

Council Package

January 31st, 2021

Prepared by Aidan McMann, Deputy Chair of Council

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Council Minutes – January 10th, 2021
Prepared By: Deputy Chair – Aidan McMann

Students' Union Representative Council Meeting

January 10th, 2021, 3:00 PM

Online Zoom Call

Call to Order

Meeting called to order at 3:02 PM.

Roll Call

Board of Governors Student Representative – Nick Murray

Board of Governors Student Representative - Kamy Carrington

Students of African Descent Representative – Henderson Cartwright

Arts Student Representative – Alexander Clow

Education Student Representative – Michael Adetola

Graduate Student Representative – Lauren Viana

International Student Representative – Dhruv Patel

Science Student Representative - Daniel Winters

Business Student Representative – Johanna Gates

First Year Representative – Brendan Roberts

Indigenous Student Representative – Justice Gruben

President - Sarah Elliott

Vice President Academic – Siobhan Lacey

Vice President Finance and Operations - Patrick Wallace

Vice President Residence Affairs – Jack Irvin

Vice-President, Activities & Events - Kielan Pilgrim

Vice President External Affairs - Bradley Van Dam

Deputy Chair – Aidan McMann

Students' Union General Manager – Sean Ryan

Absent with Regrets

Faculty Advisor – Corrine Cash

Indigenous Student Representative – Molly Burke

Opening Remarks of the Chair

“I would like to respectfully acknowledge that STFX is located on the traditional and unseeded land of the Mi’kmaq people. Hello Everyone and welcome to our first council meeting of the second semester.”

Approval of the Agenda

Brendan: I will move to approve the agenda.

Dhruv: I second.

Discussion

None.

Kamy: I call the question.

Meredith: Is anyone oppose to calling the question? Seeing none we can vote to approve the agenda. Would anyone like to vote no? Would anyone like to abstain?

Motion passes 14-0-0

Approval of the Minutes of The November 15th Council Meeting.

Brendan: I move to approve the minutes of the November 15th council meeting.

Dhruv: I second.

Discussion

None.

Lauren: I call the question.

Meredith: Is anyone oppose to calling the question? Seeing none we can vote to approve the agenda. Would anyone like to vote no? Would anyone like to abstain?

Motion passes 14-0-0

Approval of the Minutes of The December 6th Council Meeting.

Daniel: I move to approve the minutes of the December 6th council meeting.

Nick: I second.

Discussion

None.

Sarah: I call the question.

Meredith: Is anyone oppose to calling the question? Seeing none we can vote to approve the agenda. Would anyone like to vote no? Would anyone like to abstain?

Motion passes 14-0-0

Constituency Reports

Students of African Descent Representative – Henderson Cartwright

- Planning events for Black History month and Pride month.

Graduate Student Representative – Lauren Viana

- Met with members of the grad student office and members of the health care providers.
 - Looking to update the polices surrounding dates and specifications.

International Student Representative – Dhruv Patel

- Met with Sean and Kielan for arranging student housing during the break.

First Year Representative – Brendan Roberts

- Getting the epi-pens on campus project going.

Indigenous Student Representative – Justice Gruben & Molly Burke

- Looking for more foundational support with the Union and its workings.

Executive Reports

President – Sarah Elliott

- Figured out housing for International students who were required to isolate in resident and hotels. They will be given housing and accommodations.
- Lots of progress with the inn renovation committee.

Vice-President Academic – Siobhan Lacey

- In person classes being moved to the 24th of January due to the closures in New Brunswick.
- Senate meeting on the 13th.
- Academic focus being set up moving forward.

Questions

Brendan: For students from outside of the Atlantic bubble are they going to have isolated with the rest of the people from inside the bubble in residence?

Siobhan: When students are done isolating, they will be allowed to move freely, we are not too worried about the New Brunswick students seeing as though they wot be able to leave till, they are done isolation. I do not know what the situation for meal hall will be, more information will come as the days near closer.

Vice President Finance and Operations - Patrick Wallace

- Drive U and SFRC postponed opening in accordance with the school opening day.
- Food box program is going great with more than 100 applications in the first 4 days of isolation.

Vice-President, Activities & Events - Kielan Pilgrim

- The inn will be closed till the opening of in person classes.
- Running programming through the U for students in isolation.
- Pride month Bingo coming up.

Vice President Residence Affairs – Jack Irvin

- Prepping isolation events for students.
- House Hockey planning is occurring.
 - Mostly finalized schedule and organized.
- More SUCL hiring to do.

Vice President External Affairs - Bradley Van Dam

- Sarah and Brad attended a department of labour and advanced education meeting.
- Meeting with Dr. Strange and public health.
 - Testing for incoming students in the second semester.
- 750\$ technology bursary from the labour and advanced education fund.

