

Council Package
September 13th, 2020

Prepared by Aidan McMann, Deputy Chair of Council

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Agenda
Students' Union Representative Council
September 13th, 2020, 3:00 PM
Online Zoom Call

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Mi'kmaq Acknowledgment
4. Opening Remarks of the Chair
5. Approval of the Agenda
6. Approval of the minutes of the July 20th Council Meeting
7. Approval of the minutes of the August 2nd Council Meeting
8. Approval of the minutes of the August 9th Council Meeting
9. Constituency Reports
10. Business Arising
11. Executive Reports:
 - President – Sarah Elliott
 - Vice President Academic – Siobhan Lacey
 - Vice President Finance and Operations – Patrick Wallace
 - Vice President Activities and Events – Kielan Pilgrim
 - Vice President Residence Affairs – Jack Irvin
 - Vice President External Affairs – Bradley Van Dam
12. Faculty Representative's Report
13. Students' Union General Manager Report
14. Committee Reports
15. Special Reports to Council
16. Old Business
17. New Business
 - Motion to ratify Sloane Goveas for Vice President of Burke House 2020-2021
18. Closing remarks of the Chair
19. Adjournment

Council Minutes – July 20th, 2020
Prepared By: Deputy Chair – Aidan McMann

Students' Union Representative Special Council Meeting

July 20th, 2020, 6:00PM

Online Zoom Call

Call to Order

Meeting called to order at 6:02PM.

Roll Call

Board of Governors Student Representative – Nick Murray

Board of Governors Student Representative - Kamy Carrington

Equity Student Representative – Jasonique Moss

Students of African Descent Representative – Henderson Cartwright

Arts Student Representative – Alexander Clow

Education Student Representative – Michael Adetola

Graduate Student Representative – Lauren Viana

Science Student Representative - Daniel Winters

Business Student Representative – Johanna Gates

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

Students' Union General Manager – Sean Ryan

Faculty Advisor – Corrine Cash

Absent with Regrets

International Student Representative – Dhruv Patel

Deputy Chair- Aidan McMann

Absent

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. Thank you everyone for coming on this great Monday evening. The goal of this meeting is to advocate for the best interests of the STFX students, there may be differing on how to do this, but just bear in mind that we are reaching for the same goal”.

Approval of the Agenda

Lauren: I motion to approve the agenda.

Sarah: I second.

Meredith: Is anyone opposed?

Discussion

None.

Siobhan: I call the question.

Nick: I second.

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 11-0-0.

Special Reports to Council

Report from the Executive Team regarding their response thus far to the M.O.U. as well as discussion of return to Campus Plan and liability waiver going forward.

Presentation from Siobhan Lacey

Discussion

Lauren: I was wondering if the union has asked for the signing deadline of the waiver to be pushed back, seeing as though a lot of the promised protocols put in place have not yet been put in place.

Siobhan: Yes, it has been something we are advocating for, we just have not heard back from the university.

Alex: Who in admin are you guys working with to complete the MOU? Anyone specific?

Siobhan: The Exec team.

Alex: So, you are also discussing the waiver with them?

Siobhan: Yes.

Alex: What is the relationship between the MOU and the waiver going to look like seeing that the waiver would nullify the MOU due to wording.

Siobhan: Yes, the difference is that the waiver is a legal document and the MOU is not. The intention of the MOU is not to nullify the waiver but to bring to attention to the joint accountability that did not really exist before.

Meredith: *Yields time to gallery.*

Gallery: Just wondering if the student unions legal council has reviewed the waiver at all? And if they have provided recommendations.

Siobhan: Yes, that is something we are looking at, and our advocacy has incorporated the feedback which is why we are advocating for a clear wording or rewriting the waiver. To ensure people are informed before signing that waiver.

Meredith: *Yields time to gallery.*

Gallery: The waiver states that the university is not responsible if they do not follow their own protocol, I see this as problematic. I was at the community meeting last week and the president stated that this is not the case. Are you guys advocating for the waiver to be rewritten?

Siobhan: Once again we brought it up in meetings and nothing has seemingly been changed. I urge you to go to the town hall if you have specific questions about the waiver.

Lauren: Why was a MOU was chosen over a legal contract?

Siobhan: From the initial conversation we wanted the university to have to sign something indicating what they are having people sign up for. The MOU was what we decided on from the initial conversation.

Lauren: So, there is no plan on creating another legal document that would make the university responsible on their own end.

Siobhan: I would not say that outright but yes you are right the MOU would not hold up in court against the waiver.

Alex: You have mentioned a few times exec is trying to change the waiver. Do you have any goals for what the waiver should say if it is rewritten?

Siobhan: Yes, mostly including the feedback that has been received from students, trying to advocate for them the best we could. I would say the first stance we are doing is to put student concerns first.

Meredith: *Yields time to gallery.*

Gallery: I was told there was conversation with business owners saying no students are coming back, how will the MOU address everyone's concern? What happens to international students coming back to campus.

