



**THE RESIDENCE SOCIETY
INCORPORATED**

Your Student Government in Residence

Winter 2023

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P R E S I D E N T S T A T E M E N T

Hello everyone,

My name is Emily (she/her) and I am the President & CEO for the academic 2022-2023 year. I am 4th year Health Sciences student and I manage ResSoc and represent this organization to ResLife and many other departments at Queen's University to ensure that our student population is represented. I also oversee the operations, flow and dynamic of this corporation. This past Winter 2023 semester in term has been busy and operations have been flowing as usual. Our staff have been busy designing events for each residence building and students are busy with their academics in addition to finishing off their academic year strong! To sum up this year in one word, I would say "experiential".

The Residence Elections started and finished off smoothly by the end of January and we are welcoming Nathan Beckner-Stetson, Alison Wong, and Teagan Schuck as the incoming ResSoc team for 2023-2024. This team has been working hard to hire their incoming team for next year. Well done!

New projects have been completed this semester such as the installation of residence gaming equipment (table tennis tables, pool tables and, foosball tables). Installation of period dispensers have been completed throughout campus. We also partnered with the Health Sciences Society to host a conference at the Isabel Bader Centre to promote networking with upper years.

Academic and Laundry Bursaries are still being distributed throughout campus. The STaR program has been rewarded to one outstanding student each week. These students demonstrated random acts of kindness to their fellow peers.

As my team's term comes to an end, I would like to thank the entire ResSoc team and ResLife team for their unconditional support over the past year, Many of these projects could not have been completed without your support. To the 2023-2024 ResSoc team, wishing you all the best during your term!

All the best,
Emily



OUR GOALS

The core executives came up with three pillars to achieve this upcoming year; support, revitalize, and transparency.

Support

- ResSoc would focus on receiving student feedback to guide events and projects within residence spaces.
- ResSoc would host and develop professional development programs for students and staff this upcoming year. This would allow students to develop skills sets required for applying for summer or intern positions within their academic specialty.
- ResSoc would advocate, acknowledge, and educate the organization's staff and student population it serves for the upcoming year.

Revitalize

- ResSoc will work towards increasing the organization's awareness by the student population living in residence.
- By increasing the organization's awareness, we hope to increase the number of opportunities for students in the near future and expand the operations of ResSoc.

Transparency

- Within the internal organization and with the student population, ResSoc plans to increase transparency on the budget, expenses, flow of the operations, and the progression of projects.

OUR TEAM



EMILY YEUNG
President and CEO



ABBY WHITE
Vice President of Residence
Operations



HELEN WANG
Vice President of Society
Operations



ALISON WONG
Human Resources Officer



HUNTER MACKINNON
Chief Financial Officer



RESIDENCE FACILITATORS

Gordon-Brockington House
Leonard Hall
Victoria Hall
Albert St. Residence
McNeill House
Waldron Tower
Brant House
Jean Royce Hall
Morris Hall
Chown Hall
Leggett Hall
Smith House

Zian Raheem
Nathan Beckner-Stetson
Katie Sewell
Ore Maxwell
Ben Hodgins
Ryan Cheng
Teagan Schuck
Retaj Alam
Grace Cao
Caitlin Sankaran-Wee
Allen Wu
Cassandra Lobo

INTERNS

President Intern
VPSO Intern
Human Resources Intern
Programs Intern

Anna Lou
Amin Nazari
Melissa Ban
Margad Sukhbaatar

NEW RESSOC INITIATIVES AND PROJECTS

In Winter 2023, ResSoc continued executing projects established in the Fall and implemented new projects for this semester

ResSoc Elections

Last semester, the core executives gave a talk session about the operations of ResSoc, our individual roles, and, expectations. We gave a timeline for the election process for January 2023.

In the past year, ResSoc had three separate weeks for each position to run in the ResSoc elections. This process took all of January and we found that the voting turnout decreased at the end of the third week. Therefore, we made the executive decision to have one week for campaigning for all candidates running for the President, Vice President of Society and Residence Operations positions to increase voter turnout.

