February 11, 2018

Council package

Created by Tiffany MacLennan

# AGENDA

Students’ Union Representative Council
February 11th, 2018
Council Chambers

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Opening Remarks of the Chair
4. Mi’kmaq Acknowledgment
5. Approval of the Agenda
6. Approval of Minutes
7. Constituency Reports
8. Business Arising
9. Executive Reports
	* President, Ms. Annie Sirois
	* Vice President Academic, Mr. Patrick Panet-Raymond
	* VP Finance and Operations, Mr. William Gatchell
	* VP Activities and Events, Mr. Sean Hopkins
	* VP Residence Affairs, Ms. Rebecca Mesay
	* VP External Affairs, Mr. Zakariya Chatur
10. Faculty Representative’s Remarks
11. Student Union General Manager Report
12. Committee Reports
13. Special Reports to Council
14. Old Business
* Motion Student Representative Council does not support the changes on University Avenue.
1. New Business
2. Closing Remarks of the Chair
3. Adjournment

# MINUTES FROM THE JANUARY 28th MEETING

**Student Union Council Meeting**

**Council Chambers**

**January 28th, 2018**

**Call to Order: 3:01PM**

**Roll Call:**

Present: Jessica Fullerton, Emma Crilly, Pheerawich Chitnelawong, Tiffany MacLennan, Zakariya Chatur, Rebecca Mesay, Annie Sirois, Patrick Panet-Raymond, William Gatchell, Sean Hopkins, Bry Crabbe, Sydney Pagan, Sarah Elliott, Kashya Young, Sean Ryan, Amy Bobyn, Tanaka Chikwavaire

Absent with regrets: Mel Grant (Vote proxied to Bry Crabbe), Marcia English, Sasha Paul

Absent: Kashya Young

**Mi’kmaq Acknowledgment**

**Opening Remarks of the Chair**

Welcome everyone. It’s a good meeting on the go right now. I would like to note that I will not be standing throughout the meeting.

**Mi’kmaq Acknowledgment**

**Approval of the Agenda**

Patrick moves to approve the agenda, seconded by Emma. (12-0-0, motion passes.)

**Approval of Minutes**

Emma moves to approve the minutes, seconded by Lucas, (12-0-0, motion passes)

**Constituency Reports**
Sarah Elliott - First Year Representative
This week not much has happened. House hockey cups are coming up and many people within my constituency are excited for that. A date for the first year dance has been chosen and it will be March 31st!

Amy Bobyn - Science Representative

Since our last meeting, a lot of time was spent talking about the election and the referendum to students within my constituency. The Committee of Studies of Science met and there has been a lot of good talk about the nutrition program and the changes that are to come in the future. I am planning a meeting with all of the science society presidents to talk about what they would like to see done for second semester.

Emma Crilly - Business Representative

It’s been a bit of a slow week. I was in Schwartz at a polling station during the election and there was a very good turnout from the business students! The advisory committee has been meeting about plans for the semester. Senate is coming up soon and I’m excited for that! By-Law and Policy also met over this time and will be spoken about in committee reports.

Bry Crabbe - Graduate Student Representative

A lot of time was spent trying to find someone to run for Grad student councilor as well as getting the list serv updated. Congratulations to Jack Johnson for his election with a whopping 66 votes.

Sydney Pagan - Board of Governor’s Representative

Since our last meeting there has been no activity at the board level. However, Alex and I have been able to go to all of the buildings except for the tri-macs to talk about the referendum, the elections and teaching students about what the BoGs does. Most questions asked by the students were about the Oland Centre referendum, mostly around where their money will be going. There is a board meeting coming up on this Tuesday!

Alex Corrigan – Board of Governor’s Representative

I was with Sydney going into residences so I won’t go into detail with that. I have been speaking with Dr.MacDonald’s secretary to set up a private viewing of a play on Thursday for the BoG. I will also be at the conference call meeting this Tuesday and will report on that at the next council meeting. I would like to apologize to the board to be absent for the February board meeting but I plan on writing into to the meeting so if there is anything anyone would like said, please send it along.

Pheerawich Chitnelawong - International Student Representative

Only one event has happened for international students, there was a meet and great that was a pizza party and we ran out of pizza! So, that means that it was a good turn out! There will be elections for the International Student Society happening soon. The ratification of two societies from international students will be happening today so it will be interesting to see what happened with that.

Tanaka Chikwavaire

Congratulations to Rebecca and Tiffany on their election. I wanted to speak on the coming month, as it is African Hertigage month, there was already a speaker who came in and spoke on “Stop the Violence” and it was great. I wrote in my council package that there was a lunch on the 31st but it is actually the 30th. It would be great to see you all at some of the upcoming events!

Lucas Middleton

Happy to be back and be back into the swing of things!

Sasha Paul – Equity Student Representative

Absent with Regrets

Mel Grant – Education Student Representative

Absent with Regrets

Kashaya Young – Aboriginal Student Representative

Absent

**Business Arising**

Emma motions to allocate $50 from the council budget to the business student survey. Seconded by Annie.

**Executive Reports**

President, Ms. Annie Sirois

Thanks everyone for coming out, I know it’s been a busy time of year. Leadership summit just happened and was partnered with John C. Friel X-Talks, I had the privilege of delivering one of the talks as a student and we had a lot of great sessions with other Students’ Unions such as Mount Allison, and Bishop’s. The X-Ring committee has reconvened, we are looking into what the qualifications are for each program because it is a reoccurring problem on who is or isn’t eligible especially the addition of many new programs here at X. We are exploring a percentage of completion of credits to decide if you are eligible for your X-Ring. The Student Union President and Vice-President Academic Election went well, due to a By-Law infraction it was closed and reopened but there was still a good turnout. I have been meeting with lots of students about their concerns across campus as well as positions for the next year as students are looking to get involved. There was a university budget meeting to talk about where the university is going to be financially by the end of the year, also to look at a draft of the budget for the next year. We are likely to run a deficit this year and next year but there is plans to change that. We will be looking at providers for the Health and Dental plan this weel. The Students Nova Scotia provincial budget submission has been sent out, we are hoping to see some big wins, especially for internationals students.

Vice President Academic, Mr. Patrick Panet-Raymond

Happy Sunday everyone! There has been a lot going on over the last two weeks! I sat on the Sexual Assault Prevention Panel and it was well attended, the event was hosted by Andrew beckett and a lot of the questions asked during the event were directed towards him. I also sat on the Timetable Review Committee and we are looking into changing things around so that students are not in classes for 5 hours in a row to accommodate for the hour loss around supper time. There was a CABS meeting and it was decided that Andrew Beckett will be on this committee as a partner of Student Services, he will be a great addition to this committee. I was also a part of the DriveU hiring panel and we hired 4 people! Senate steering committee happened as there is a Senate Meeting on February 6th. Leadership Summit had some good and very interesting discussions. I’m also currently working with the library to create a research 101 workshop to help students with their research.

Annie – The Sexual Assault Committee has put a revised version of the Sexual Violence Policy to the website. Earlier today, Rebecca and I flagged to Andrew Beckett that a bi-annual report was not submitted on behalf this committee as required, so hopefully that will be accessible to students soon.

VP Finance and Operations, Mr. William Gatchell

As Annie said, we had the Leadership Summit, it was very well done. It was really impressive and some of the different engagements were very interesting. Sat in on the University Budget committee as Annie said as well; this gave us a better understanding of where the University will be at the end the year. Society allocations are coming through and there are lots of societies doing great things and we are really impressed with all that societies are doing. Enactus would like to hire a new employee, so I have been working with them and the marketing manager to get the position up and running. I’m working with Sean Hopkins to book another act in the next week, we’ve had a few meetings about what there is left in the activities budget for the year. Currently working with Xaverian to open up some of the operational budget as they want to get some multimedia platforms. There is coffee sleeves available now and they are to support Bell Let’s Talk on behalf of SBS and theU. All of the sleeves have phone numbers which can help students contact places who can help with mental health issues. Health Plan provider meetings are coming up and we will be deliberating on this as soon as possible. DriveU BITB training is happening today for the DriveU members and the rest of the training will be happening tomorrow.

VP Activities and Events, Mr. Sean Hopkins

X-Talks leadership in collaboration with McKenna Centre for Leadership’s Leadership Summit. Overall, the event went very well. Weekly ERC meetings and Inn meetings have been happening. The inn meetings have been going more smoothly than before and we have events planned for the next month. I’m currently planning a concert for February 8th which will be Loud Luxury. February 5th is the first smartSTFX session and it will be on basic financial literacy as it’s been a common theme among graduating students on what do they do now that they are graduating. February 4th-10th is going to be crazy as it’s also the Schwartz Business Society week. I’ve met with Lane and Fraser about LASER night at the inn, unfortunately the date that they had requested conflicted with the concert on February 8th. As well, I’ve started working on convocation now!

VP Residence Affairs, Ms. Rebecca Mesay

Been a busy few weeks. House hockey cups have been taking a lot of time. TNT/Chillis went well. Congratulations to TNT. There was several meetings with various coaches about the expectations of the teams during these events. Bathtub cup was cancelled from its original date but we are working with the university to find a date for the event. The Leadership Summit happened and I was lucky to give a session, the event was great! I have a meeting with Jacqueline and Matt Girard about leading up to the rest of the house hockey cups. I attended a talk about Stop the Violence, it was great. The applications for executive positions are open and I am encouraging students to find people to apply for executive positions. I’m currently trying to plan training for house HP/VPs at Keppoch. As well, there has been many students coming to me about the HP/VP positions for next year. Campus affairs is aiming to meet next month.

Sydney – Is there a positive rivalry month planned?

Rebecca – Yes, there is!