Questions

Patrick: When are they rolling out the relief to students?

Sarah: *Yields time to Clancy*

Clancy: The 750\$ loan is going to Nova Scotia student loan recipients. If you are in the know about the loan process than you get your Canada student loan in September and get your Nova scotia student grant in January. It is a direct deposit to go straight in your bank accounts. This is essentially free money that will get out next week and it is week by week and first come first serve.

Special Presentations to Council

Students' Nova Scotia Presentation to Council (Clancy McDaniel)

Presented by Clancy McDaniel

Discussion

Sarah: *Yields time to Brad.*

Brad: I was genuinely touched by how during advocacy week that the politicians thought the things we are advocating on were important. They bought into the importance in the university experience. They genuinely care and value our advocacy points.

Dhruv: There is a law that if international students leave the province for 2 months, they are not eligible for the health care privileges. Can you speak on that?

Clancy: If you leave the province for 31 days you would need to complete the 13 month period to be eligible again. Our advocacy is to take this away completely and to push for health care for all international students.

Dhruv: Do you guys have a system to get the international reps from different universities to get their opinions in a panel.

Clancy: We do not but we have some committees pulled together in specific circumstances.

Mid-year financial presentation from the VP Finance and Operations (Patrick Wallace)

Presented by Patrick Wallace.

Discussion

When will the website be back up and running?

Patrick: I do not know yet. Sean?

Dhruv: Yields time to Sean

Sean: Our web provider will only let who ever signed us up are the only ones who can authorize permission changes. They do not currently work here so we are going back and forth trying to get the privileges to make changes. It is still in progress.

Old Business

Motion to approve the proposed dates for second term Council Meetings (Appendix A)

Brendan: I move to approve the proposed dates for second term Council Meetings.

Daniel: Second.

Discussion:

None.

Mike: I call the question.

Meredith: Is anyone oppose to calling the question? Seeing none we can vote to approve the agenda. Would anyone like to vote no? Would anyone like to abstain?

Motion passes 12-0-0

New Business

Motion to nominate Sarah Elliott as the Official Representative for the Bloomfield Renovation Fee referendum.

Daniel: Motion to nominate Sarah Elliott as the Official Representative for the Bloomfield Renovation Fee referendum.

Brendan: Second.

Discussion:

Sarah: *Yields time to Sean*

Sean: We needed someone in council and Sarah has the experience. She will be leading some of the marketing run the referendum.

Mike: I call the question.

Meredith: Is anyone oppose to calling the question? Seeing none we can vote to approve the agenda. Would anyone like to vote no? Would anyone like to abstain?

Motion passes 11-0-1

Closing Remarks

“Great meeting back, thanks a lot guys for coming.”

Adjournment

Dhruv: I so move.

Daniel: I second.

Discussion:

None.

Sarah: I call the question.

Meredith: We can now move to vote to adjourn the meeting. Would anyone like to vote no?
Would anyone like to abstain?

Motion passes 12-0-0.

Meeting adjourned at 4:39 PM.

Constituency Reports

**Board of Governors Representative
Nick Murray
January 31st, 2021**

Business relating to position:

Hello everyone! I hope you all have been having a fantastic transition into this new semester! I do not have too much to report since our last meeting earlier this month. Notably, I did attend a meeting for the Quality of Life committee along with a few other members of council. I believe the dialogue was overall very productive and worthwhile going forward! I also recently attended an Advancement and External Relations committee meeting for the Board of Governors. As always with discussions with administration on the Covid situation along with communication to the public, I ensured that student input was delivered, considered, and that transparency and trust are maintained!

Other Business:

Not much to report outside of the previously listed meetings. I look forward to continue working with the Governance Review committee in the weeks ahead to finish our project, and to help students in any way I can for the remainder of my term. If anyone has any questions or thoughts, don't hesitate to shoot me a message! 😊

All the best,

Nick

x2018xkj@stfx.ca

**Kamy Roberge Carrington
January 31st, 2021
Constituency Report**

Before the start of the election, multiple students interested in the BOG position reached out to me with questions they had about the position. Most of the questions regarded commitments and what the position is like.

Additionally, I've been working with the organizational review committee on the strategic plan.

January 29th, I am attending a lunch with Lawrence Hill. Lawrence asked if it would be possible to meet with Black student leaders on his last day of residency

Equity Representative
Jasonique Moss
January 31st, 2021

Since returning to campus I have had the pleasure of sitting on the hiring committee for the MacIsaac co-president. It went well as the candidate was well educated and fired up to fully immerse themselves into the role. I Also spoke with Terena Francis, in the planning for the blanket exercise, however as the result of the restriction, all events are limited to 10 people, meaning that the training will have to take place in the later part of February. I am also happy to announce the finishing of the anti-discriminatory modules that will soon be available for viewing. Additionally, the equity committee has completed and edited our blurbs on Africville and The Indigenous people. The goal is to have it posted on as many platforms as possible, along with the interview with Rebecca Mesay that is currently being looked at for the major talking points so that it can be broken down and posted on as many platforms as possible.