The nomination process completed on January 6th, 2023, preliminary interviews were completed between January 9-13th, 2023. The all-candidates meeting was on January 16th and campaigning was between January 17-22nd. On January 19th, we had our all candidates debate which, prompted wonderful discussion about the team's goals for 2023-2024. Vote day was on January 23rd and the results were revealed on January 24th.

Updates from the Chief Electoral Officer: "The election went relatively smoothly this year. There was one candidate for each position following the preliminary interviews and VSC checks. We had one candidate withdraw prior to the beginning



of the campaign period, and there was one candidate who did not make it beyond the preliminary interview.

There was one question with regard to the campaign period where the limits of a by-law was questioned. The by-law in question was: Bylaw 8 Elections and Referenda, 8.7 Campaigning Period, Section 2, "No candidate shall...(v) represent an individual or team as official representatives of the ResSoc, or engage in campaigning which could create such an impression;" The concern raised was that, in the biography/blurb for the candidate on the website, they stated that they have been/are affiliated with ResSoc. It was determined by the Elections Team (CEO, DEO, current President & Chair of CAEC Committee) that this was not an infraction of this by-law as it was not deemed campaigning and was not shared prior to the campaign period.

8.9% of the eligible voters voted in this election. As per Bylaw 8 Elections and

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Referenda, 8.9 Polling, Section 13, a voter turnout percentage between 5.00% to 9.99% requires a minimum percentage of 65% in favour of the candidate. Presidential candidate Nathan Beckner-Stetson received 84.2% (310 votes) in favour, 15.8% (58 votes) not in favour, and 51 (12.2%) abstentions. Vice President of Society Operations candidate Alison Wong received 77.7% (292 votes) in favour, 22.3% (84 votes) not in favour, and 43 (10.3%) abstentions. Vice President of Residence Operations candidate Teagan Schuck received 72.5% (261 votes) in favour, 27.5% (99 votes) not in favour, and 59 (14.1%) abstentions. As such, this group will be referred to as the "Incoming Executive Team" and will begin transitioning with the current/outgoing executive team."

Thank you to Abby White and Grace Cao for working on the elections team and for making this a successful election period!

Congratulations to Nathan Beckner-Stetson, Alison Wong, and Teagan Schuck for becoming the incoming President, VPSO, and VPRO, respectively!

For more information on the debate, view the Queen's Journal Article:
<https://www.queensjournal.ca/story/2023-01-20/student-politics/ressoc-candidates-debate-in-uncontested-election/>

For more information on the results, view the Queen's Journal Article:
<https://www.queensjournal.ca/story/2023-01-26/elections/ressoc-elections-sees-all-candidates-winning-uncontested/>

Collaboration between ResSoc and GOGRO

To increase voter turnout, ResSoc planned on giving the building with the highest voter turnout a building wide prize. On the ballot, students would have the opportunity to self-identify which building they live in. These numbers would be normalized to determine the percentage of students who voted in each building. Congratulations to Brant House for the highest voter turnout!

ResSoc is collaborating with COGRO. Students will be able to retrieve a Latte voucher and will be able to get a hot or iced drink with 1 flavour shot (cinnamon, salted caramel, gingerbread or hazelnut). Students came to pick up these vouchers on February 27th. Thank you Abby White for putting this initiative together!

Partnership with ASUS for Majors Night

ResSoc helped sponsor Majors Night and also boothed at the event. It was lovely to talk to students about ResSoc and introduce them to employment opportunities within residence. We distributed some building shirts, cardholders, and pamphlets. Thank you Nathan Beckner-Stetson, Alison Wong, and Abby White for attending and helping out!

Completion of the Trayless Survey in Collaboration with Housing & Ancillary

The trayless survey closed on January 2, 2023. All the raw data was given to H&A and ResSoc had further consultation to discuss the outcomes of the results. Further discussion was completed at the Residence Advisory Committee. While there are many opinions towards the implementation of trayless dining halls, further logistics and modifications to the current student meal plans, dining hall set-up, Leonard dining hall renovations, and sustainable education will be discussed and completed first.