Vice President External Affairs, Mr. Zakariya Chatur

Since the last council meeting I have been busy going through applications for hiring for CASA, those interviews will be happening Tuesday and Wednesday. Sean and Mary Coyle gave me the opportunity to host Frank McKenna over the weekend and it was great to be able to talk to him about the importance of civil service. On February 8th, there will be a civil service career fair in Schwartz and will be facilitated at the Department of Transportation. If you know anyone who can volunteer please tell them to email me! I recently received Bringing In The Bystander training. During the elections, I worked some of the polling booths on campus. The Advocacy Team for CASA met on Friday, they were tasked on the three things were going to be doing for our letter writing initiative. Jack and I are working on our research project. So I will be meeting the Aboriginal Students (Terena), Students of African Descent (Kelsey) and the Gender and Sexual Diversity (Bre) offices, as well this research project will brought to the External Affairs Advisory Committee on Friday.

**Faculty Representative’s Remarks**

Absent

**Student Union General Manager Report**

Really just a couple things: We are meeting with 4 different health providers this week! Also, we are heading into African history month but we are finishing up LGBTQ+ month and there are MANY events happening at the inn so check some of them out. Applications for executives end on Wednesday, January 31st so if you know anyone interesting in these positions, please let them know.

**Committee Reports**

By-Law and Policy

The By-Law and Policy Committee now meets weekly. We have put together the revisions for the eligibility policy. We were able to review the hazing policy and are looking to bring that to council soon.

Strategic Planning Committee

Meeting weekly. Looking at revisions and are going to move forward with the creation of two surveys. One of which for the general public and two, for people who are already working for the U.

Budget and Finance Committee

Has been engaged every week as always with society allocations. We have recommended a couple of allocations that were less than the amount that they had requested and this is because the committee felt it was a more suitable amount of money for what was being asked.

Society Review Committee

Has not met this week but we were able to over the constitutions and ratifications of new societies so you will see them later today during ratification.

**Special Reports to Council**

**WUSC Presentation**

Isaac – Hello everyone , my name is Isaac and I’m the president of the WUSC committee. Jordan – and I am Jordan, the VP for the society.

Isaac - WUSC is the world university society of Canada. What we do on campus is bring in a student refugee from somewhere in the world. We are responsible for getting the clothes, winter clothes a computer, school supplies, help them to set up back accounts, etc. as well, we help them with physical and mental support. We do multiple fundraisers throughout the year to make this possible. We are trying to get the word out about WUSC so that we are better able to receive funding to help these students. WUSC receives $4 every year from the Students Union fee to aid these students but the levy has not changes since being introduced. However, the cost of everything else, has.

Jordan - The WUSC resettlement program ensures that the students will be able to stay in Canada whether or not they are in school. Many of these students are pressured to drop out of school and begin working so that they are able to send money back to help their families. Because Antigonish is a small town, there is not many employment opportunities so there has been a low rate of retention. Currently we are able to help students in their first year but after that, they are almost on their own. An increase in the levy would allow financial aid to happen in their second, third and fourth year so that students would have to worry less about the financial burden of university. While this would not cover it all, or even ½ way, it would be just be small help.

Isaac - Other universities offers also offer this levy and what is unique is that WUSC is a student sponsoring students organization.

There has been a big increase in the amount of student refugees that are coming into Canada over the last few years. Students come from all parts of the world, and WUSC has had students from Uganda, Syria, Afghanistan, South Soudan and Somalia.

The ask

Isaac - We have prepared budgets based on 3 different funding scenarios: an increase to 6, 8 or 10 dollar levy. Currently we receive $15,000 as a check from the Students Union. Tuition, meal plan and residence is all waived by the university for the students first year. We lose money from bank charges to the society as well as hosting events, that although raise awareness, lose money.

We would like to be able to invest more in the society members so that students can attend the WUSC conferences and be able to educate their peers on these. We would like to be able to support our incoming students in social events so that they do not feel isolation. Also, we would like to move towards a $200.00 per month stipend for the students rather than $150.00. Moving towards helping support in assisting books in 2,3 and 4 year as long as helping provide money for an X-Ring, tuition assistance, accommodation assistance and meal assistance.

We have provided this list but we wanted to pass this to council to see what you thought was applicable for the levy. This would be important for the sustainability of the society but as well, dependent on the levy, it could be possible to make us be able to take 2 students in the future years.

Q (Emma):Have you been working with the university in terms what they do with their older technology to see if they would be willing to donate it to the incoming students?

A (Isaac): The university is very generous with their supports. For our students, we want to make sure that the students are set up for the same success as anyone else included in that is ensuring that they have the technology appropriate for their needs.

Q (Zakariya): Between the 8 and 10 dollar levy, why is there a $400 increase on line X?

A: That is a typo, it should remain constant.

Q (Lucas): If $1000 books was allocated, and was not used, could the money be re-allocated somewhere else in the budget?

A: The books come at the price that the university pays for them. Whatever amount of money is not used would remain within the account.

Q (Annie): We are not giving them $500.00 but we are giving them the option to use the money and the rest would remain in the account?

A: Yes. It would work the same with the books. We don’t write a check with this amount for students, we distribute the money as it is needed.

Q (Emma): Is there a dramatic difference between the $6 increase and the $10 increase in terms of allowing the students?

A: The $10 would be the only way that we would be able to be able to take in 2 students. If we did it on the 6 or the 8, we would not be able to support the students.

Q (Pheerawich): So, the university does not charge these students with international fees?

A: No because as soon as they reach Canada, they are considered Canadian residents.

Q (Sean R.): Has WUSC done any outreach to students on raising the levy?

A: The response was generally positive, however it has been a small number of students that have been approached us about the WUSC society that we have had the opportunity to talk about the levy to so far.

Q (Sean R.): What does your gut say? If you HAD to choose one amount, what would it be?

A: The 10 would be ideal, but it would have to be 8.

Q (Pheerawich): Is this associated with the Class of 2018 bursary?

A (Alex): There is collaboration. We are writing the TOR for the 2018 bursary, however, we plan on excluding the first year WUSC students seeing as they are covered. The upper year students would be able to apply along with other students as well. It was suggested by the university to do an endowment, however this is not something that is feasible for time frame.

Q (Annie) – Would you be interested in doing something similar for the students like the SU referendum where there is an option of prices?

A: Absolutely!

Q (Zakariya) – I’m going to go off of Sean Ryan’s question, do you believe that they $8 would make a significance?

A: Yes. Absolutely yes. The $10 would be the shoot for the stars, $6 would be if people are not really feeling it but also want to help students. $8 is great and would really help the students.

Annie – I suggest that we thank our presenters and reconvene to talk about this around the table.

\*End of Special Presentation\*

Emma – I think that increasing the fee as outlined is necessary. The program that they are implementing is amazing and is something that StFX really would embodies. I think that a 3% increase on top of a rate change could be useful.

Annie – I would like to suggest ways to promote this students rather than forming the question as we do not have enough information yet.

Emma – I think that we should move this to student survey.

Patrick Panet-Raymond – Should we have a special council meeting?

Annie – I definitely support student survey and I would be willing to work with students to who want to see this happen and work with any councilors willing to put this survey forward.

Alex – I would be more than willing! I would like to tell council that I have met with the WUSC committee and work closely to them, so if you find this may be inappropriate to work with this survey, please let me know.

Annie – If council is going to suggest anything, we are going to have to give WUSC two weeks to promote it.

Emma moves to call a special meeting to discuss the WUSC referendum survey. Alex seconds.

Pheerawich moves to amend the movement to have a special council meeting on February 3rd, 11am.

Annie calls to question (12-0-0) motion passes, motion to approve the amendment to the original motion (10-0-2). Annie calls to question (12-0-0) all in favor of special council on February 3rd, 11 am (12-0-0).

**Old Business**

None.

**New Business**

Motion to Approve the eligibility policy:

Emma motions to approve the students union eligibility policy, seconded by Lucas.

Emma – In by law and policy, we took into consideration the concerns voiced at the council. A priority is to have academically safe and successful students within the students union.

Alex – I am still not in favor of this policy due to the reasons that were presented beforehand.

Lucas – Because the executive team does have very similar terms of reference whether they are elected or not, there should not be a difference between all executive positions.

Pheerawich – I agree with Lucas’s points but I would like to say that a lot of students, especially international students, may not know their capability when coming into these leadership positions. I have to support this as I do not believe that a 5% increase would not limit many students.

Annie calls to question, seconded by Bry (12-0-0, passes), all in favor of approving the eligibility policy as presented (11-1-0, motion passes). With BoG Alex opposing the motion.

Motion to approve the elections act:

Annie moves amend the elections act in compliance with eligibility policy. Seconded by Patrick.

Patrick allocates to Rebecca - Is there anything that says what a non-academic probation is?

Annie – That is up to the student life office.

Pheerawich – So, this would change to be a more like a link to the eligibility policy?

Annie – Yes.

Bry calls to question (12-0-0, passes). All in favor of amending the elections act to be in compliance with the eligibility policy (12-0-0, motion passes).

Society Ratifications:

Emma motions to ratify the societies omnibus, seconded by Sydney.

Emma: they all look great societies!

Lucas allocates to Sean H. - All societies met necessary requirements, no red flags at all. All look to be great societies and looking forward to seeing what they accomplish.

Pheerawich – Finally, the International Student Society will be ratified! The society is open to everyone and is a very interesting to society to have to have the opportunity to include all of the StFX campus with the international students.

Bry calls to question, seconded by Patrick (12-0-0 passes). All in favor of ratifying the societies omnibus (12-0-0, motion passes).

Motion to allocate $50 to Student Outreach Survey:

Emma: I’m looking to start a student survey to deliver to business students to collect information on the good, the bad or the ugly of being a business student here at X. This money would be going to support two $25 gift cards to Kenny’s used as an incentive for people to fill the survey.

