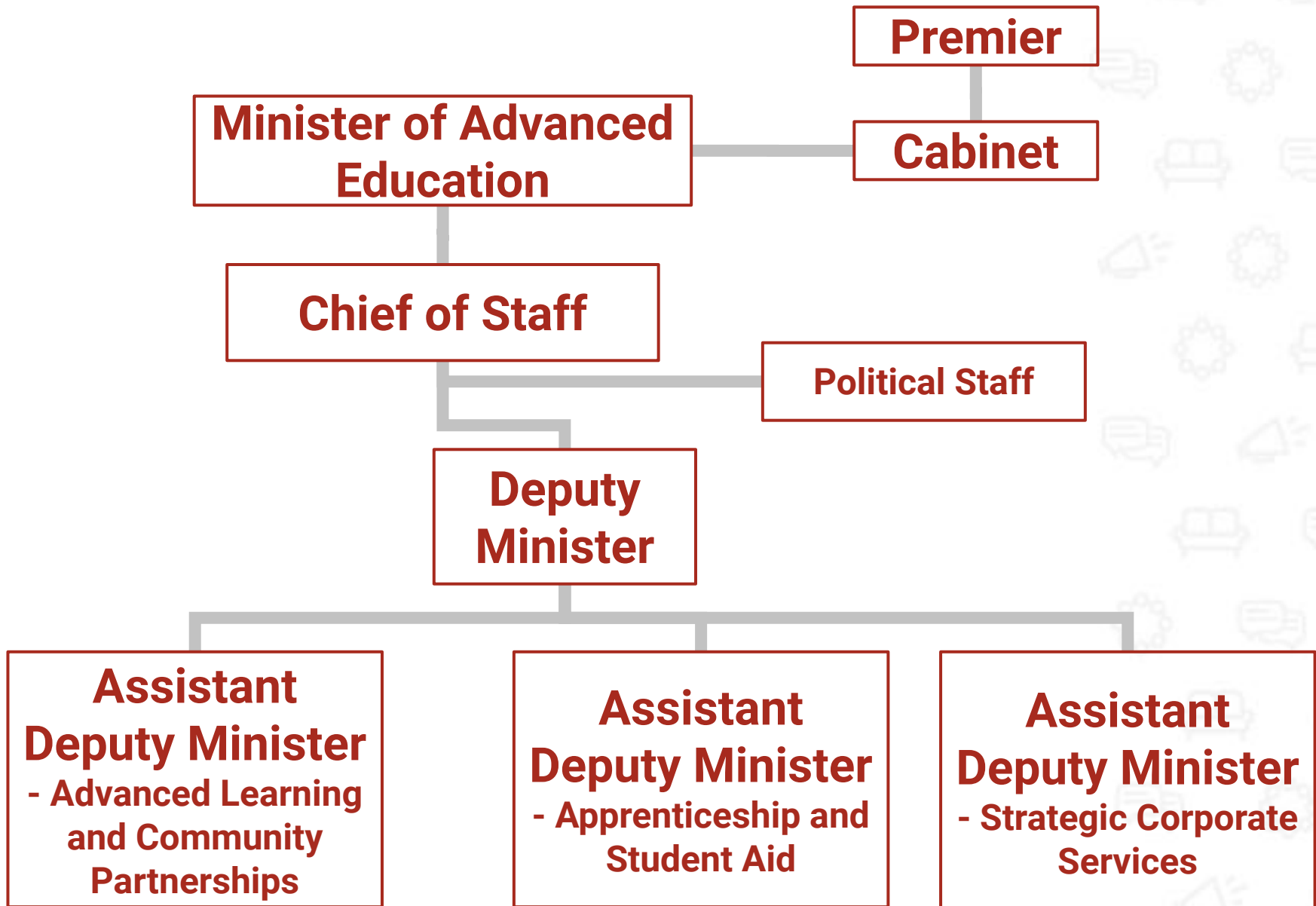
1. So Council can follow the many acronyms involved in external advocacy work
2. To show the UASU's external political operations in greater clarity
3. To demonstrate the continuing importance of external advocacy
4. To answer any questions re: external advocacy