Signing the MOA between H&A and ResSoc

Exciting news about the MOA agreement! Emily Yeung, Abby White, Helen Wang, Kate Murray, and Leah Wales signed the MOA agreement between H&A and ResSoc. This agreement outlines ResSoc spaces, operations and agreements between ResSoc and H&A.

ResSoc Insurance

ResSoc's Insurance renewal has been completed and filed away for documentation. Thank you Hunter MacKinnon for helping complete the process!

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New Gaming Equipment for Students

ResSoc has bought the following new equipment for each building:

- Victoria Hall - New pool table and foosball table
- McNeill House - New pool table and foosball table
- Leggett Hall - New pool table
- Waldron Tower - New pool table
- Chown Hall - New foosball table
- Jean Royce Hall - New pool table and table tennis set

This is exciting for all students and staff so that they can use these equipments, play during their free time which, will contribute to the community development. Installations were completed in January with the help of ResLife staff and Helen Wang. Thank you!

Posters have been placed next to each of the building equipment outlining the expectations to respect the equipment, so everyone can play. ResSoc also made an inventory of equipment that will be distributed to students in each building. Waldron Tower was given the equipment and will be left in the building next to the pool table. This will be an honour system. McNeill House and Leggett Hall students need to give in their student card at the Victoria Hall front desk before being given the equipment to play pool. Once they return the equipment, they will be given their student card back. This will promote accountability of all students to share the equipment, respect and maintain the equipment in useable shape. Equipment in Victoria Hall will be monitored by staff at Lazy Scholar.

If equipment is missing, they will not be replaced in Winter 2023. Hence, we ask all students to protect their residence space.

So far, students have been signing in and out the equipment all campus. This has been incredibly rewarding to see students using the equipment provided to them!

ResSoc Wagons and Tool Box

One of the challenges hosting events was the large amount of supplies that needed to be moved from different buildings. Thus, ResSoc invested in two new wagons that allow staff to role large and heavy equipment to different venues. We also bought a tool box to fix any items in our office and to fix the wagon after multiple uses.

Shift and Res Experience Survey

ResSoc has been resharing these surveys to students in residence. Executives and Residence facilitators have been speaking to students to tell them to complete these surveys for amazing prizes and to be part of change at Queen's University.

ResSoc Phone Cardholders

This was an idea suggested by a Chown Hall floor rep. Thank you! ResSoc has purchased cardholders that can be stuck to the back of the phones for students and staff to use. Cards have been distributed to students all over campus. This was the first time ResSoc purchase this type of marketing material and this distribution was be a pilot event to see if next years team should purchase this for next year.

Cleaning the Vic Storage Office and West Campus Office

In the storage office, boxes and old items were removed. Safe boxes that were no longer in use were thrown away. Files from 2016-2017 were shredded as these documents were past the 5 year period. Past 5 years, ResSoc no longer keeps these documents.

Alison also spent some time cleaning and assessing the West Campus ResSoc office. Thank you!

ResSoc Giveaways

ResSoc organized monthly giveaways for students living in residence which include giftcards and gifts in support of local businesses.

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President Semester Year-End Review

This year, the President took the initiative to write semester term in reviews. These have been shared at building meetings, on the ResSoc website, the ResSoc team, and ResLife team. We hope this initiative can be carried on in future years.

Black History Month - Educational Posts

This year, we reshared educational posts around campus to encourage students to attend and learn about Black history.

Creating Internal Committee Charters

CAEC has been working on completing the first draft of the internal committee charters for ResSoc which, outlines expectations and agreements for each committee.

Transition Manuals

Outgoing teams are finalizing their transition manuals for the incoming team and are beginning transition meetings.

Book Drive

The ResSoc Sustainability Committee has organized a Book drive in Residence which is also in collaboration with Kingston Libraries and the Campus Bookstore. Anyone who donates a book or textbook will receive a voucher and is eligible for a prize!

Performance Reviews

RF have received performance reviews during week 6 and week 12. Executives have received performance reviews during week 12.