Annie – The receipt will have to be provided to the VP F&O on this!

Annie calls to question, Bry seconds (12-0-0, passes). All in favor of allocating $50 to purchase gift cards for student outreach (11-0-1). Where Emma abstained.

**Closing Remarks of the Chair**

Thank you all for great support throughout the past election. It was helpful to have a wide variety of support. Although we were hit with a small blip in the beginning, we received a 27.1% voter turnout which is an increase from the previous year. Also, congratulation to Rebecca and Tiffany on their election!

**Adjournment**

Jess moves to adjourn, seconded by Sydney (12-0-0).

Meeting Adjourned at 4:55PM.

#  MINUTES FROM SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING, FEB 3rd 2018.

**Student Union Special Council Meeting**

**Council Chambers**

**February 3rd, 2018**

**Call to Order 11:06am**

**Roll Call**

Present: Jessica Fullerton, Melissa Grant, Emma Crilly, Tiffany MacLennan, Zakariya Chatur, Rebecca Mesay, Annie Sirois, Patrick Panet-Raymond, William Gatchell, Sean Hopkins, Bry Crabbe, Sydney Pagan, Sarah Elliott, Kashya Young, Amy Bobyn, Tanaka Chikwavaire, Sasha Paul

Absent with Regrets: Pheerawich Chitnelawong (vote proxied to Sasha Paul), Sean Ryan, Marcia English

Absent: Kashaya Young

**Approval of the Agenda**

Emma moves to approve the agenda, seconded by Lucas (13-0-0, motion passes).

**Opening Remarks of the Chair**

Thank you all for coming. This is the busiest council meeting that we’ve had all year. I require your upmost respect. There will be a speakers list when the discussion comes about. Gallery members are unable to speak unless time is allocated to you to speak by an elected representative. Anything outside of the given motion will be deemed ‘out of order’ and you will be asked to stop speaking for the time being.

**Mi’Kmaq Acknowledgment**

**New Business**

**WUSC Referendum Survey**

Annie: After the last council meeting when WUSC came to us about the increase in the fee for this society, we drafted a survey to go to students. There is no motion on the floor today because this is a discussion about the survey.

The survey was read by Annie Sirois.

Annie: The WUSC representative has sent an updated budget in so that it could be posted online.

Emma: Yields to Rebecca: I would suggest changing to ‘what year of study’ instead of ‘what year of student’. Change considered friendly.

Q (Emma): Are we going to be giving information on what WUSC is along with this survey?

A (Annie): We will be providing a budget and a link to what WUSC is.

Annie: If there is no other discussion on the table, I will send this over to the marketing manager.

**Motion Student Representative Council \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ support the changes on University Avenue.**

Melissa moves Student Representative Council \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ support the changes on University Avenue, seconded by Emma.

Annie: Point of information, can the motion be a blank?

Melissa amends the motion to Student Representative Council does not support the changes on University Avenue, seconded by Bry.

Annie: Yesterday we circulated an 8 page report on behalf of student life, while it was short notice, we wanted students to be able to see this information before coming to council. I had asked you all to share it with your constituents so that they are informed.

Emma: Talking from this report itself, it comes from a very biased stance, which makes sense as the university wants to see the changes happen. However, in this report, they do not talk about the positive things that have come from the houses. Macpherson/Macdonald living in the same building seen incredible impact. I would like to point out that there not fraternity houses at stfx. As well, I am not sure that this is representative of the entire picture as buildings like Lane are split into sections, not giving an accurate representation of the entire house.

Time allocated to William: What was said about Lane Hall?

Emma: Lane hall is split into Lane A and Lane B so it doesn’t give a full picture of the damage for the house.

Annie: Please also recognize the damage charges per capita.

Alex: I would like to state that last night I put a message in a Facebook group and told people to send in their opinions. Three people had messaged me and all three people messaged me about not wanting to make changes to University Avenue. I will do my best to paraphrase these three messages. Message 1: Had fun in TNT, good traditions to be a part of, even though some traditions are not as positive, they are important and we did not feel pressured to participate in these events. However, there were many very good ones like the haunted house. Single gendered houses make people feel safe and welcome. Message #2: Same overall consensus as previous message. House meeting of welcome week it was sex-positive and that was appreciated. I would hate to see the residence culture be destroyed. Message #3: Not overly detailed.

Emma: I reached out to my substituents, and made myself public so that students could reach out and speak. I would like to highlight one in support of the above motion, it states that the person believes that we cannot move forward to modernizing if we stop the changes to move towards co-ed residences. The top part of students FOR have been that the student experience has been made by these houses. A student brought forward that they monetary evidence that the report may not be accurate.

Alex allocated to the gallery

I had made a post on the Facebook page on the Save University Avenue saying the following:

 “After the meeting the other day, Andrew Beckett said that one of the main reasons for the co-ed switch in Cameron Hall was due to the fact that 7/8 sexual assault cases this year were found to have occurred within the Trimac buildings. It is absolutely ridiculous for this to be one of their legitimate reasons for switching to Co-ed. Their sample size of 8 reports is unbelievably inadequate in terms of using that evidence as a basis to make serious decisions that directly impacts the community. The school claims that since the majority of cases from this year occurred within those houses, then clearly the 'fraternity/sorority styled' residences must be abolished to 'prevent further incidents and provide security for the students.' I'd bet there is at least one student every night who is sexually assaulted/harassed both on and off campus, regardless of which residence they stayed in. And the grand majority do not report these incidents.

The school should recognize that the incidents that HAVE been reported are because the students in the residences on Univeristy Avenue feel as though they have enough SUPPORT from their houses to come out publicly and report the incident. The school should not be moving towards co-ed buildings to ensure that for future reference all incidents are swept under the rug and kept quiet in order to preserve their reputation.

Shame on the school for not recognizing that single-gender houses build confidence in students and help them find their voice in times of need.”

That post had gotten 300 reactions to it. Tara Campaud commented on the post stating that Women feel more empowered around other women. I have three little sisters who were aspiring tigers and will not be coming to StFX if this is passed through the university.

Lucas: Thank you, I would like to speak to three things brought forward by my constituency. I sent out a call asking students and I got many negative reactions towards the change. However, I did get a positive. So, I feel positive speaking for this motion. I cannot agree with the universities approach for using “we warned you” as a value. There is a large amount of sexual assault reports from these buildings. If we had done a student survey, I think we would have found overwhelming support.

Sydney: I was lucky to attend the announcement as a councillor. I was disheartened to see this come through because there was not sufficient student consultation. The stance of theU and the University was not done with sufficient support from students. If we want to stay true to servant leadership to students, we have to be able to support students who do not feel like their voices can be heard by the university at this time. Students approached me about their experience.

Tanaka: I think having looked through the report that the university released, there has been a lot of evidence towards negative things within the house. I do not understand why moving towards co-ed residences would be an incredibly bad thing. I would like someone explain to me why the suggested solutions on why these changes are bad.

Gallery: I don’t think co-ed would be such a bad thing if we were not losing all of the houses, when this happened in bishops the houses could keep their individual identities, Fraser, Burke and Plessis. The university CAN change towards co-ed but don’t take away our identities.

Mel: To paraphrase a report written by a student. Pros: family feeling, when meeting third and fourth years MacPherson students you could meet them and feel a bond. Cons: the separate houses breed an immediate rivalry. The TNT girls were seen as prizes to the boys and looking back on it was very disgusting.

Emma: Discussing the motion on the floor, something that was brought to me by eliminating Lane Hall this year we no longer have a place where men can live with men and women and live with women. However, there is one floor where women can stay. We cannot support religious and cultural backgrounds for the men who can only live with other men. We have to support both sides equally, just and fairly. Student consultation has not been there in a structured setting that had student representation within these meetings. We are shutting out what the women want and we cannot support the notion that women cannot live with women because of the action of the boys.

Annie: This has been discussed over the years. The townhall did not happen this year but consultation happened in the university. There was not “I warned you attitude”. By voting for the motion on the table, you are directly supporting negative traditions that foster negative attitude and first and foremost, we have to support student safety.

Sarah: The university is born on tradition and everything I knew about X was based on traditions. I was supposed to be in MacIsaac and myself and those places in MacIsaac Hall were excited because of these traditions that were happening and disappointed when they did not.

Annie: Can you speak to what these traditions were as the first year representative?

Sarah: The best people to make the decision are the people who are currently living within the building and if they university wants a fair decision on what is best for these students than there should be a vote done by the students. Finally, I would like say that a floor of girls is not a community but is just a floor.

Gallery: I would like to thank you for having us. Mel you talked about a very narrow perspective. I cannot pretend that these negatives things that are not here. However, they happen all over Canada and all over campus. TheU is an amazing thing in the sense that they are able to advocate on behalf of what the students want. When we talk about traditions, what the hell are we talking about? What is the significance of it? When I left my house to make a trip home last year, and thought about why I fell in love with MD like I did, I thought why did these traditions make such an impact? In these houses, there is the closest thing to unconditional love. The reason that sexual assaults are reports in these residences is because people feel love here, they feel supported. The university cannot put value on unconditional love. The U should advocate for the students here. When I walked into MD my first day, I didn’t know a single person, sitting in my room and not knowing anyone. Someone knocked on my door and brought me around and they became my best friends. The point I’m trying to make is this: Yes, there is problems. Can these problems be solved? Yes. Can they be solved with the unconditional love in these buildings? Yes. Because of this, as theU, you should go against the university decision.