Advanced Education and Government

Divisions of power re: advanced education

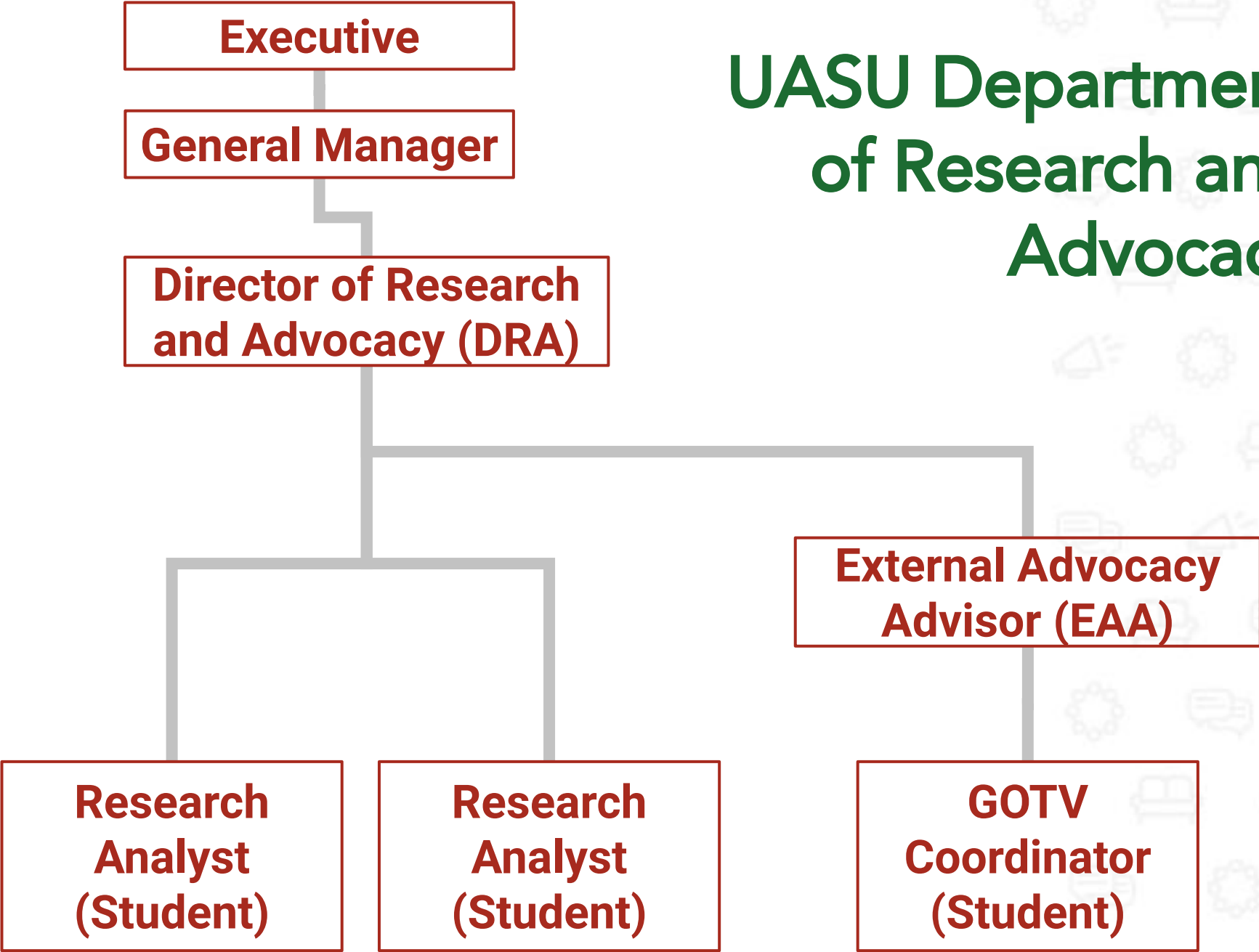
- Article 93 of the Constitution: In and for each Province the Legislature may exclusively make Laws in relation to Education...
- **Provincial responsibilities:** legislation (tuition, fees, types of PSI's, etc), operating funding, health funding, employment programs, infrastructure funding
- **Federal responsibilities:** loans, employment, research funding, intellectual property, infrastructure funding, citizenship and immigration, tax policies, savings programs, Indigenous programs & initiatives, Statistics Canada

Government and Advanced Education



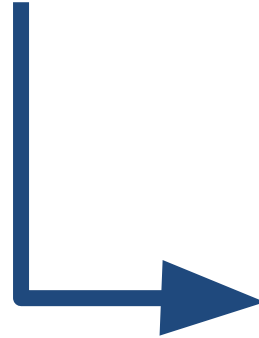
Internal Structure (UASU)

UASU Department of Research and Advocacy



Internal to UASU (cont.)