Siobhan: The students Union's is reaching out looking for feedback on how to advocate for international students. In terms of supporting off campus students it is more of a question for the university itself to get a direct answer.

Alex: *Yields time to Dr. Cash.*

Dr. Cash: Can you tell us what the lawyer has said about the MOU and Waiver.

Siobhan: Yes, the Student Union's Lawyer is here he can speak on this better than I could.
Yields time to Student Union's Lawyer (Tom).

Tom: How we have moved from the use of waivers which is normally restricted to high-risk activities people are willing to accept it so that that is the normal situation for a waiver to be used. Going to University historically has not been considered a high-risk activity but, with covid-19 there is now a clearly recognizable risk now with attending University. So, to put in it context the waiver is being applied to an area that it has never been applied to. The federal or provincial governments are yet to put their limitations on organization such as a university. Which shifts risk from university to the students. The waiver that was put forward by STFX was a generally worded waiver. Attempting to contact negligence. The problems I suggested with the STFX waiver, they put in it even if they do not follow their own reopening plans and protocols that they are immune from liability. One point I made back to the university is to make themselves a bit responsible, so perhaps it does make sense when the university could put in "if we follow the issues and directives put in place and someone gets covid-19 it is not the universities fault." This would be much different than not taking any responsibility. Therefore problem 1, too broad of a document. The second problem I see with it is the power imbalance between students and the university. By making this a condition they are putting a restriction on students that was not there before and restricting access if these conditions are not agreed to. They are asking students for signatures without advised consent, to take many measures and it did not reference what plans they were going to rely upon. It is unfair that if the university does not want to inherently receive the risk. To ask you to wave all your rights in the absence of informed consent is very poor by the university. So those are the main points we are pushing for moving forward. The university made some mistakes not confronting the town, the students and mainly the province, because STFX is a public business that requires support to function. I think the points previously made on consultation, communication and working with the university needs to be clearer on what specifically they are doing to prepare and how they are going to do so. It seems they are going quite far to reassure safety such as cancelling the fall reading week and prohibiting alcohol during the first months of school. I think consultation and communication are lacking and need improvement to the point where students feel comfortable coming back. The student must step back and look after everything is done and ask if they feel comfortable with the work the university has done and want to return to campus. It is not the union giving up their rights it every individual student giving their consent for the waiver. There

is also a question about parents waiving the right of their children if they are below the age of 19. There is an entirely different set of laws when parents must give consent. The waiver is far from perfect and there are for sure steps to take to advocate for the needs of students.

Meredith: *Yields time to Gallery.*

Clancy: (Vice-president of students Nova-Soctia) we have meeting coming up discussing this problem with the minister of labour and advanced educations and with Dr. Strang. Both of those contacts are aware of these problems. Why you folks those an MOU instead of a legal document.

Siobhan: It is up to the authorities with the legal documents and the MOU was a way to negotiate in good faith.

Meredith: *Yields time to Gallery.*

Gallery: If a student does not sign the waiver I it enforceable for them to not be able to go to school?

Tom: My understanding is that signing the waiver is a condition to attend STFX university.

Henderson: As international students we may not have the resources to just take a year off. This basically forcing us to come back or forfeit a year. Many of us are high risk due to the amount of travel to get back to school it requires. Were you guys advocating for more flexible classes for international students and other students with troubles?

Siobhan: BOG and senate passed the motion to have more in person classes than online weeks before the waiver has been released and one concern was that students were not consulted. The waiver was after the decision of the hybrid model of learning.

Sarah: These are great pints to bring up and very valid concerns that we will look to confront in the MOU.

Alex: First, thank you for the reminder that we can reach out to Dean's, I will for sure be doing that. One piece I would appreciate if we incorporated more councillors in these academic discussions. People who represent specific constituencies should be heard to get a better gage of all student satisfaction. There are profs who have requested to go online, and others have been denied, others are in limbo. Could you bring that up sometime?

Siobhan: Yes, it is, on the agenda for the next meeting I have with Dr. Walmsley, And if your counsellor that isn't a student Senator I would like to contribute to the academic concerns please email me at su_academic@stfx.ca.

Meredith: *Yields time to Gallery.*

Gallery: I think you nailed it on the head, where its tough to ask certain things of faculty when the collective agreement that is signed between he university and the faculty that can't force them to work under specific conditions. I am curious have you been able to talk to the faculty

union to lobby them outside of this agreement. If Dr. Walmsley cannot interest them maybe it would be an interesting talk to have.

Siobhan: Yeah, I set up a meeting with them this morning. Just has not happened yet.

Meredith: *Yields time to Gallery.*

Gallery: The current minister of education said on the news that he does not expect the waiver that is out right now to be the waiver students sign. Could you provide a comment on that?

Siobhan: That comment came from a conversation with the university, so they would probably be the better people to ask on this subject. Brad has had some contact with them, and he may be able to comment on it.