Rebecca: Within the Residence Affairs office, there has been a long history of the portfolio of the Residence Affairs position. My office is a bit of an archive of the reports and the names of many past house presidents. For the purpose of the executive team, it was my job to look at this as an holistic point. There has been a pleather of emails from these building saying that they do not support the decision and saying that they do not support the amalgamation of these houses. However, I had many students come to me and say that “I feel good that the traditions in these houses will no longer be occurring because these houses and their environments will no longer be a thing”. Two years ago, Bridget Burgess went through a similar time. Two years ago the executive team provided the students with the tools to make the students to make changes to the houses, but part of the discussion was that the behaviour had to change significantly over time. However, these have not been changed at the rate or impact they need.

Gallery: Thanks to the students speaking up. Firstly, I would like to say it is important to remind the president that consultation does not happen mostly for first and second years but third, fourth and alumni of the houses. One recommendation I would make is a referendum so that students could say if they support the changes or do not support the changes and then we can see the results. This is good polar democracy that we would be able to lean on.

Gallery: Thank you everyone who is here. First of all, I would like to say that there is a gross misconception about the feelings coming out of these houses. We can be better, this is always room for improvement. We can adapt. But, We cannot loose these houses. This issue will not be receiving as much attention as the WUSC referendum and it does not make sense that where your money goes, matters but where you live, doesn’t. With this being said, I hold with me the impeachment petition for the student union President, Annie Sirois. The original decision was not made with the consultation of the students but as well without the consultation of other councillors so it makes me question what else is happening behind the doors of the students union. In terms of these houses, moving forward, I would like to keep these houses but move towards the better in order to keep them as they are.

Gallery: I had raised my hand earlier because I felt offended by a statement made about the traditions in the building. I would like to highlight some of the positive traditions, like arriving and getting your tiger tails and swearing to be as strong as a tiger, the haunted house, where you spend all day putting garbage bags up and doing your make up or pail and shovel which celebrates roommates and the bonds that were made over the year. Pail and Shovel is my FAVORITE day of the year and that taking away all of the single gendered houses would remove these positive traditions.

Alex: Earlier it was said that a vote for this motion by a councillor is a motion for, well… bad. As a councillor, I vote on behalf of what my constituents feel. I would like it to be known on whether or not they think it’s a good thing or bad thing, we have to vote for what students feel.

Tanaka: While there are a lot of people here, there is another side of the story that is not represented here today. I appreciated what was said earlier by the gallery, however it is important to remember those who cannot be here today.

Sasha: Given the conversations I’ve had with people, the main two things that have come up that should be highlighted are communication and compromise. I think there is so much outrage because of the way that the university approached this, that they used a dictatorship approach, which makes people feel like they need to be defensive. However, as equity student representative, I have to talk about every side. While it’s great to hear about the good experiences, there is also negative that can be seen by evidence. There has to be compromise in this situation. There has to be people willing to stand against the university to show that there will be positive leadership and that there will be positive change in the building. It is important that we do compromise and that what heather said, we can still keep the identity of the houses. The houses has to be willing to change negative traditions within the building.

Sarah: I was talking to a couple of the community advisors, it was implemented in the houses to move towards a restorative approach. I think that the university punishing bad behaviour goes against that this has been working towards. The university should work towards the positive by working through the HP/VPs, I think that it could be better than taking away their traditions which could be a compromise.

Gallery: Good morning everyone! Point of inquiry: what else is the university tying to go to get rid of the negative cultures? MacIsaac was made co-ed in the 1990s and man oh man, that did not help MacIsaac. There is nothing that says that getting rid of these houses will get rid of these negative traditions.

Rebecca: This year, MacIsaac was closed and saved money to the university. To speak to this, MacIsaac will be the home of the living learning communities in the coming year.

Annie: In 2015, programs such as positive space, BITB would be delivered in the buildings in hope that it would improve the culture of the buildings but that did not shown significant changes.

Sarah: So, turning MacIsaac into co-ed made it a party residence?

Rebecca: No, MacIsaac was an all-male residence and the level of the behavior and damage wsa unacceptable. Adding females into the buildings mitigated these issues. Plessis, Fraser and Burke were also single residence and were put together.

Alex: So, are we making the statement that the amount of damage is proportional to the amount of men within the building?

A: Yes

Gallery: I would like to talk about the evidence based side because the University from Canada wide research. I would like to speak to the point that the use of alcohol in these building is higher which is correlated to sexual assaults. This is not a problem just on this campus but across Canada. Sexual Assault Survivors are more likely to report if they feel as if they would be heard. According to stats Canada, only 6% of sexual assaults are reported. However, there is a very high likelihood that there was a lot of sexual assaults outside of these houses. So the problem is not where the sexual assaults are reports but where they are reported but these houses foster a place for students to feel safe.

Emma: These changes that are happening on campus, despite what happens today, the university will continue changing to become a safe environment. Us on the board, the executive, etc., are doing their best are working hard to ensure that the student voices are heard. Overall, as a campus, we are changing.

Gallery: This love in the building has been built over many years and decades and has persisted is because of the divisions of gender in the houses. Experiencing this, it is easier to feel connected to these people. At the end of the day, I would rather see the buildings be co-ed and keep their identities.

Bry: I would like to talk about what my constituents, many of them are stfx alumni, when they interact with students the common point is where did you live on campus? This is going to take away from this conversation starter.

Gallery: I am the most upset about the lack of student consultation. The Students Union job is to represent students on campus.

Gallery: My view is very biased, I would like to speak about the hostility that was caused by us was based on the frustration on the university and theU because of the lack of consultation. The Student Union should work to find a way to take better surveys from students becaue we felt as if we didn’t have a voice.

Gallery: I understand the universities frustration with damages and I understand Unions original decision. In MacKinnon hall, the only thing that would be happening would be evening out the number of women to men and the damages would only likely become more so changing these building to co-ed residences would affect the male:female ratio, just where the males and females are places on campus.

Gallery: I would like to make a point to talk about BITB and Positive space and they should be mandatory. With that being said, these houses have had great turnout with usually less than 5 people missing. It would be offensive to say that these programs do not help the culture as the students volunteer the time.

Gallery: Annie and Rebecca says there has been a pleather of emails that are equal amount of ones not supporting the motion. Can you release all of those?

Annie: I could send you the parts that say that there are students who do and do not support these changes. However, due to confidentiality, we cannot release the entire emails.

Annie: Everyone has been talking about all of the good that has been happening. This is not to take away from that. Aside from sexualized violence, there is a blatant disregard to the hazing traditions, while it may be fun for 90% there is 10% of students that are severely impacted due to these events.

Alex: Earlier, what I was trying to say that females usually do less damage than males do, I believe changing these houses would not alter the gender ratio. Therefore would not affect the amount of damages within the building.

Gallery: I would like to say that I live in burke, I just came out as bi-sexual, I’ve had people come up to me over the year from MP and they have been very welcoming and supporting. I feel their love, their MP and TNT love. Getting rid of these houses takes away from my support system as a whole.

Gallery: Is there any way that we can have that information released without breaching confidentiality?

Annie: You have the report that was released.

Gallery: I’ve read it and I think the more information the better when it comes towards this.

Rebecca: I can search my office.

Isis: I would like to speak on behalf of those people who support the university decision. Since this announcement has been made on Tuesday, my life has been flipped upside down. I do not think that the students who agree with the situation are not as passionate about this. Their opinion should be taken into less consideration because if they cared, they would be here.

Gallery: I was in MacNeil in 2010, and I have contextual evidence. In 2010, $30 per person in damages, every month there was updates on where damage was in the houses so that students can police themselves. When this happened, students could hold other students accountable for damages.

Lucas: Each time this has happened, the residences have been given a few years to deal with this. The restorative approach has only been given 5 months to occur and this is not enough time to see if this works and if this would make a difference moving forward.

Bry allocates time to William: In regards to Isis’s comment, we are sitting here to represent the portion of people who are not here today. it is ignorant to state that the opinions of the people here should be weighed more than those who didn't come and disagree. We cannot say that people who are not in the room deserve to have their voices heard less. The people who do support these changes may not be as vocal as they may have very personal reasons on why these changes should be made.

Sasha: To go off of what Will said, every student deserves to have a university experience that is positive, continuing to foster these negative communities will not help that.

Gallery: Really, we just need to send out a survey to students to be able to make an informed decision.

Gallery: I lived in Burke for two years, every student who comes to this university gets to choose where they are living. Removing the University Avenue houses do not add any new options towards the university experience but only takes away.

Gallery: the motion on the table is to support the changes? Or not support? In order to make an informed decision on council, we need to get student feedback as soon as possible so it should be voted on today.

Annie: The president and vice-president academic express the best interest for the students. Not every stance has to be taken and voted on council.

Emma: Point of information: as student representatives, this has been very fast paced and we can only get information out as quick as we can receive it.

Gallery: Most residences are designed in pods, so when a girl opens their door, they may open to two boys. So, this could be isolating to the new students in the building.

Gallery: Residence Life has done a terrible job over the past few years to do consultation to students. The restorative approach is trying to repair the relationships between residence life and students. These changes would likely continue diminish these relationships over again.

Sydney: Is it possible to table this vote in order to see how many people vote and don’t vote in a survey?

Time allocated to Zak: If this survey goes out, we would have to talk about the scope of the survey. If only people who live in the building can vote, if all of campus can vote.

Emma: We would definitely have to open it up to ALL students on campus because as we’ve seen here today there are students passionate about this who are not from the buildings.

Gallery: I would like to reiterates Bry’s statement, StFX is an amazing place, it’s like a comic book all of the time and no one understands it, I’m a very open-minded person and I was trying to think of why the university would think that this is a good thing or is not a good thing. I think that the we have a highest student satisfaction rate and this is because of the culture and the connections that are made at this university.

Gallery: I was out for drinks in Calgary downtown and noticed a table with an X-Ring beside us and the first question that was asked is “What residence did you live in/” and removing these residences could tarnish our alumi network and opportunities for conversation between our alumni and current students.