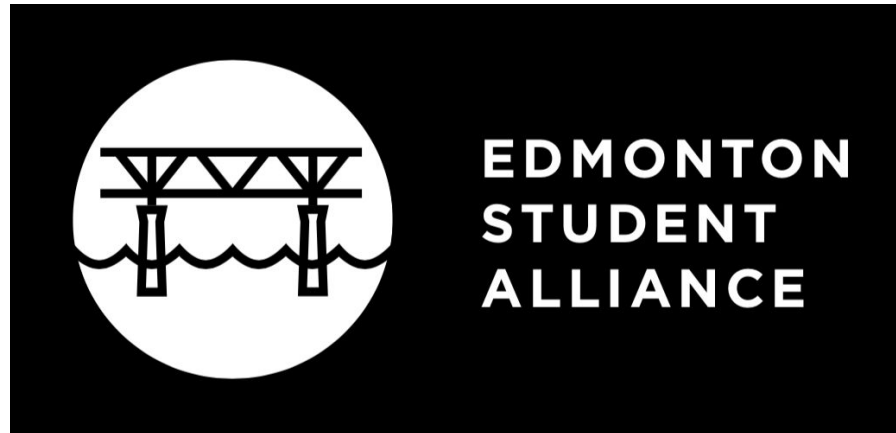
- Students' Union Political Policies
- Get Out the Vote (GOTV)
- Independent advocacy meetings



(MLA Marlin Schmidt, former
Minister of Advanced Education)



Edmonton Student Alliance (ESA)



- Membership fee: \$0
- Members: UASU, UAGSA, SAMU, NAITSA, CUSU, CUGSA, TKUSA, SANQC
- Currently re-evaluating priorities & direction of alliance
- Relevant issues: transit, housing, integration

Council of Alberta University Students (CAUS)



- Founded in 1986, represents approx. 120,000 students
- 2018-2019 UASU membership fee: \$53,833
- Members: UASU, UCSU, SAMU, SAMRU, ULSU

CAUS (cont.)

- **Recent wins:** Bill 19 (tuition, fees, governance), mental health investments, STEP
- **Leadership:** Chair & Vice Chair
- **Staff:** Executive Director at Edmonton office, sometimes hires part-time research assistants
- **Coming up:** building relationships with new government, new approach to Indigenous advocacy provincially

Canadian Alliance of Student Associations (CASA)



Canadian Alliance of Student Associations
Alliance canadienne des associations étudiantes

- Founded in 1995, represents approx. 275,000 undergraduate, graduate and college-polytechnic students (360,000 including Quebec partnership)
- 2018-2019 UASU membership fee: \$55,232
- Members: 23 (check out casa-acae.com for full list)
- Strives to ensure an affordable, accessible, innovative and high-quality post-secondary experience for students

CASA (cont.)

- **Leadership:** Board of Directors (7)
- **Staff:** 6 employees at Home Office in downtown Ottawa (currently 5)
- **Recent wins:** student loan changes, investments in work-integrated learning opportunities, investments in research, committee presentations, investments in Indigenous access, PM meeting, etc.
- **Coming up:** GOTV, Abacus poll, election priorities document, Indigenous student engagement, SuperCon, ED search

Overall takeaways from our external advocacy

- Being non-partisan is one of our greatest assets
- Our success has come from a strategy of relationship-building and collaboration, as opposed to being combative
- Working with all kinds of student associations creates a stronger student voice
- UASU has a strong legacy.

The background features a repeating pattern of small, light blue icons. These icons include a gear, a speech bubble, a triangle with an exclamation mark, and a car. They are arranged in a grid-like fashion across the entire page.

Questions?