Siobhan: *Yields time to Brad.*

Brad: I was in conversation with the associate deputy minister of labour and advanced education, so they were aware of the waiver in a meeting with the advanced education showed them it. Lots of conversations with the health department and other have been made. Each university in our province has agreed to create and show a plan to Dr.Strang to be approved. The province was aware, and the university will have to submit a plan that they would be responsible for.

Meredith: *Yields time to Gallery.*

Gallery: Can the Union comment on how students in residents will have a shared bathroom and therefore not having a true isolation period. Can you comment.

Siobhan: Yes, this is true.

Presentation of the Memorandum of Understanding

Presented by Sarah Elliott.

Questions

Henderson: Why didn't the school push the start of registration until all the information came out and everyone had a better understanding of the new COVID rules?

Sarah: I am not 100% sure, but I can let you know and express that concern with them.

Henderson: Why do you guys refer to the classes as mix model when the set up is mostly in person and not really a mix?

Sarah: I think the wording is generic across all universities to have them referred as so.

Alex: Can you clarify what you mean by having easily transferable credits from other maple league universities? Would it be different for others?

Sarah: The maple league has an agreement where the crossing of credits is very easy with the other schools, there is no such thing with other universities.

Meredith: *Yields time to Tiffany.*

Tiffany: The maple league is making it simpler to take classes at different universities. The limitation with that document is that it is limited to summer and spring courses and the initiative would be to offer more classes than possible before for all maple league students. When you move out of the 4 schools it becomes very difficult and will end up costing more. I would live to continue the conversation.

Alex: Could I request that the MOU will be much more specific on the issues that could arise and giving us more accountability.

Sarah: Yes, for sure, it is very important to make specific plans and we have already begun advocating.

Motion to Recess

Alex: I motion to recess for 10 Minutes

Nick: I second that motion.

Meredith: Is there any discussion on that motion? Seeing none. Would someone like to call the question?

Siobhan: I so move.

Meredith: Is anyone opposed? Seeing none we move to vote on the motion, does anyone vote no? Does anyone abstain?

Motion passes 11-0-0

Discussion

Lauren: It is nice to see the hard work the exec has put into drafting the MOU. In section B the Union commits to advocacy and improved student consultation, what do you plan to do to move forward with this.

Sarah: Yes, the student consultation is very important especially in these crazy times the students can help an extreme amount. The beginning steps are having this meeting to put their input and the addition of the town halls. Hearing from the students on how to be better at advocating for them.

Lauren: I was wondering how council will be consulted and if we can be in the decision of what the final draft will look like.

Sarah: once we add all the conversations and concerns, we've heard from the students we can continue to add onto the MOU.

Motion that council must approve the final version of the MOU before it is sent out

Lauren: I Motion that council must approve the final version of the MOU before it is sent out.

Sarah: I second.

Discussion

Siobhan: It is a requirement that the document would have to go through council to be approved regardless.

Alex: I call the question.

Nick: Second.

Motion Passes 11-0-0

Henderson: If we could have a plan for the students and faculty members that will be great. They are just as affected and will be at the same amount of risk as all of us.

Sarah: Great point, Siobhan often meets with the faculty members and is making sur they are in the loop.

Mike: In Siobhan's presentation she talked about classes being recorded and put online, but in the MOU there wasn't a conclusion drawn as to if a student decided to stay home would they get and be able to obtain their education while staying in the safety of their homes? Was there any discussion about that possibility happening?

Siobhan: When I say the faculty have an option it is not necessarily an option the university is giving them, but more living up to their contracts that the faculty gives them. Theoretically if a student is staying home and the faculty member stops posting their notes, nothing directly ties them to having to provide the online recording of the classes. I do not know if a student could plan around that, the faculty decides the back to campus plans without letting students know.

Sarah: This is for sure something we can advocate for and students should have the option of online vs in person with all f the concerns.

Alex: Going back to student satisfaction protocol and the final line for the three accommodations will be made for students who cannot attend classes because of self isolation. Is there any comments you could give or to just make it more solid and accommodating?

Sarah: Great idea! We can talk about it at the townhall.

Meredith: *Yields time to Gallery.*

Gallery: The waiver deadline is in 11 days and we will all need time to deliberate on the waiver, when will we hear about the modified redraft of the waiver?

Sarah: We do not know, if there is going to be a modified draft. Unfortunately, we cannot answer that at this time. The deadline will be for sure tried to be pushed with our advocacy.

Gallery: What can the MOU accomplish? If the waiver does not change does the MOU simply stand for a declaration of advocacy for noting? Historically the university has not been great with following the rules and regulation that are in place, what the plan of enforcing an MOU to the university?

Sarah: Yes, it is a big concern, the university has many staff members, so beginning conversations with the university about following the MOU include weekly updates from all faculties, (ex/ cleaning staff, what is being cleaned and when). Students union will review these updates and make sure people are following rules. We are accepting all feedback on how we can hold the university accountable moving forwards.

