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Council Minutes – October 2nd, 2022

Prepared by Margaret Ann Gillis, Deputy Chair

# Agenda of October 2nd Council Meeting

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Land Acknowledgement
4. Opening Remarks of the Chair
5. Approval of the Agenda
6. Approval of the August 4th Council Meeting Minutes
7. Faculty Representatives’ Reports
8. Executive Reports
9. Students’ Union General Manager Report
10. Special Reports to Council
    1. President Brendan Roberts 15-minute presentation, the “Executive Team’s Annual Plan.”
    2. VPFO Sam Delaney 15-minute presentation, “Budget Amendment.”
11. New Business
    1. Ratification of the new proposed budget amendment and the adopted changes for the St. FX Students’ Union 2022-23 Budget effective immediately.
    2. Society ratification (Appendix attached)
    3. Omnibus ratification of Matthew Doyle, Julianna Drake, Rachel Corbett, Kennedy Atwater, and Minhaj Sheikh as Residence Event Coordinators for the 2022-23 year.
12. Closing Remarks of the Chair
13. Adjournment

# Students’ Union Representative Council Meeting

October 2nd, 2022 | 12:02pm – 1:14pm ADT

Student Union Council Chambers, Bloomfield Hall St. FX

## Call to Order

Molly: “I call this meeting to order at 12:02pm.”

## Roll Call

VP Activities & Events – Kali Beaton

Chair of Council – Molly Burke

VP Finance & Operations – Sam Delaney

VP Residence Affairs – Sophia Fabiano

VP External Affairs – Ben Fairhurst

VP Academics – Naomi Stobart

President & CEO – Brendan Roberts

Indigenous Student Representative – Harmony Bright-Doucette

International Student Representative – Francisco Chang

Science Student Representative – Meredith Cudmore-Keating *(Late)*

Deputy Chair of Council – Margaret Ann Gillis

Arts Student Representative – Jack Harding

Board of Governor Representative – Josh Kroker

Graduate Student Representative – Julia Schmitt

General Manager – Sean Ryan *(Phoned-in)*

**Absent with Regret:**

Education Student Representative – Reaghan MacLean

Indigenous Student Representative – Sierra Julian

Board of Governors Representative – Violet Silva

**Guests:**

Society Coordinator – Anna Payson

# Land Acknowledgement

# Molly: “I would like to begin by acknowledging that we are in Mi’kma’ki, the ancestral and unceded territory of the Mi’kmaq People. This territory is covered by the Treaties of Peace and Friendship, which Mi’kmaq and Wolastoqiyik (Maliseet) peoples first signed with the British Crown in 1725. The treaties did not deal with the surrender of lands and resources but in fact, recognized Mi’kmaq and Wolastoqiyik (Maliseet) titles and established the rules for what was to be an ongoing relationship between nations. As a Wolastoqiyik student on Mi’kmaq land, I will continuously educate myself the land that I am on and work to be an ally for the Mi’kmaq people.”

# Opening Remarks of the Chair

Molly: “It’s great to see all of your beautiful faces! We have a bit of a longer council today, with some ratifications and presentations.”

# Approval of the Agenda

Brendan: “I move to approve the agenda.”

Josh: “I second.”

*No discussion.*

Jack: “I will call to question.”

Francisco: “I second that.”

*Motion passes unanimously.*

# Approval of the Minutes of August 4th Council Meeting

Josh: “I will move to approve the August 4th Council minutes.”

Julia: “I will second.”

*No discussion*

Brendan: “I call to question.”

Jack: “I second.”

*Motion passes unanimously*

# Constituency Reports

Please see the October 2nd Council Package for Constituency Reports. Below is any discussion had concerning reports.

**International Student Representative – Francisco Chang**

*Other Business:* During this period, I don’t have that much to report. The most important thing would be a meeting I held with the ISS about raising funds. The previous committee left 45 custom flasks that can be sold to raise funds. The ISS decided to sell 42 and give away 3 through their Instagram page to improve their social media engagement.

Additionally, the trip to Cape Breton was cancelled due to the storm so we are working on either rescheduling it or returning the money to the students.