Arts Representative
Alex Clow
January 31st, 2021

Since the last council meeting, I have not been able to do very much work within my role. In part this is because I have had to isolate and remain off campus and in part because I have been very involved in responsibilities outside the U. With the return to campus this should change however, as I will be beginning regular office hours and committee meetings. I am unaware of any concerns for my constituents at this time.

Education Representative
Michael Adetola
January 31st, 2021

Business relating to position:

Education students are back to the hybrid format of classes that the University is providing and have been adapting exquisitely to the transition. Similarly, second year students have been brilliantly tackling the workload between the hiring season and their regular class schedule. There is a lot of pride to be had to be the representative of a constituency that has, once again, shown how they are able to adapt to the situations thrown at them with such grace.

The education executives are planning to hold our program-based election process in the upcoming weeks, which I hope will align more closely with the Education Representative position on the Students' Union than it has in the past.

There are many plans for furthering familiarity between educations students, such as multiple socially distanced events coordinated by our social & wellness representatives. Similarly, our Professional

Development reps are in the process of coordinating what I believe will be another super-successful professional development day of learning.

As another practicum period steadily approaches, Education students are looking forward to progressing their skills as educators, as well as forming relationships with faculty & students from various streams of the program.

My best to all those running in the General Election this week!

Other business:

A Campus affairs committee will be held on January 31st.

I am looking forward to the first Emergency Grants committee meeting that I'm sure will be conducted soon.

**Graduate Student Representative
Lauren Viana
January 31st, 2021**

Graduate Student Representative Business:

Quality of Life Committee: Both the main committee and the QoL assessment sub-committee met during the month of November. The main committee hosted a general discussion over themes identified in the sub-committee to be important to student quality of life. The committee also gave ideas for the Senate Forum on Student Life. The sub-committee is meeting this Friday to further refine our search for our literature review.

Committee on Graduate Studies: A meeting was held to approve new graduate level courses, as well as to go over current and future plans for graduate studies at StFX.

Senate: A Senate Forum on Academic Planning was held on January 12 to go over the timeline and goals associated with this project. A regular meeting was also held on January 13.

Other business:

Progress has been made in how to better communicate the graduate student health plan and eligibility. I would like to thank the members of the Students' Union, Graduate Studies Office, and Gallivan for all of their help and support.

Executive Reports

Executive Report: Patrick Wallace, Vice President of Finance and Operations

Date: Jan. 27th

Reporting Period: Dec. 2nd – Jan. 27th

Internal (to portfolio):

- ❖ **SFRC:** Kept open one day a week over the Christmas Break. Was very well used. As students came back to campus we started up the food box program again. We saw larger numbers than first semester by about 50 requests!
 - **Website:** Just getting to our final touches.
 - **Breakfast Program:** Up and running again!
- ❖ **Budget:** Nothing to report.
- ❖ **PSP:** Opened again with the Breakfast Program
- ❖ **Drive U:** Back to regular hours.

External (to portfolio):

- ❖ **Gallivan:** Nothing new to report!
- ❖ **Charity:** Making progress, slowly and steadily..
- ❖ **Inn:** Chase the Ace is back with different times starting at 9:30 on Fridays'.

Committees:

- ❖ **Emergency Grant:** Met and disbursed more funds to students
- ❖ **Budget and Finance:** Did not meet.
- ❖ **Health and Dental:** Did not meet.
- ❖ **University Budget:** Keeping up with projections for the year. Creating the new budget will happen next meeting.
- ❖ **JOHSC:** Scheduled meeting while I had class?? Rude...
- ❖ **GXI:** Did not meet

Sub-Executive:

- ❖ **Senior Driver:** One more driver was added to the fleet and they are now trained and ready to go. No bumps as we move into second semester.
- ❖ **SFRC Coordinator:** Biggest problem right now is that she has too many volunteers. Finding ways to get volunteers to feel like they are being useful at the centre is what Laura has currently tasked herself with.
- ❖ **HAC:** Is now working from Moncton and has set up virtual office hours for the SUCL's
- ❖ **Program Coordinators:** Have the program back up and are doing fine with scheduling everyone in.

Executive Report: Kielan Pilgrim, Vice-President, Activities & Events

Date: Wednesday, October 1st, 2021

Reporting Period: Tuesday, September 8th, to Wednesday, October 1st, 2021

Internal (to portfolio):

I hope everyone has endured this more difficult stretch! This is going to be a bit of modge-podge again!