Siobhan: The major the MOU does is create dual accountability and transparency. Another thing Tom touched on is that the idea of informed consent, the MOU is a very good way of showing information and assuring safety. It very clearly outlines the expectation of the waiver.

Sarah: In the MOU it states the MOU is up for changes and making it adapt to Nova Scotia protocols (ex/ MOU revised twice a semester).

Siobhan: The return to campus plan includes a lot of the information from the MOU so it is up to standard with provincial health laws.

Meredith: *Yields time to Gallery.*

Gallery: Why are we not asking STFX to be tested? People can be a-symptomatic and can be walking around with the disease, also if there is an outbreak why would wait for it to be online? Why aren't we enforcing a percentage of online classes? Why are we not hearing about the faculty feelings they are having?

Siobhan: This is for sure a university questions you should ask. The 2 week isolation period would take out the worry of a-symptomatic people to make sure they are not around campus or the town. I do have my meeting with the teacher's union so I can ask about those concerns.

Sarah: We do not take in faculty questions but moving forward with the townhall we will for sure be asking those questions and receiving feedback.

Meredith: *Yields time to Gallery.*

Gallery: How the MOU approaches the guest policy? By my understanding the waiver says it will be monitored throughout the year and the MOU states that no guests will continue throughout the year. Could we modify that to include a sentence should the university change it with consultation with the union. So, we do not stronghold them with conditions.

Sarah: Great point, thank you.

Alex: Do you know why they have not released an outbreak plan?

Sarah: The university is working very hard with writing and releasing documents, I am not too sure but hopefully in the days to come we will hear something about this. I will make sure we are putting out to admin that there is a plan for an outbreak.

Alex: There are no explicit limits (percentage or number of students) to when we could possibly go back online or be sent home. Is that in talks?

Sarah: Not yet, but it will for sure be brought up.

Meredith: *Yields time to Gallery.*

Gallery: There is a high likelihood that the university will breach the MOU, in the past 2 consultation agreements each has been breached. What are you going to do to assure that it will be followed? Would it be prudent that there should be ramifications if it is broken?

Sarah: Yes, first we should consult with Tom and add pressure to the university to hold them accountable. Meeting with labour and advanced education to hold them accountable. Yes, a punishment should be added if the MOU is broken.

Siobhan: If the university is breaking the MOU rules, then they would be breaking Nova Scotia health protocol which is much more serious and would be reprimanded for their actions.

Discussion to Create a Mandated Consultation Forum Made up of Students, Alumni and Faculty which is open to all Interested Parties

Discussion

Alex: We can all say the last week and COVID has brought to light problems in many assemblies including ours. We should not need an 800 person strike group to gain consultation from students moving forward. Group conversation brings lots more information than individual student meetings. A platform such as a townhall without the strict mandates of a council meeting might be a better platform that anyone can share their opinions. Having a public space where admin can see, it will give concerns more legitimacy as more people can join and talk.

Siobhan: I would not be the biggest fan of this forum because what is described on the council is voted students run by a selected position to best get information out and facilitated the conversations. I understand you want a more open platform but there has never been a time a student has been in the gallery and has not been granted time to speak. Ultimately having 2 councils with the same purpose is redundant and with the heavy workload of the exec team it would not be feasible. Giving alumni and students who have not been selected or voted in positions may create large problems if the councils differ from their goals and priorities. More people giving feedback would not be beneficial; it would be extremely more complex if another council was created with more freedom from anyone who wishes to share and input.

Sarah: The students pay student Union fees and that is who we must advocate for primarily, but of course getting more and more feedback is never a negative thing. I really like the idea of having a less rigid structure for a meeting. Maybe more information on how this forum will look like?

Alex: This forum would have no power of decision, but just having more discussions. Even an open Facebook group to get feedback. The role of council is to provide a guidance of the students, I am not suggesting that we create a second council to infringe on the other one. Yes, the Facebook idea would have the feel of a councillor or 2 being disposable at times to answer questions and address concerns from students. Or to add these times during office hours. Having a platform where people can build and formulate ideas with others to achieve the best feedback we can.

Nick: I do agree with Siobhan but having an informal forum would be greatly beneficial especially during these COVID times. Things are changing hourly with the waiver and more news being released everyday and I do not know if a bi-weekly council meeting will improve that. It would operate a lot like office hours but having the ability to bounce ideas off other students with concerns will be beneficial. I do not see too many downsides.

Lauren: Not only is this a way to bring up student concerns, but not everyone is comfortable emailing someone they do not know. Promotion and more transparency must be the number one goal, with this forum council may hop in when things are getting in too deep or for a helpful consultation on the concerns people are having.

Johanna: I think having an open platform is good because we could never know who is adding to these forums whether it be family members or Randoms. Having a platform for everyone to read these problems may not be the best, because we do already have office hours and other platforms for people to reach out to us. I do not think it would be in our best interests. The thing we are worried about is the cycle of people complaining while there are already existing platforms to express discontent.