*Discussion – water bottle sales:*

Kali: “We found flasks? What’s on them?”

Molly: “They’re not flasks, they’re moreso water bottles.”

Naomi: “Oh are they the water bottles that have been sitting in the council chambers for years?”

Francisco: “Yes!”

Sophia: “The metal ones?”

Francisco: “Yes!”

Kali: “Let us know if you want some help with them.”

# Executive Reports

Please see the October 2nd Council Package for Constituency Reports. Below is any discussion had concerning reports.

**Vice President Academic – Naomi Stobart:**

* Sexual Violence Prevention Committee: Onboarded our new students at large, chatted about consent week and how it was going to play out.
* REES & ANA: Met with their boards but also met with their representatives for other stuff.
  + Consent week happened; it was pretty good.
* Other committees: appointed student senators, please email me back student senators for ACC, APP etc.
  + Met with ACC once for digital strategy.
* Was appointed to both the dean of arts search and the committee on honorary degrees.
* Met with University Senate Library Committee, discussed budgets, their strategic plans and will be discussing more moving into next week.
* Attended St. FX Strategic Plan meeting; I think it went well.
* Academic Advocate stuff: hiring
* Have been working on an OER press release alongside Meredith and Dr. Isnor, should be released on Wednesday; ZCT list going up; reaching out to media and lib people.
* Met with continuing and distance education about microcredentials, should we on-boarding our “soft launch” version by the end of October
* Have been updated on faculty negotiations- continuing to keep calm and carry on regarding these.

*Discussion:*

Ben: “You say there are no updates; where are they at?”

Naomi: “Yeah, so last January they began negotiations, which came to a halt in June, which is when their contract was supposed to be renewed. University waiting for faculty union to remake a team to restart negotiations, and they haven’t done that yet. Also, they won a 3% pay increase, which Acadia didn’t. So, we’ll see if there’s a strike or what.”

Ben: “Is Take Back the Night rescheduled?”

Naomi: “I have no idea.”

Harmony: “Maybe the week after next?”

Molly: “I think it’ll get incorporated with the MMIW&G stuff happening.”

**Vice President Finance & Operations – Sam Delaney**

*Discussion:*

Naomi: “Did the University contribute to our emergency grants?”

Ben: “We’re going to figure that out soon we just have to check.”

**Vice President Residence Affairs – Sophia Fabiano**

*Discussion:*

Ben: “Have they gone from living in singles in MSB to living in doubles?”

Sophia: “Yes they’re all in doubles now in Cam.”

Ben: “So, students will be paying for doubles?”

Sophia: “I talked to Matt, and I think ResLife is already putting something in motion.”

**Vice President External Affairs – Ben Fairhurst**

*Discussion:*

* Sean: “To go back to the Act of Incorporation, did she day she’d do it, or she might do it?”
* Brendan: “There’s a bit of a process before she can make it into a PMB. So, there’s a bit of work on the back end for Ben and I.”
* Ben: “She said if not in October, then definitely by the spring.”

# Student Union General Manager’s Report

**General Manager – Sean Ryan**

“Hi, thank you this will be short. Victoria Paddon Part-time Operations and Administrations Coordinator. That is all.”

*Discussion:*

Kali: “Thank you Sean for your help during O-Week with the concert while I had my concussion!”

# Special Reports to Council

**President Brendan Roberts 15-minute presentation, the “Executive Team’s Annual Plan”**

*Overview*: The Executive Team has solidified their personal goals for the upcoming year into an official Annual Plan to be passed at the upcoming AGM. So, this presentation is in search of feedback from Council before it’s presented at the AGM. Please reach out to Brendan if you would like to see the official copy of the plan yourself.

*Discussion:*

Sophia: “Did the Code of Conduct get passed at Senate yet?”

Naomi: “No, we haven’t had Senate yet.”

Molly: “We’ll be presenting this later on in October so please make sure you let us know by around October 20th that would be great, as it give

Josh: “How’s advocacy for mental health going on campus?”