Tanaka: If we vote against this, we need a plan, so what is the process?

Jessica: This would be a major time commitments, you would have to get ERCS, host meetings, and spend late nights to try to advocate to the university. There will have to be solutions, there will have to be leaders in residence. There would HAVE to be a plan at the end of the day.

Gallery: Point of Information, would this be council taking this on or the executive team as well?

Jessica: It would be a council initiative

Annie: Point of Information, the university has made their decision, we should dedicate our time to trying to preserve the positive things within the building instead of trying to change their minds.

Gallery: Bathrooms would not be receiving renovations and there are issues when it comes to going into and out of bathrooms. In a place like showers where you have little to no clothes on.

Rebecca: The details would better come from Andrew Beckett but there would be both male and female bathrooms.

Emma: In a survey, this cannot be yes, no, but has to be a constructive survey because we do have to meet the university somewhere. As councillors, we work together and so don’t be deterred by the time commitment, we all ran for these positions.

Zakaryia: When it comes to doing a survey, we have to determine what the impact of a traumatizing experience vs someone who had a positive experience and how we filter this.

Gallery: Being close to people who have gone through a traumatic experience that they feel that this would not help but hinder the student experience as they would be losing their support system.

Alex: How would councillors go about having a lobbying committee that could have student at large?

Tanaka: Are we voting on this today?

Gallery: Whenever you speak about trauma, you cannot put a quantitative value on it but someone who has gone through trauma somewhere out of their houses have been supported by their houses.

William: When we talk about student are larges, it would be catering the vocal people who are in the room. Not the people whom aren’t as willing to speak up.

Emma: To will, Those who have come forward who are in support of the university changes, I would personally be contacting them directly to see if they would be willing. We want students at large who would bring in an equal opinion to the table.

Lucas: The fact of the matter is that we have to vote yes or no and we cannot speak for all students at once but the majority of students. While I encourage everyone to have their opinion known, as a councillor with only one vote, we can only vote for the majority.

Gallery: We are here today, and I want to see something happen today. If nothing comes from this today, I will be the first person to sign that petition.

Amy: Point of Information: This was not Annie’s decision and this is not Annie’s decision right now. This is council’s decision. Please do not target one person because this is NOT one person’s decision.

Gallery: In the spirit of those who cannot be here, I would like to speak on behalf of a person who has gone through a traumatic event. They found that the house provided a level of comfort and support for them.

Emma: From the amount of data that we have gathered in a short amount of time. Do we think that putting out a survey would be a benefit?

Mel: We could vote yes or no today, or we table the motion and do the survey.

Tanaka: If we vote on it today, I don’t see the value of having the survey.

Gallery: Is this Survey or Referendum?

Annie: Referendums are usually monetary

Emma: I don’t think that voting on this would make our outreach stop.

Alex: Previously the union has been criticised for making decisions before they have the valid information surrounding the topic. As for referendum, I would vote to survey as the time period involved with a referendum is simply too long.

Lucas moves to table the motion to next Sunday, seconded by Emma.

Lucas: I believe that we can get valuable information to make an informed decision.

Emma: While we appreciate everyone who is here, we are currently at a yes/no fork in the road, a survey would help us to be able to make a decision.

Amy calls to question (13-0-0, passes), motion to table until next Sunday (13-0-0, motion passes).

**Closing Remarks of the Chair**

Thank you all for coming. I appreciate the cooperation. There was a great discussion around this.

**Adjournment**

Jessica moves to adjourn, seconded by Mel (13-0-0, passes).

Adjourned: 1:34

# EXECUTIVE REPORTS



*Office of the* **President**

**Name: Annie Sirois**

**To:** StFX Student Council

**Re:** Report to Council (January 2018)

**Committees**

* StFX University’s *Building and Grounds Committee* and *Campus Planning Committee*: The university is make headway on Mulroney Hall, the Nicholson Tower Renovations
* StFX University’s *Budget Committee:* Met this month to review the December projections and to review the preliminary budget draft for 2018-2019. The university is predicting another deficit, in large part due to the limited funding from government.
* Board of Governors *Finance Committee:* Met this month to review the university’s financial position, specifically in relation to its debt financing.
* Board of Governors *Advancement & External Relations Committee:* Committee is meeting on February 2nd
* Board of Governors *Chancellor Selection Committee:* as Susan Crocker’s term as chancellor is ending this fall, the committee is working to identify top choices for potential successors. This is a confidential process; however, I can identify that there are a plethora of strong candidates.
* CASA’s *Member Relations Committee:* I worked on a Social Media Guidelines Policy in conjunction with the Camera Use Policy.
* Students’ Union’s *By-Law & Policy Committee:* The committee is meeting weekly now that we have our students-at-large. We have drafted and/or reviewed the Eligibility, Hazing, and Publicity Policy.
* Students’ Union’s *Strategic Planning Committee:* Has begun meeting weekly. We have drafted two surveys, one for feedback by the general student population and one for internal feedback. The aim is to have these sent out prior to the February break.
* *X-Ring Committee:* We are continuing to meet to review and formalize eligibility for all students. The possibility of producing a formula for eligibility is being explored.

**External Affairs**

 The month at StudentsNS we have produced, reviewed, and released our pre-budget submission for the province of Nova Scotia. If council would like a copy, please email me. The major asks are to: re-invest tuition and education tax credits into upfront grants; introduce loan forgiveness for Nova Scotia Community College students; provide medical services insurance coverage to international students immediately upon arrival; expanding the co-op education incentive to increase opportunities for students; invest in innovative, technology-based intervention solutions (for mental health) on post-secondary campuses; create an open education resource pilot project.

 StudentsNS also attended the Sexual Violence Prevention Conference held in Halifax at Saint Mary’s University. We were happy to have one of our NSCC delegates in attendance. I am working to organize the final StudentsNS conference which will serve as transition for incoming delegates, as well as the Annual General Meeting.

I’ve been having meetings with the university and town to discuss the best way to move forward with homecoming. The aim is to identify the best means of consultation. From there, determining which key stakeholders should be on the committee. March 3rd is being reserved as the date for the homecoming symposium—more details to come closer to.

**Internal Affairs**

 The internal affairs this month were plentiful. We had an extremely successful Frost Week, which included Two Years Eve, Society Night 2.0/Job Fair, and ended with a legendary performance by James Barker Band for Epic Wing Night.

The planning for the leadership X-Talks & Summit resulted in a phenomenal two-day conference with delegates from StFX, Bishops, and Mount Allison University. I had the chance to give an X-Talk about the privilege behind the opportunities to become a leader.

We have also been reviewing proposal for health and dental plan providers. Interviews were conducted with all four finalists at the end of the month. The intent is to have a provider narrowed down by the end of February to suggest to the student representative council.

The SU elections for President and Vice-President Academic took place in conjunction with the Oland Centre referendum. The decision was made to restart voting due to a by-law infraction; however, I would highlight that this was the most effective voting period we’ve had with the new software. Subsequently, hiring and transition are beginning to take effect.

We have also been advocating and working with Student Services regarding their recent decision to make Cameron and MacKinnon Hall co-ed. There is the false rhetoric that students were not consulted in the Union’s decision to support the changes; however, for the last two years ongoing consultation and discussions have been had with residents, the HPs/VPs, and the community. Prior to the decision, we did hear from students who were adamant about preserving the deeply rooted traditions; however, the number of incidents relating to bullying, sexualized violence, and hazing cannot be left unacknowledged. Students have come forward throughout the previous and current consultation periods using their lived experiences as reasons for support towards the change. To all those individuals who have: thank you for having the confidence to do so.

Annie Sirois, President

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**Glossary**

**StudentsNS/SNS:** Students Nova Scotia is the STFXSU’s Provincial Lobbying Group. It is an alliance of Nova Scotia post-secondary student associations, including StFX, Acadia, Cape Breton, Saint Mary’s, Kingstec, and Annapolis Valley. The organization gives students in Nova Scotia a united voice, helping set the direction of post-secondary education by researching challenges, identifying solutions, and creating the political space needed for these solutions to happen. For more information: <http://studentsns.ca/> or contact the Executive Director Tristan Bray at director@studentsns.ca

**CASA:** Canadian Alliance of Student Associations is the STFXSU’s Federal Lobbying Group and a national voice for Canada’s post-secondary students. Established in 1995, CASA is a non-partisan, not-for-profit student organization composed of student associations from across Canada. For more information: <http://casa-acae.com/> or contact the Executive Director Michael McDonald at ed@casa.ca

**PSE:** refers to post-secondary education, also known as higher education, which encompasses universities, academies, colleges, seminaries, and institutes of technology.

*Office of the* **Vice President Academic**

**Name: Patrick Panet-Raymond**

**To:** StFX Student Council

**Re:** Report to Council (January 2018)

Committees:

January 5th: Sexual Violence Prevention Communications Committee

 The SVP Communications Committee is a newly formed sub-committee of the Sexual Violence Prevention Committee. This was the newly formed committees first meeting. The committee’s goal is to develop different communication strategies regarding events that may happen on our campus regarding Sexual Violence. These communication strategies will be developed so that when an incident regarding Sexual Violence (is reported to the University) then campus community will be made aware of the incident.

January 5th: Sexual Violence Prevention Committee

 At this meeting, the committee began the planning logistics of the Sexual Violence Prevention Panel discussion. These panel discussions happened on January 15th and 16th and were well attended by the larger University Community. It was decided that the panel would consist of two members of the StFX administration, one faculty member (who was sick with the flu during the event dates and was unable to attend), 2 students (the BITB Coordinator and myself) and a representative from the AWRCSASA.