Lauren: Talking with previous reps' office hours are always a good thing and it can never be wrong to provide an open platform for students.

Alex: One concern that has been raised is people not associated with the U may express their concerns. Which in my opinion is a good reason to provide this? If we are going to be facing issues with the faculty Union, we need to bring people from the outside to help and support us. It gives a lot more grounds to reach out to MLA or MPs to reach out to more powerful people so we can use this platform to the best of its ability.

Siobhan: It looks like you want a way to address students that is outside of council structure. Which we can do with our social medias. I do not think we need the extra forum to provide this support when we have a full time marketing manager to do all the promo's and marketing we would need. Who are fully capable of providing that help.

Sarah: A big thing the student Union must do is marketing and to see how we can connect more with students and gauge their interests. I would consider using existing forums than throwing something new into the mix.

Mike: To my understanding the community forum was supposed to be more for the community anyway to get their feelings and concerns. Community members may not feel comfortable emailing us with their problems. They do not have a representative to discuss their specific problems.

Siobhan: *Yields time to Brad.*

Brad: My position ensures the connectivity between the town and the external bodies that we must remain in contact with. For example, I am meeting with the Mayor tomorrow. As I exchange with these external stakeholders, I am bringing back information to be discussed so with an open forum lots of misinformation could be spread while taking in concerns.

Siobhan: *Yields time to Gallery.*

Gallery: Maybe just talk to people this is a bad way of going in about it.

Meredith: *Yields time to Dhruv.*

Dhruv: For my constituents they come across the world and in many different time zones, has this been accounted for when discussing a-synchronized learning?

Motion that at the next Regularly Scheduled Council Meeting a section of Discussion about Improving Transparency and Outreach of the Student Union will be Added

Alex: I motion that at the next regularly scheduled council meeting a section of discussion about Improving transparency and outreach of the Student Union will be added.

Lauren: Second.

Alex: I will rescind the motion.

Meredith: *Yields time to Dhruv.*

Dhruv: Is there communication between off-campus communities and on-campus communities? (ex/Landlords and resLife)

Siobhan: They are happening the university is doing outreach with the town and how they can support off-campus students. You can bring it up at the town hall to get more information on this topic.

Discussion and planning regarding Union membership for students who chose to defer the 2020-2021 year

Discussion

Alex: Given the current situation, if the waiver does not change many students will not feel comfortable going back to school in a very isolated way. If they choose not to go to school, they will be in trouble. People who love X love X and want to come back, how can we help everyone be able to adjust to the new changes and help them when they return to STFX. One reason I think membership is very important as opposed to service, so people can vote in elections and have their say.

Sarah: *Yields time to Dhruv.*

Dhruv: If anyone has questions about this about international students, I am very available and am willing to answer questions and concerns. Thank you.

Alex: How do you feel about students taking a year off and coming back?

Dhruv: If we can save the year for the students that is main goal moving forward to be able to offer everything we can.

Siobhan: What would Tom's Advice be on this?

Siobhan: *Yields time to Gallery.*

Gallery: The provincial legislation which encompasses the student union defines membership as a registered student who pays student fees. If you are looking for a mechanism for someone who is not attending STFX be included as a member, you would have to find a way they could be registered. There is going to have to be a second party present and change what they call a registered student.

Alex: Where does the definition of a registered student be found.

Gallery: You would have to find out how the university itself defines a registered student.

Alex: Is this idea friendly going forward?

Meredith: *Yields time to Gallery.*

Gallery: It is not worth going against the act of incorporation. How will these students be obligated to pay student fees with people staying home? The union services such as DriveU, Student food resource center and the Inn are the only things effected by this.

Closing Remarks

“Thank you all for coming. I am happy so many people got the chance to come and discuss.”

Adjournment

Siobhan: Motion to adjourn the meeting.

Alex: I second.

Meredith: Would anyone like to vote no to the motion? Would anyone like to abstain on the motion?

Motion passes 11-0-0.

Meeting adjourned at 9:00PM.

Council Minutes – August 2nd, 2020
Prepared By: Deputy Chair – Aidan McMann

Students' Union Representative Special Council Meeting

August 2nd, 2020, 12:00PM

Online Zoom Call

Call to Order

Meeting called to order at 12:05 PM.

Roll Call

Board of Governors Student Representative – Nick Murray

Board of Governors Student Representative - Kamy Carrington

Arts Student Representative – Alexander Clow

Education Student Representative – Michael Adetola

Graduate Student Representative – Lauren Viana

Science Student Representative - Daniel Winters

President - Sarah Elliott

Vice President Academic – Siobhan Lacey

Vice President Residence Affairs – Jack Irvin

Vice-President, Activities & Events - Kielan Pilgrim

Students' Union General Manager – Sean Ryan

Deputy Chair- Aidan McMann

Absent with Regrets

Equity Student Representative – Jasonique Moss

Vice President Finance and Operations - Patrick Wallace

Vice President External Affairs - Bradley Van Dam

Absent

Students of African Descent Representative – Henderson Cartwright

International Student Representative – Dhruv Patel

Business Student Representative – Johanna Gates

Faculty Advisor – Corrine Cash

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. Thank you everyone for coming to this special Council meeting.