Albert St. Renaming Focus Group

This focus group has established a proposal name to the University's Senior Leadership Team. This has been an exciting process as we hope to move forward to phase 2 of implementation.

Cooking Initiative

Our final cooking initiative was at Albert St. Residence developing poke bowls which, was successful!

Completing a revision of the Constitution

The third and final round of reviewing the Constitution has been revised at General Assembly.

Menstrual Product Dispenser Project

Dispensers have been installed on campus residence washrooms. These dispensers will be re-filled by the company without the customers needing to refill them. This initiative will mitigate the concerns previously experienced by students who found menstrual baskets often empty in our residence spaces. ResSoc and ResLife have agreed that this project has sustainable solutions that does not take quite a bit of people power. Dispensers will be installed in Ban Righ, Leonard, Jean Royce, Victoria and Smith.

ResSoc X HSS Conference

This conference was in collaboration with the Health Sciences Society.

Reswide Table Tennis Tournament

This event commenced in March and invited many students to come play table tennis to foster friendly competition.

Professional Development

Our final EI Wraparound training session was competed in March to help staff reflect on the type of skills they hoped to gain by the end of the year working with ResSoc.

Donating clothes

ResSoc has donated old clothes in our office to Kingston shelters.

FYEC Usage for events around campus

Using this fund, we were able to host a Chinese cultural event in Harkness Hall and watch Poco a Poco host their coffeehouse event.

Flags hung in Victoria Hall

ResSoc completed a 2020 project and installed the Métis, Iroquois, Two Row Wampum, and LGBTQIA2S+ flags in the Victoria Hall common room.

RESSOC OPERATIONS

ResSoc has been maintaining our ongoing operations such as hosting Residence Facilitator events and executing internal committees.

Internal Committees

Each internal committee was developed in September and commenced in October. Internal committees were spearheaded by each executive member.

ResSoc Staff Management

The President has been supervising the VPRO and VPSO. The VPSO has been supervising the Chief Finance Officer, Human Resources Officer, and the Programs & Marketing Officer. The VPRO has been supervising the Residence Facilitators in each residence building.

Residence Facilitator Events

The Residence Facilitators have been hosting three events per semester for their respective buildings. Some events have been collaborated across two or three buildings to reach out to a larger population of students.

- Skating events
- Booth pop-ups
- Gift your Valentine
- Valentines Candy Grams

Residence Wide Events

One residence wide event occurred during the Winter 2023 semester, outlined below:

- Table Tennis tournament

ResSoc Bank Reconciles

The Finance Officer has completed the monthly bank reconciles.

ResSoc BDO Payroll

The President and Finance Officer have been completing the monthly payroll for ResSoc staff members.

ResSoc Socials

ResSoc had two socials with all staff members. ResSoc had a lunch social and an escape room social for team bonding.

AMS Assembly

The President has submitted reports in a timely manner to AMS Assembly and has been in attendance.

President Caucus

The President has been in attendance at these meetings with the Faculty Presidents' to discuss opportunities to support the student population.

Current Bursaries

Current bursaries include the laundry bursary and the first year experience funds.

Hiring Process

The incoming team is currently hiring the next incoming team for 2023-2024.

House Council and Floor Representatives

Each Residence Facilitator has been the chair of their House Council in residence to receive student feedback. House Councils continue to meet bi-weekly with the floor reps to discuss the topics of the month outlines by RAC. Topics included the trayless dining hall experience, student experience, orientation and safety.

StAR Program

Weekly StAR winners have been awarded a rewards to recognize the actions of residents who go above and beyond to make a positive difference in the Queen's residence community. StAR award recipients have shown a commitment to helping others and promoting a safe, inclusive, and rewarding residence experience for all students. Monthly StAR winners have also received awards recognition.