January 8th: CABSS

 On January 8th, the Committee on Aboriginal and Black Student Success met and was joined by the University’s Academic Vice President and Provost as well as the Head of Student Services. They were part of this CABSS meeting because they believed that CABSS needed to be divided up to evenly focus on Black Student Success as well as Aboriginal Student success. Their plan as presented was to divide up/separate this committee to create two smaller focus groups/committees. The committee then organized a special meeting to reconfigure and look at the proposition made by the Academic Vice President and Provost, and the Head of Student Services.

January 8th: Senate

On January 8th, I attended the regular Senate meeting for the January on the 8th. There some minor changes in regards to the Earth Science Program, A few new classes were added to the Academic Calendar for the up-coming year. Looking at the Faculty of Arts, there some minor changes made to a small variety of programs, which included adding classes to the Art Program and changing around some of the classes for the French Program. The committee also voted on the approval of the new Course Timetable.

January 18th: Timetable Review Committee

 Following the approval of the new Timetable for 2018-2019 Academic Year, the committee looked at the new timetable and how classes will be scheduled. Keeping in mind the specific needs of the students, faculty and administration. The University has purchased a program they call the DCU, which will help this committee breakdown and place all the classes in the best possible time blocks.

January 18th: CABSS

 This CABSS meeting was considered a special with the only agenda item. The committee looked over the events of the last meeting where was committee was given the idea of breaking up CABSS to focus on Aboriginal Student success and Black Student success in their own separate committees. The overall idea was not the most preferable choice by the Committee, but rather that the Committee is open to inviting the Head of Student Services to CABSS.

January 22nd: Enrolment Advisory Committee

 At this meeting the committee reviewed its Retention Plan for the upcoming years. This retention plan will focus on a framework that will be supported by data-driven decision making. It will enhance our operational efficiency and effectiveness relating to retention services. Enhance StFX’s online course offerings and will establish a service model that will effectively support student progression through to completion.

External:

 Shortly after I got back from the break, I was asked by the Gender and Sexual Diversity Student Advisor to **say a few words at StFX’s Annual Pride Flag Raising Ceremony**. This event was to kick-off **StFX’s Annual Pride Month**, the Pride Flag will also hang outside the President’s Office for the month of January. As I mentioned earlier in the committee section of my report, **I was asked to speak** and be a panel member at **the Sexual Violence Prevention Talks**. These talks happened on two separate occasions, **January 15th and 16th** and were well attended by several different members of the StFX community. These talks were then followed by questions and comments from the audience for the panel members. I also **sat in on Drive U hiring** on the evening of the 17th. We interviewed 8 candidates and ended up hiring 5. The questions were more directly asked towards the University Administration regarding the communication to the StFX campus Community. On **the weekend of the 26th and 27th** I attended **the Frank McKenna Leadership Summit as well as an X-Talk** that was hosted on the night of the 26th. Over the course of the day on the 27th I attended multiple leadership workshops along other members of the Leadership Summit. There, we were also joined by other student leaders and delegates from the other Maple League University’s.

Internal:

 I booked **the Dog Den dates** for this month shortly after I returned from the break with the St John Ambulance and I am in the process of the booking the rest of the dens for the next few months. Given this month **was election season**, to help **promote the Vice President of Academics Office, the marketing manager, marketing team and I, with the help of the SU President**, created and made **a promotional video** in order to help increase the applications. Towards the end of the month, I was **contact by one of the librarians** from the library. She went over **some of the workshops that are free to StFX students** and was wondering if we could work together to help **promote them through our marketing channels.**

BITB:

 The BITB coordinator was also included on the Sexual Violence Prevention Panel discussion, and spike the about the program and where it is going. The BITB also conducted a few bystander workshops and also took part in some facilitator training.

*Office of the* **Vice President, Finance & Operations**



**Name: William Gatchell**

**To:** StFX Student Council

**Re:** Report to Council (January 2018)

**Committees**

*Budget and Finance Committee:*

Budget and Finance has been conferring weekly over email to discuss and deliberate on society allocation requests. January has been a very busy month for us as Student Societies are busy planning their second semester events. Our committee has been able to give out six allocations this month of varying amounts, and are thoroughly impressed by some of the events being submitted.

*University Budget Committee:*

Sit on this committee alongside Annie and at this meeting we looked at the current year’s budget based on December projections. At this meeting, we were able to get a more accurate sense for where we will finish at years end relative to projections and a deficit is still imminent.

**External Affairs**

*Leadership Summit:*

Very humbled to have been asked alongside the rest of the executive team to participate in the 4th X Leader Summit. It was a wonderful two-day event that was kicked off by the 2nd John C. Friel X-talk featuring three terrific student speakers and a fireside chat with Frank McKenna. The second day consisted of a variety of breakout groups, workshops, and discussion led events. A well-organized event and a great chance to collaborate with students from Mount Alison University and Bishops University.

*SU Job Fair / Society night:*

The executive team set up a booth at the second semester society night, introducing students from all years to all of the opportunities the Union has to offer. It was a great opportunity to get in front of people and discuss the jobs we have available.

**Internal Affairs**

*Emergency Grant Meeting –*

Met with Mary Fisher MacDonnell from the Financial Aid office and Sean Ryan on a weekly basis to go over the cases of a few students who were in need of financial assistance. Using the money we have budgeted for our emergency grant committee we were able to assist all of these students in some capacity. As it stands we are just over a quarter of the way through our budgeted $10,000.

*Drive U-*

Following a December exam period where it became noticeable we would require more drivers, we opened up applications as soon as we got back. We received 20 applications and over the course of the past few weeks we narrowed our list, conducted interviews, and ultimately hired 4 new student drivers to round out our staff. All new drivers went through Bringing in the Bystander this training this past weekend and had formal manual training following.

*Financial Review Update-*

At the meeting, Julieanne (Accounts Manager), walked Sean (A&E), Cody (Inn Manager), and myself through our first semester results for the Inn budget and Activities and Events budget. Other than a few budget lines to keep an eye on, we are poised to finish the year right on track. I commend both Sean and Cody for terrific first semester results.

*House Hockey Ice Times*-

In an effort to make ice time access fair and just for all houses (no matter the size) it was agreed at the Campus Affairs meeting that an even allotment from the committee reserve would get transferred into each houses account to be put towards ice times. This was to counteract houses paying for ice times using house budgets.

*Health Plan Provider Interviews* – Following the submission of proposals from health plan providers we have narrowed our invited interview list down to 4 and are currently in the process of conducting those. The four companies visiting us this week are Campus Trust (current provider), Gallivan, Student VIP, and ACL. Following the interviews, we will be taking a week to deliberate and make our final decision.

*Contract for Loud Luxury*-

Over the past few weeks, Sean (VP A&E) and myself have been reviewing the remaining budgeted amount he has available and Sean was able to find a contract within our price range. The past couple days have been spent working through the contract details and securing finalized times. Very excited at the news that another big group is coming to St. FX.

**Sub-Executive:**

*Student Food Resource Centre*- Have been consulting with Hannah (SFRC Coordinator) this past week and have decided to volunteer an hour a week down at the Centre. This will be done in order to see a portion of the Centre’s operation and see what we are doing well and what might be improved upon moving forward.

*International Health Plan Associate* – Met with Yameng to discuss a few cases regarding International students not seeing their health plan charges to their account. Upon review we were able to find a solution.

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*Office of the* **Vice President, Residence Affairs**

**Name: Rebecca Mesay**

**To:** StFX Student Council

**Re:** Report to Council (January 2018)

**Committees**

The Campus Affairs Committee had a meeting in the last week of January/first week of February, which was the first meeting of the second semester. The content of the meeting was focused on reviewing the programming and progress within the different residences since the end of November. The items included the outcome from the Oland Centre Referendum and a planned training day. The agenda also included a brainstorming session by all the House Presidents as relating to incoming changes within MacKinnon and Cameron Hall.

The Strategic Planning Committeehas been meeting weekly since the first week of January. The discussions and the meeting have centered on creating and reviewing two surveys. The first survey will be going out to students-at-large to ask about potential improvements to the Students’ Union. The second survey was more internally minded with the aim of receiving information from those holding positions within the Students’ Union.

**External Affairs**

As a part of the Advancing Women’s Equality (AWE) Project, I attended a meeting of the committee in the second week of January. During the meeting, the committee discussed the content of a survey that will soon be released to students. There was also conversation about the objectives of the two forums on sexualized violence that were hosted by the university.

The Xaverian Leaders Advisory Board Committee met to review the leadership program and to discuss the graduation ceremony for the program participants.

From January 26th-27th, the Executive Team was invited to attend the Leaders at X Summit that was being hosted in cohesion with the Union, the Maple League, and the Frank McKenna Centre. We had the opportunity to attend the X Talks, which included Frank McKenna himself as well as our three students speakers including President, Annie Sirois. I, alongside Lauren Agnew, also facilitated an open forum session for the student leaders in attendance.

**Internal Affairs**

On January 5th, there was the announcement of official dates for the house hockey cups.

The following week, on January 9th, a House Hockey Cup Forum was hosted to provide the House Presidents and Vice Presidents with an opportunity to collectively review the House Hockey Cup Policy alongside me and the Vice President Activities and Events, Sean Hopkins and Director of Ancillary Services, Bob Hale.

Within the same week, Annie and I had a meeting with the Head of Student Services, Andrew Beckett, to discuss different updates as pertaining to behaviors within residence. There was a follow-up to this meeting later in the month.

I also had a meeting with the Residence Life Coordinator (RLC) of Cameron and MacKinnon, Mikayla McDonald, to discuss different behaviours occurring within Cameron Hall. This same week, we had a meeting with the House Presidents and Vice Presidents of Cameron Hall to talk about one of the solutions that had been discussed.