Approval of the Agenda

Alex: I motion to approve the agenda.

Siobhan: I second.

Discussion

None

Alex: I call the question.

Nick: I second.

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 8-0-0.

Special Reports to Council

Presentation by the Executive Team of the Memorandum of Understanding

Sarah: *Presented the MOU.*

New Business

Motion to approve the Memorandum of Understanding as presented

Sarah: I move to approve the Memorandum of Understanding as presented

Siobhan: I second.

Discussion

Alex: With students being able to take courses at other universities, will there be an additional fee if they are taking classes elsewhere?

Sarah: I am not 100% sure, if Siobhan can jump in and add that would be great.

Siobhan: The tuition will remain with the institution you are originally enrolled in, it will come down to the university to figure that out behind the scenes.

Alex: We should try and make that very clear, so students know all their options moving forward.

Siobhan: Yes, for sure, we are looking forward to having a maple league townhall where this can be brought up and we are counting on the academic advisors to provide this information to students.

Meredith: Would someone like to move to call the question?

Lauren: There is a section of advocacy that the union's pushing for more accessible classes, how are these claims supposed to have support if the MOU does not go into effect till 27th.

Siobhan: This is essentially putting into writing what I am currently doing, this is nothing new, it is what I have spent the last few months doing.

Lauren: Events such as parent/student mixers are noted in the document, why would they have use in the document if it only comes in effect the 27th.

Siobhan: the reason they are there is so students know what the Students Union has been doing to offer those supports. We wanted it documented that we are committed and are following out with the promises we have made.

Alex: Is there more of a selection with the plated meal service that will come in effect with COVID, how will this relate to people attending meal hall?

Sarah: *Yields time to Jack.*

Jack: I am not 100% sure, I can bring it up with those folks next meeting. Trying to figure out more times and opportunities that they can make meal hall more accessible

Sarah: I move to call the question.

Alex: I second.

Meredith: Is anyone oppose to calling the question? Seeing none we can vote to pass the MOU as presented. Would anyone like to vote no? Would anyone like to abstain?

Motion passes 7-0-1

Closing Remarks

"Thank you all for coming on the weekend folks, have a good rest of your Sunday."

Adjournment

Sarah: Motion to adjourn the meeting.

Siobhan: I second.

Meredith: Would anyone like to vote no to the motion? Would anyone like to abstain on the motion?

Motion passes 8-0-0.

Meeting adjourned at 12:40PM.

Council Minutes – August 9, 2020
Prepared By: Deputy Chair – Aidan McMann

Students' Union Representative Council Meeting

August 9th, 2020, 3:02PM

Online Zoom Call

Call to Order

Meeting called to order at 3:02 PM.

Roll Call

Board of Governors Student Representative – Nick Murray

Equity Student Representative – Jasonique Moss

Education Student Representative – Michael Adetola

International Student Representative – Dhruv Patel

Science Student Representative - Daniel Winters

Business Student Representative – Johanna Gates

Graduate Student Representative – Lauren Viana

President - Sarah Elliott

Vice President Academic – Siobhan Lacey

Vice President Finance and Operations - Patrick Wallace

Vice-President, Activities & Events - Kielan Pilgrim

Vice President External Affairs - Bradley Van Dam

Vice President Residence Affairs – Jack Irvin

Students' Union General Manager – Sean Ryan

Absent with Regrets

Board of Governors Student Representative - Kamy Carrington

Arts Student Representative – Alexander Clow

Students' Union General Manager – Sean Ryan

Faculty Advisor – Corrine Cash

Absent

Students of African Descent Representative – Henderson Cartwright

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. Thank you everyone for coming to our first council meeting of the year.”

Approval of the Agenda

Lauren: I motion to approve the agenda.

Johanna: I second.

Meredith: Moved and seconded. Is that amendment friendly? Yes, so the agenda is so amended. Are there any further amendments people want to make? Seeing none, would someone like to call the question?

Lauren: I call the question.

Nick: I second.

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 9-0-0.

Approval of the Minutes of The July 5th Council Meeting.

Siobhan: I wish to amend the minutes of the July 5th council meeting to change the wording of Elizabeth Yao’s last name to be (Yao), Instead of Yeo.

Meredith: Is that amendment friendly? Yes, the amendment is friendly. Are there any further amendments to those minutes?

Sarah: *Yields time to Jack.*

Jack: I wish to amend the minutes of the July 5th council meeting to change the spelling my last name from Irving to Irvin.