Ben: “We’ve been working on the provincial level. For example, with Healthy Minds NS and Margie McKinnon who runs the Health & Wellness Centre downstairs, I’ve been overseeing their operations. There’s a standard for how these should be run and a way of auditing your services to see if students are falling through gaps. Government currently says that post-secondary institutions don’t have to use these audit measures but most already do. I think we should make sure all institutions know this tool exists and that there’s a mandated measure for mental health services on campus.

Josh: “It’s it more about the metrics? The tangible things?”

Ben: “Those metrics exist within the auditing tool. If you have a three-week waiting period that’s not good, but no one has mandated it to be impossible to have this kind of system. Mental health services should be the same across all universities and more accessible to students.”

**Vice President Finance & Operations Sam Delaney: 15-minute presentation, “Budget Amendment”**

*Overview:* The Union needs a Budget Amendment in order to pay Naomi’s new Academic Advocate, therefore Sam is proposing these changes to the 2022-23 budget. If you’d like please ask Sam for a summary of the budget

*No discussion.*

# New Business

**Ratification of the new proposed budget amendment and the adopted changes for the St. FX Students’ Union 2022-23 Budget effective immediately.**

Naomi: “I motion.”

Brendan: “I second.”

*No discussion.*

Josh: “I’ll call to question.

Naomi “

*Motion passed unanimously.*

**Society ratification (see Appendix for list)**

Anna Payson (Guest): “Hi everyone. I have a list of all of the societies who registered a society.”

Naomi: “Two quick things, not to be nit-picky: I think it might be Divest@X and not Divert. Also, are there two different Computer Science societies?”

Anna: “Yes there are two separate ones, and actually it is Divert.”

*No discussion.*

Naomi: “I motion to ratify.”

Brendan: “I second.”

*Motion passes unanimously.*

Naomi: “I call to question.”

Sam: “I second.”

**Omnibus ratification of Matthew Doyle, Julianna Drake, Rachel Corbett, Kennedy Atwater, and Minhaj Sheikh as Residence Event Coordinators for the 2022-23 academic year**

Sophia: “We had an amazing group interview group and panel set up. Folks interviewed really well, and we had some great discussions that I think could lead to great events. It was a unanimous panel decision to have these people in these positions.”

Josh: “I was on the panel. They were fantastic folks. They’ll to an amazing job.”

Brendan: “I can move.”

Naomi: “I CAN SECOND.”

*No discussion.*

Jack: “I will call to question.”

“I’ll second that.

*Motion passes unanimously.*

# Closing Remarks

Molly: “That’s all for today! We have our next council on October 30th and I hope to see everyone there in there Halloween costumes. Also, we have the AGM on the 27th so make sure you bring your friends!”

# Adjournment

Meredith: “I’ll move to adjourn.”

Jack: “I’ll second.”

*Motion passes unanimously.*

*Meeting adjourned at 1:14pm ADT.*

# Appendix

**Society ratification list**

Aquatic Resources

Political Science

KIN Games

MotionballU

Divert @ X

Arts & Crafts Society

Muslim Student Association

Indigenous X

Debate

The Gaelic Society

StFX Dance Society

StFX Campus liberals

StFX Boxing Society

Physics

Rotaract Club (leadership with youth and community)

Math, Stats & Computer Science

Antigonish League of People Advocating for Climate Action at StFX

Latino Society

The Shotokan Karate/Self Defence Society

Psychology

Health Society

Cheerleading

X-Pride

Our House Too (Inclusivity across all activities)

Human Nutrition

Pre-Law

Public Policy & Governance

Ultimate Frisbee

Climate & Environment

Schwartz Women in Business

X-Chem

Anthropology @ X

Catholics @ X

Education Society

Xavier Christian Fellowship

Biology Society

Model UN

Theatre X

WUSC (World University Service of Canada)

WISE (Women in Science & Engineering)

Socratic Circle (The Philosophy Society)

Human Kinetics

Best Buddies

Ringette

StFX SDG Alliance (Sustainable Development Goals awareness)

Women & Gender Studies

StFX Engineering

Biology Society

Computer Science

Tennis Society

Volleyball Society

Schwartz JDCC

Chess Society

Rowing Society

StFX Curling Society

Sociology @  StFX