The following week, there was an Updates’ meeting with all of the Residence Life Coordinators to discuss information coming from all of the residence communities.

During the third week of January, the Executive Team hosted an Information Session to provide students with more detail on the Executive positions/applications.

There was a Council Meeting on January 14th, wherein there was extensive discussion on a newly proposed Eligibility Policy. After discussion by both Executives and Councillors, the Policy was tabled with the aim of being returned to the By-Law and Policy Committee to revise the document.

At the following Council meeting, there was a review of the Eligibility Policy after it had been amended. Additionally, there was discussion of going to referendum for the World University Service of Canada (WUSC) fee paid by students.

In the last week of January, the University made an announcement of co-ed changes to Cameron and MacKinnon Halls. Many students have been contacting the Office of Residence Affairs to express their sentiments both for and against the changes occurring in the buildings. I had a series of meetings with the House Presidents and Vice Presidents of Cameron and MacKinnon to discuss the changes as well as different supports they would require moving forward.

**Sub-Executive**

The House Council Coordinator (HCC), Carl Miller and I started our bi-weekly check-ins to receive updates on House Councils. The HCC is currently in the process of visiting the different residences with the aim of speaking to its respective members.

There have been a number of meetings with the House Presidents and Vice Presidents of O’Regan and Riley to discuss their concerns about their House Hockey Cup date. Unfortunately, the original date did not come into fruition, however there are ongoing discussions about a future date for Bathtub Cup.

Rebecca Mesay, Vice President Residence Affairs

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**Glossary:**

**Residence Life Coordinators (RLC) & Jurisdictions**

**Mikayla McDonald:** MacKinnon & Cameron

**Dane Hunter:** Lane & Mount St. Bernard

**Jessica Kirkley:** Bishops & Governors **Sidney Toohey:** O’Regan & Riley

 *Office of the* **Vice President External Affairs**

**Name: Zakariya Chatur**

**To:** StFX Student Council

**Re:** Report to Council (January 2018)

**Internal**

The month began slowly as students started to roll back in from the winter holidays. The initial internal matters at hand were scheduling and coordinating with the various teams/committees in order to have standing meeting times. **The External Affairs Advisory Committee** now meets bi-weekly on Friday’s at 1:15-2:05. This meeting is open to students. We are discussing external affairs issues which include financial and non-financial barriers to accessing and affording post-secondary education. The purpose of this committee is to provide me with feedback on what students at St. FX need the government to hear. If you know of anyone who wants to sit on the committee or would be interested as a non-voting member please get them to email me. This committee will also be providing input into the **Research and Policy Associate’s (RPA)** research project. At the beginning of the month we received approval from the Research Ethics Board (REB) to conduct a three part study. The first is a qualitative survey for all students, the second is a focus group, and the third is a quantitative survey. The purpose of this project is to hear the voices of the St. FX students and properly consult them prior to advocating to the municipal, provincial, and federal governments on their behalf. This survey will take place online and is completely voluntary and confidential. We only require a student ID to ensure it is actually a St. FX student who is participating. The RPA and I met with Kelsey Jones and Terina Francis to discuss the project and gain other perspectives. They see value in this endevour.

 The Co-op office and Joe MacDoanld have been organizing a **Government of Canada Career Fair** which will be taking place Feb. 8th. Deputy Minister Michael Keenan and his staff have been in contact with their office and they brought me in to help generate promotion ideas as well as have the Students’ Union live stream the Armchair Discussion.

 I recieed Bringing in the Bystander Trainnig. This means I know havet this along with Mental Health First Aid and Disclosure Training.

 Mary Coyle asked me to help with the Leadership Summit/X Talks. I was asked to provide Frank Mckenna with anything that he needs. This included bringing him to his interviews, telling him where he needed to be and when so that the schedule could be followed. I also had to attend the leadership summit where we learned about public speaking, inclusive leadership, and a variety of other extremely useful skills.

 The election was this month and a new President and Vice-President were elected. I helped with the voting booths as well as attended an Executive Information Session.

**External**

**CASA:** The **National Advocacy Committee** met and discussed the campaign proposal that was presented at CASA Advocacy Week in November. The committee was asked to brainstorm ideas on what campaigns they believed would be beneficial to run on each member campus. The idea is that we will come up with three different campaigns to be run on each member campus and then next

years delegates will vote on which one they believe they should all run. This will promote a unified voice on a student issue going into next year’s advocacy week. The committee also elected their new vice-Chair and Recording Secratry. There were a few committee resignations last semester which hindered the ability for work to be done. At the **Board** level I have been conducting staff hiring which is a confidential process. But what I can say is that we have selected a candidate and are conducting the reference checks now. We also have been looking over the advocacy week report from the membership survey that was sent out. Finally, we have looked over the budget for next year and are making revisions.

**StudentsNS:** Students Nova Scotia **Governance Committee** finally has another member other than myself. We have been looking over social media policy and practice with other organizations similar to ours. We want to ensure that students can easily digest what we are doing at conferences and we want to have a unified form of communication. We also have received notice from the government regarding our updated by-laws. Everythiing was in order except we needed to add a section. This was an easy fix and was done/approved at the next board meeting. The code of conduct, which governs business behavior at conferenes, is being reviewed by the new member of the committee as well as the executive director.

As another note the CASA and SNS executive directors will be coming to present to council and students on **Feb. 28th 2018**. Council please be in attendance for this and encourage your constituents to attend.

Please email me if you want more information on what we advocated for at CASA/SNS advocacy weeks. I will be more than happy to talk to any student, councellor, or stakeholder about the issues concerning accessible, affordable, innovative and quality post-secondary education.

Zakariya Chatur, Vice President External Affairs

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**Glossary**

**StudentsNS/SNS:** Students Nova Scotia is the STFXSU’s Provincial Lobbying Group. It is an alliance of Nova Scotia post-secondary student associations, including StFX, Acadia, Cape Breton, Saint Mary’s, Kingstec, and Annapolis Valley. The organization gives students in Nova Scotia a united voice, helping set the direction of post-secondary education by researching challenges, identifying solutions, and creating the political space needed for these solutions to happen. For more information: <http://studentsns.ca/> or contact the Executive Director Sophie Helpard at director@studentsns.ca

**CASA:** Canadian Alliance of Student Associations is the STFXSU’s Federal Lobbying Group and a national voice for Canada’s post-secondary students. Established in 1995, CASA is a non-partisan, not-for-profit student organization composed of student associations from across Canada. For more information: <http://casa-acae.com/> or contact the Executive Director Michael McDonald at ed@casa.ca

**MLA:** A Member of Legislative Assembly is a representative elected by the voters of a constituency to the provincial legislative assembly. The MLA for the Antigonish constituency is Mr. Randy Delorey of the Liberal Party. Contact: office@delorey4antigonish.ca or 902-870-5899

**MOU:** refers to the Memorandum of Understanding, an agreement between the provincial government and all the universities in Nova Scotia. It serves to provide operational direction for universities.

**MP:** A Member of Parliament is a representative elected by the voters of a constituency to the House of Commons (also known as the Lower House). The MP for Central Nova constituency is Sean Fraser of the Liberal Party. Contact: sean.fraser@parl.gc.ca or 902-867-2919

**PSE:** refers to post-secondary education, also known as higher education, which encompasses universities, academies, colleges, seminaries, and institutes of technology

# CONSTITUENCY REPORTS

Name: Sydney Pagan
Position: Board of Governors Representative

First and foremost, I would like to apologize for my absence at this week’s council meeting, as I will be travelling back from a debate tournament at Bishop’s University during the time of council. I am happy to be able to proxy my vote to Alex Corrigan today.

Since our last council meeting, we had a special board conference call on January 30th. The meeting discussed two items: the Nicholson Tower renovations and the Oland Centre upgrades. At the recommendation of the Buildings & Ground Committee and the Finance Committee, the board voted on the following motions: 1) That the work for Nicholson Tower proceed for a value not to exceed $ 14,000,000 and, 2) That the contract for renovation of Nicholson Tower be awarded to Bird Construction at a value not to exceed $11,000,000 plus HST and, 3) That the President and Vice President Finance & Administration be authorized to sign all documents related to the award of the contract. All motions were passed. Regarding the Oland Centre upgrates, the motions on the floor were as followed: 1) That Phase 2a of the Active Living Centre redevelopment project proceed for a value not to exceed $ 6,000,000, and, 2) That the Administration be authorized to award contracts associated with Phase 2a based on completion of RFP processes and evaluation of submitted proposals, and, 3) That the President and Vice President Finance & Administration be authorized to sign all documents related to the award of the contracts for this project. All motions were passed.

On January 30th, I was also present for the meeting with Cameron and MacKinnon Hall, where it was revealed that both residences would be co-ed starting this fall. The atmosphere in the room was shock and disappointment, and I was able to observe and take notes on some constructive points brought forward by students to ensure their accurate representation on my behalf to council and the board. The following day, I shared many student’s disappointment in seeing a statement released by the U without the matter first being discussed with council or with the entire student body at large. For this reason, I am very pleased that council has released an anonymous survey before taking a stance on the matter, in order to obtain as much student consultation as possible to allow us to make an informed decision at council. I look forward to seeing the survey data, and for council to vote on the matter and begin assisting students accordingly.

Name: Pheerawich Chitnelawong

Position: International Student Representative

It has been a quiet fortnight for international community since last council. There are no signiﬁcant changes to the international society, nor to the international ofﬁce. The Chinese New Year event is happening on the 11th of February, the day of council. I will be attending.

Name: Sasha Paul
Position: Equity Representative

Since the last meeting, I attended a meeting with Kevin Fraser, regarding the recent introduction of security in meal hall. A few students in my constituency had previously expressed concern over this change, and were quite uncomfortable with it particularly due to an incident affecting a particular student, which took place last semester. The dialogue was positive and resulted in a better understanding between management and the attending parties. I am thus able to communicate concrete reasons for the changes to the concerned students. Apart from this, I have been having conversations with various students concerning the changes being advocated by the university regarding University Ave, and encouraging as many as possible to participate in the survey.