Meredith: Is that amendment friendly? Yes, the amendment is friendly. Are there any further amendments to those minutes? Seeing none.

Nick: I move to approve the amended minutes.

Sarah: Second.

Motion passes 9-0-0.

Constituency Reports

Board of Governors Student Representative – Nick Murray

- Attended 2 major meetings (Discussed)
 - Budget meeting
 - Plan moving forward
 - Response to COVID
 - Building and ground subcommittee.
 - Incoming projects
 - What the future of the committee holds.
 - Renovations
- Attended council training
- Attended Governance review committee meeting
- Sat on MacIsaac SUCL panel.

Equity Student Representative – Jasonique Moss

- Looking to build upon masculinity workshops with Mckenna Center and Kamy.

Education Student Representative – Michael Adetola

- Education students feeling level headed with MOU and goings on.
- Looking forward to students coming back.

Graduate Student Representative – Lauren Viana

- 25% of Constituency did not receive waiver form.
 - Reached out to IT and were directed to help.
 - More Problems occurring with the waiver sending, looking to be resolved.

Questions

Siobhan: Yeah, so I sent an email to see if those students accounts would be shut down. I will let you know with the response.

Lauren: Great, thank you.

International Student Representative – Dhruv Patel

- Has been approached about running the coffee house.
 - Looking to get some prizes and gift cards for event
- Problems with the international health plan has been resolve.
- Continues to push for outreach to constituents.
- Attended Tiffany's Leadership program.

Business Student Representative – Johanna Gates

- Business students have been returning positive feedback.
 - Fun Fact: Business students have the most online classes.

Executive Reports

President – Sarah Elliott

- Completed Cultural competency training with exec team.
- X ring Committee – Working on discrepancy found in X-Ring law about the rules between undergraduate students and education students.
 - Create Policy to make simpler and more straightforward.

Questions

Mike: Can you distinguish between grad students and what you were talking about earlier about the Bed or the master's students?

Sarah: We were discussing master's students specifically and it is quite unclear about the X-Ring Policy about education students and how they differ from the others. Which is for sure the reason we are going to be coming together and sorting this through.

Vice-President Academic – Siobhan Lacey

- Working on Academic Advocacy.
 - Working with students and their educational concerns.
- Meeting with Maple league academic director to see their stance on the MOU.
- Academic orientation focused.
 - Looking at programming we Can offer.
 - Look to drive prioritizing academics in the 2-week isolation period.

Vice-President Finance and Operations - Patrick Wallace

- Keeping the Student food resource center up and running.
- Looking to start other program opportunities around campus.
 - I.E Breakfast.
- Hired a sponsorship coordinator to get local business to partner with the school.

Vice President Residence Affairs – Jack Irvin

- Finishing pre for training week.
- Looking for in person training for SUCL's.
- Remote learn task force, put forward recommendation for the academic integrity group to have a Moodle course that will help student's academic integrity.

Questions

Question from Livestream: What does the training schedule look like seeing as though most of your sub exec's will be isolating?

Jack: As of right now the majority of the reps will be there and ready to work. When everyone is out as well there will be further training.

Vice-President Activities & Events – Kielan Pilgrim

- Busy month with window of orientation week closing for preparation.
- Start having planning review Committee.
- Selected as eastern board director of COCA.
- Started looking at gaps in the societal structure, to prepare for a COVID year and fix things that could improve.
 - Communicating best they can.

Questions

Sarah: Congratulations on the Eastern Rep position!

Nick: Any insider Details for orientation?

Kielan: Looking to book Canadian talent for the concerts.

Vice President External Affairs – Bradley Van Dam

- Meeting with Antigonish mayor discussing plans moving forward.
- Meeting with politicians, discussing higher education.
- Reaching out to many students asking for concerns or questions.

Questions

Lauren: Could you dive deeper into that meeting with mayor and if so, what does she have to say about the current situation?

Bradley: As an opposition critic she compiles the concerns and worries the students are having, take that in and put pressure on the sitting government for more change. I discussed the goings on inside the university and giving a voice to students.

Lauren: Why are the new best practice manual being cancelled?

There are already policies in place which outline the proper methods to conduct online meetings and the situations evolves so fast with COVID that policy is changing everyday and to have a best practice manual on one given time is redundant to keep up with the changes that are happening. We switched the focus on something that'll better represent our students.

Special Presentations to Council

Presentation of Priority Themes that CASA is looking to advocate for in the Upcoming year

Presented by President Sarah Elliott and VP External Bradley Van Dam

Discussion

None.

New Business

Motion to Ratify Amy Lewis as House President of Plessis 2020-2021

Daniel: I motion to Ratify Amy Lewis as House President of Plessis 2020-2021.

Sarah: Second.

Discussion on the motion:

Siobhan: *Yields time to Jack.*

Jack: The house president of Plessis resigned, so we have moved the Vice-President at her own request to President. I think she'll do great; she's been working hard to prep for the role.