The last stretch has been a lot of looking ahead. We have looked ahead at programming for Pride Month, including another Sex Toy Bingo, possibly during isolation. We have looked ahead at populating the trivia theme schedule, and hopefully being able to get those mostly assembled over the break. We have looked at what has and has not worked at the INN more generally, and hopefully will be able to apply what we have learned in second semester. We have also looked at what chase the ace could possibly become down the road.

I have met with some university staff who we worked alongside of for planning the isolation activities in September, as we will be working with them again for the second isolation stint coming up. It will be much smoother, now that we can say that we have organized activities for something like this before.

We have had meetings about what programming for the House Hockey Tournaments could look like, including conversations about a possible winter carnival theme. This would just be how we could brand a collection of winter activities that occur throughout the beginning of the semester. Like a Frost Month, but a bit more relaxed.

An update on X-Ring: We ended up reverting the INN to its original form, scrapping the 40\$ plated dinner option. This would hopefully encourage folks to come and socialize safely on our premises, as the deterrent of cost has been removed. We were planning on publishing a restaurant list for students who had yet to make plans, but were slow to the draw, as we learned that everyone had already made plans.

With council, we had our first in-person council meeting, which was sick, and then went bowling together, which was also sick. We also met to share thoughts on the situation with Halifax and the suspension of the Maritime Bubble – it was a really great discussion!

Movember came and went. Sean killed it. We had planned to bring out the Sickboy Podcast to do a live show at the INN, however they had to cancel for personal reasons. I am open to considering other types of live events like this that could be safely pulled off in second semester!

External (to portfolio):

For COCA, I have been involved in a by-election being held to fill a new vacancy for an Eastern Region Director position on the board – this has largely been outreach work for the organization!

Committees:

Equity Committee:

Some members attended the EDI Conference planning meeting with the McKenna Centre and Robert Upshaw. A bigger point of discussion from a previous meeting was the impact of the federal policy on international student isolation requirements. This was also discussed at our emergency meeting with council.

Event Review Committee:

The usual workload. After meeting with a student, we proposed a new addition to the Risk Assessment Form that would be for the deans to indicate whether this is an event they are sponsoring, to eliminate any speculation.

House Hockey Committee:

No meeting, see above for work

Society Review Committee

Did not meet.

PEP-AH:

Second meeting was rescheduled.

Student Orientation Committee:

Again, working with some members of SOC on isolation programming for second semester.

Sub-Executive:**O-Crew:**

Nothing to report

Society Coordinator:

Society information has all been collected – we are hoping to throw something together talking about what societies plan to be doing in second semester after having had this semester to set their feet, and get this into the hands of students looking for communities to join!

Outreach:

Nothing to report.

Executive Report: Bradley Van Dam, Vice-President External Affairs

Date: Wednesday January 27, 2021

Internal:

- I. The External Advisory Committee met and discussed structure and future projects
- II. Met with CAUL OER marketing and advocacy team to plan for our upcoming faculty campaign. We are preparing a presentation deck that will be delivered to senates and faculty.
- III. Met with CASA Liaison to discuss last term and this term expectations
 - A. CASA is also launching a campaign entitled "Close the Gaps".
- IV. I was appointed to the hiring committee for StudentNS' new Executive Director.
- V. Met with StFX's Executive Council to discuss this upcoming and past semester.
 - A. Touched on the MOU and brief update.

External:

- I. Attended the INN and Sub renovation Design Presentation and Brainstorming Session.

Committees:

Ad-hoc Covid-19 Committee (SNS).

- I. Weekly open form discussions with student associations from SNS with the addition of Cape Breton University and the University of Prince Edward Island.
- II. Nothing new to report.

Policy Committee (SNS).

- I. All policies have been passed through second read, awaiting committee approval. After approval the board will vote to approve and submit to the policy manual.

Governance Committee (SNS).

- I. Consulting third party legal on our abuse policy.

Organizational Review Committee.

- I. Nothing new to report

Federal Policy Committee (CASA).

- I. The full-time staff, policy analyst has stepped down. CASA has moved to hiring a replacement. Committee scheduled to meet to discuss further action.

Sub-Executive:

- I. Chloe is conducting back group research for a virtual event related to advocacy.

Appendix A – Dates of Education Faculty's Executive Board Election

February 1st - 5th: Nominations (must be in by 12PM on the 5th)

February 8th & 10th - Speeches / videos

February 10th (after speeches) - 12th - Voting period

Results announced on the 15th

Appendix B – Missing Reports

Students of African Descent Representative – Henderson Cartwright

Science Student Representative - Daniel Winters

Business Student Representative – Johanna Gates

First Year Representative – Brendan Roberts

Indigenous Student Representative – Justice Gruben & Molly Burke

President - Sarah Elliott

Vice President Academic – Siobhan Lacey

Vice President Residence Affairs – Jack Irvin