Upcoming Events:

Friday 9th Spoken Word, Angus MacDonald Library 1 pm

Friday 9th African Zumba, Combat room KMC 7.30 pm

Friday 16th Games Night Alumni Lounge

Name: Lucas Middleton
Position: Arts Representative

These past two weeks have been wildly busy within the arts faculty.

I’ll start with academic business. The committee on studies met on Feb. 6th to discuss two new courses being proposed and the minor in climate and environment studies. Senate met on Feb. 6th as well and passed numerous changes and additions to the Human Kinetics program. Coming up, the committee on studies will likely meet again soon to finalize some issues that came up in our previous meeting, and there is a joint committee on studies meeting scheduled in the coming week.

On to Union business. I have been meeting weekly with the bylaw and policy committee, as well as the strategic planning committee, each committee has been moving forward on their objectives, and specifics will be brought out in committee reports. I also sat on the hiring panel for two houses Vice-President positions. My office hours have been populated with the occasional constituent meeting and replying to numerous emails from constituents regarding the changes that will be made to the University Ave. residences.

I have spent much of my time since the last meeting orchestrating and carrying out student outreach about the changes that will be made to University Ave. This outreach took the form of the student survey released by the Union as well as in-person and email conversations with constituents. General student feeling seems to be calmer than immediately after the announcement, and most of my constituents that I’ve spoken to have expressed interest in working with the university administration to reach a place where both parties can be satisfied. This issue was also addressed during an open forum on student life during a senate meeting and the university administration expressed a very similar sentiment.

Name: Sarah Elliott
Position: First Year Representative

What have you been up to since the last council meeting?

The overwhelming majority of my last week since the special council meeting has been about the news about making Cameron Hall and Mackinnon Hall to becoming co-ed residences. I have heard from many people their upset about it, and I have attempted in discussing positive changes that can be implemented if the changes do happen. Such as attempting to ban harmful traditions, keeping the buildings names, and making them co-ed, or keeping the housing single gendered but making the rooms male and female door to door. A majority of my constituency that I have talked to face to face have been very upset by this change, however I have not yet seen the results of the survey so as of this time writing I do not know what the majority of first-years truly feel about this change.

What committees or meetings have you participated in?

The budget and finance group has not met in the new year, there has only had a couple allocations approved over the email chain.

Name: Tanaka Chikwavaire
Position: Student of African Descent Representative

This week has been a fairly busy week, with the announcement of the changes to University Avenue. I have tried my best to get some insight on what the general sentiments are while also trying to reach out to my constituency in particular to get a picture of their experience in these residences. From that I will base my vote in council. In other news, due to a snow storm last Tuesday 30th the launch of African Heritage Month could not happen and it was postponed to this week on Wednesday 7th I could not be there in person due to class, but I am told that it was a success. The Lecture with Kwame was also a success and he spoke about his journey as a black athlete playing hockey. So African Heritage Month has officially kicked off and I am excited for everything planned especially the talk with El Jones. Other than that we had a meeting with Kevin the manager of meal hall to gain some insight on why security has been implemented in meal hall and we gave him our perspective on how students of African descent felt about it, especially given that this change was implemented after there was an incident with a student of African Descent. So conversations are still being had pertaining to that.

Name: Melissa Grant
Position: Education Student Representative

Since the last meeting I have organized and facilitated a grilled cheese lunch with the education students, and we had a very large turnout! I also met with the incoming Education Representative, David Lewis, and I have passed on a transition package to him. I attended two Pride Month events, and was pleasantly surprised to see a large turnout of students from my constituency at both Sex Toy Bingo and Priscilla. I sat on two VP of Residence hiring panels, and I’m confident that they will both do a fantastic job in their new roles. I attended Special Council on February 4th, and have distributed to my constituents both the WUSC Survey and the survey about potential changes to the single-gender residences. Lastly, I attended Senate on February 6th.

I haven’t had any issues or concerns brought to my attention by my constituents since our last council meeting.

I have not had any formal committee meetings, but I briefly met with Patrick on February 2nd to discuss the Quality of Life Committee for Senate, as both Emma and I were left out of the email chain regarding meetings and therefore didn’t realize that we had missed one last term.

The upcoming events for education students are as follows-

·      Professional Development Day on February 9th in Xavier Hall

·      First Year vs. Second Year hockey game on February 9th in the Aux Rink

·      SOUPer Day on February 13th in Xavier Hall

·      Free Grilled Cheese lunch on February 20th in Xavier Hall

·      End of the year Education Banquet on February 24th in the MacKay Room.

Name: Bry Crabbe
Position: Graduate Student Representative

Since the last council meeting I have met weekly with Jack Johnson to have conversations to further introduce him to the new role he will be taking on. Outreach regarding the new tuition waiver system has been the big talk with MSc/MA students however it will only effect the new students coming in September 2018. Continued conversations and conflicts with TSI regarding the outdated and falling behind listserv continue to be slowly resolved. As well as fellow councilors have produced our own survey to become more informed for the co-ed University Av. Situation. Senate met on the 6th of February with many reports and new course structure and content changes to be approved. Strat plan met twice on each Monday since last council. to review the university prepared survey to make our final changes as well as editing of our own internal survey for internal studies.

Name: Alex Corrigan
Position: Board of Governor’s Representative

I can say with certainty that this has been my busiest two-week stretch as a councilor and since you would likely prefer not to read a novel, I will only elaborate on the most important things I have done.

I will start by mentioning that I took part in a special Board of Governor’s conference call on Tuesday, January 30. This call was arranged in order to approve two recommendations by the Buildings and Grounds Committee. It was decided that Bird Construction win a contract to renovate Nicholson Tower with work beginning this May. Students were also thanked and spending was approved for Phase IIa of the Oland Centre renewal project. It was stated that in 2018 external building work would be completed including replacement of the bleachers, roof replacement and expansion to accommodate the new Physical Therapy space. In 2019 we will complete some interior upgrades which include the expansion of the Football locker room and renovations for the Women’s Rugby, Men’s & Women’s Soccer, Men’s & Women’s Basketball, Cross Country and Track & Field varsity locker rooms. During the meeting, I asked when construction of the new health and wellness center would be completed and was told that work will commence in 2020 or possibly 2021.

In addition, I have worked with The U marketing team to create a council recap video and I intend to shoot one after each council meeting for as long as I am a councilor. I believe that this is a valuable way for council to ensure transparency and accessibility to students. This video was live-streamed on The U’s Facebook page and I also shared it on my personal Facebook page. If you have any suggestions for how to make the recap videos better, please don’t hesitate to ask!

I have also attended meetings to prepare surveys asking students how they feel about going to referendum for an increase in the current $4.00 WUSC fee and whether they think student representative council should support the proposed changes to University Avenue.

Speaking of University Avenue, I have spent a great deal of time in the past two weeks chatting with students, councilors, house leaders and University Administrators about their views on the change. As a councilor, I do not consider my personal views to be relevant so I have made an effort to see how students are feeling. I have closely followed and read every post made in the “Save University Ave” Facebook group and have tried to follow twitter as much as I can. I think that all voices are valuable and I have tried to hear as many different viewpoints as possible. I am convinced that there is room for dialogue and positive compromise to ensure that the many positive aspects/traditions are kept.

I have spoken for 15 minutes with Dr. Kent MacDonald over the weekend and on Wednesday I had a meeting with Mr. Andrew Beckett, Vice President Finance and Head of Student Service as well as Jaqueline De Leedbeek, Director of Student Life. From these discussions, I got the message that Cameron and Mackinnon Halls will be co-ed by door and that is not going to

change. I also got the message that the University is very interested in working with students to create solutions that preserve traditions such as Chillis vs. TNT (or TNT vs. Chillis, both equally great ways of saying it!) TriMac, and the haunted house (among others). They are looking for ways of organizing house councils so as to preserve the most valuable aspects of each house identity and everyone on their end seems enthusiastic about exploring those sorts of options. The University is looking for ideas and input from students and I expect that meetings will soon be set up with students, administrators and student’s union representatives to find the best way to set up house councils for next year and beyond. The only thing that seems set to change is room assignments by gender, we can largely decide how it will all work from there.

Finally, I want to make clear that I am not advocating for either side of the support/don’t support proposed changes debate. Before I can back one side, I need to see the results of the survey which was just sent out. When it comes to a vote, I will be voting for the side that most students have chosen. The only thing I am saying is that I am not confident that the decision to make residences co-ed can be reversed so I think it prudent to at least consider some different ways to organize next year’s versions of Cameron and Mackinnon Halls.

Name: Amy Bobyn
Position: Science Student Representative

Name: Emma Crilly
Position: Business Student Representative

After last council meeting where my Survey budget was approved I have chaired a meeting with the Schwartz advisory board to flush out the content of the survey. Great progress was made. Following that meeting I met with Brad Long to discuss the survey and constructive work came from that. Along with that meeting we worked on some project ideas. Very exciting! I met with Mark MacIssac to discuss our ongoing projects as well as planning my appearance in the 102 business classes. By law and policy did not meet this week. Senate met, great discussion was had. I was only able to say until my midterm exam was to begin. By great discussions were had none the less. The special council occurred last week, the out come of which was a survey. Very excited to look at that data before council. I want to make it known that whether or not the council chooses to support or not support the universities decisions on University Avenue I have tried my utmost to ensure that all students know that together the University and the student body are going to be working cohesively together to create a better stfx.

Name: Kashya Young
Position: Aboriginal Student Representative