General Assembly

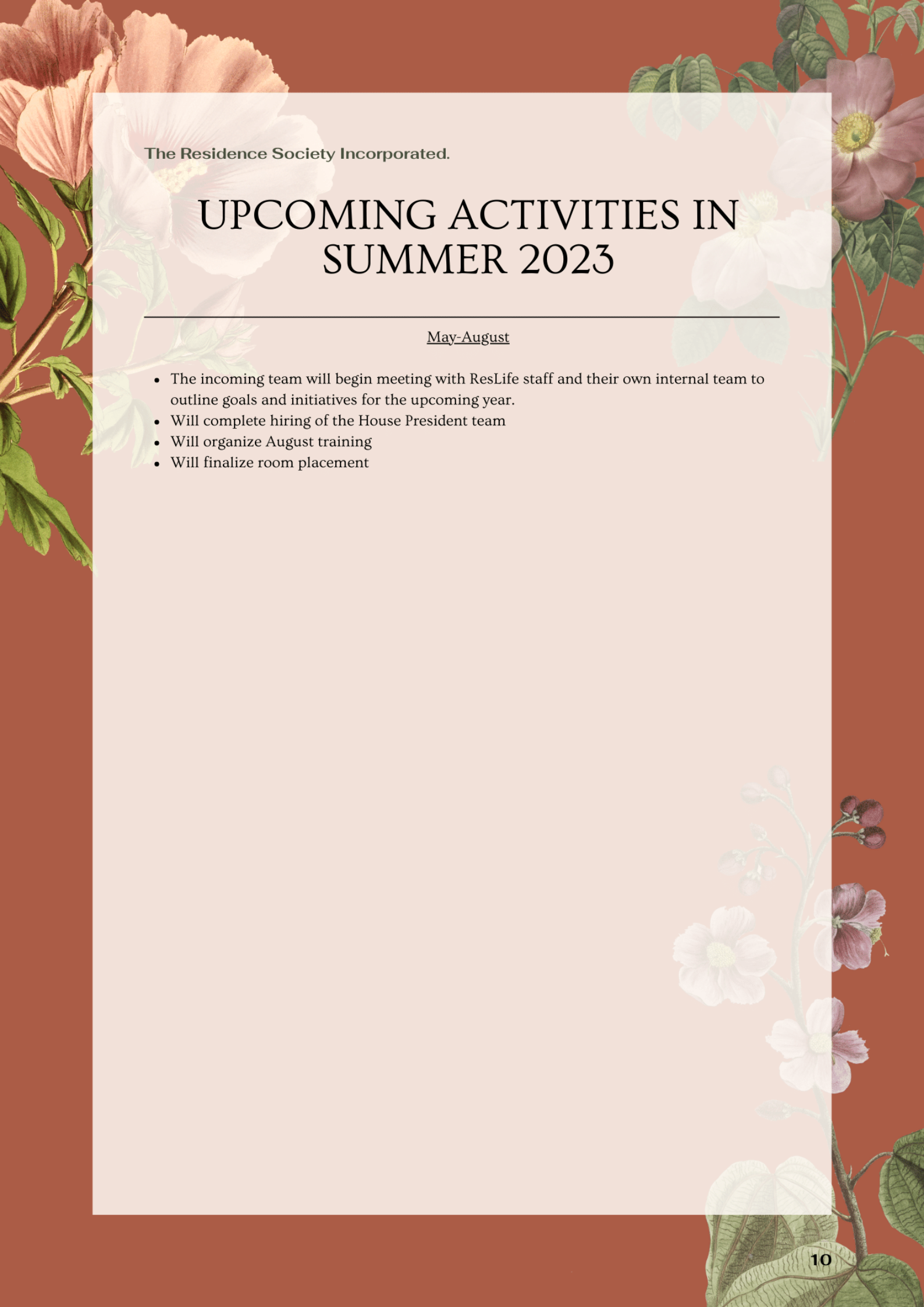
All our General Assembly meetings are completed and have fostered active discussion and action topics for this semester as well as the following year.



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OUR PHOTOS





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UPCOMING ACTIVITIES IN SUMMER 2023

May-August

- The incoming team will begin meeting with ResLife staff and their own internal team to outline goals and initiatives for the upcoming year.
- Will complete hiring of the House President team
- Will organize August training
- Will finalize room placement



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