Meredith: Would someone like to move to call the question?

Siobhan: I call the question.

Nick: Second

Meredith: Is anyone opposed? Being none, it has been moved and seconded to ratify Amy Lewis as House President of Plessis 2020-2021. Would anyone like to vote no to the motion? Would anyone like to abstain on the motion?

Motion passes 9-0-0

Motion to Ratify Balgika Leon as Off-Campus leader 2020-2021

Daniel: I motion to Ratify Balgika Leon As Off Campus Leader 2020-21.

Sarah: Second.

Discussion on the motion:

Siobhan: *Yields time to Jack.*

Jack: She is very excited to start the job she has lots of experience being a former community advisor and she really wants to offer all the Off-Campus students a great time.

Meredith: Would someone like to call the question?

Lauren: I move to call the question.

Nick: Second.

Meredith: Is anyone opposed? Being none, it has been moved and seconded to ratify Balgika Leon As Off Campus Leader 2020-21. Would anyone like to vote no to the motion? Would anyone like to abstain on the motion?

Motion passes 9-0-0

Motion to Ratify Peyton MacMillan as Plessis House Vice-President 2020-2021

Daniel: I move to ratify Peyton MacMillan as Plessis House Vice-President 2020-2021.

Mike: I second.

Discussion on the motion:

Lauren: *Yields time to Jack.*

Jack: She loves Plessis and has a lot of leadership experience; she is really looking forward to giving the first years a great experience and she interviewed very well.

Meredith: Would someone like to call the question?

Dhruv: I move.

Mike: Second.

Meredith: Is anyone opposed? Being none, it has been moved and seconded to ratify Peyton MacMillan as Plessis House Vice-President 2020-2021. Would anyone like to vote no to the motion? Would anyone like to abstain on the motion?

Motion passes 9-0-0

Closing Remarks

“Thank you all for coming. And thank you for your patience with the whole ordeal of the peer support program. I hope everyone has a good Sunday and I look forward to seeing you guys at our next council meeting”

Adjournment

Meredith: Motion to adjourn the meeting.

Siobhan: I so move.

Jasonique: I second.

Meredith: Would anyone like to vote no to the motion? Would anyone like to abstain on the motion? Would someone like to call the question?

Dhruv: I call the question.

Nick: Second.

Meredith: Is anyone opposed? Would anyone like to abstain?

Motion passes 9-0-0.

Meeting adjourned at 4:33PM.

Constituency Reports

Board of Governors Representative
Nick Murray
September 10th, 2020

Business relating to position:

As always, I am happy to report that it has been another eventful and fun month in my position! Since my last Constituency Report, I have attended 1 Board of Governors Meeting. This special meeting was largely focused on the campus reopening plan this semester, which is taking place as we speak (LET'S GO)! As I have also been in close communication with my fellow student representatives on the Board, Sarah Elliot and Kamy Roberge Carrington, I feel confident in our ability to plan and strategize before all Board meetings. I also feel incredibly confident that much of what we believe in and advocate for, namely in terms of keeping StFX financially accessible for students, has been communicated.

I have not attended any Board Committee meetings since my last report.

Other Business:

In terms of my business outside of the Board, I got a LOT done! The Governance Review Committee has continued to meet once (and oftentimes twice) a week. As a group, we are efficiently dividing up policy writing duties and making phenomenal progress. While returning to StFX has taken much of my focus in the past week, I'm excited to continue working with the committee into the school year. My other Union committee, Budget and Finance, has not met since my last report. This past month, I have also sat on the hiring panel for MacKinnon Hall SUCs. I am once again blown away by the degree of enthusiasm and leadership found within our student body. GO X GO! On August 28th, I, alongside all my fellow councillors, also attended Positive Space Training over video chat. I feel like the session was an incredibly valuable learning experience for myself, and I would highly recommend it to any and all members of the student body. I hope to take what I learned and use it to better represent all of my constituents!

Outside of all of that, I have also continued in taking on the role of Secretary in the Jack.org society. The work we have planned for this semester is really cool and I'm excited to see what all students think about it! Over the past few weeks, I have also begun my (fun!) work as a member of OCREW!!! This year will truly be like no other but I'm excited to get the Xaverian energy up for the first years!

Also, if anyone has any questions or if you just want to reach out, you can find me at x2018xkj@stfx.ca. Thanks everyone!

All the best,

Nick

Kamy Roberge Carrington
September 10th, 2020
Constituency Report

Since my last constituency report, most of the work I've been doing has been with the Board of Governor's. I have attended one board meeting concerning campus reopening. I look forward to seeing how students will adjust to campus life during the current situation. Additionally, I attended a meeting with the investment committee.

I am currently creating an Instagram account for my position. I think that social media will be a good way to communicate with my constituents, as I will not be returning to campus until January.

I am also continuing the work I am doing with the alumni association and alumni office concerning networking opportunities for graduating students.

Equity Representative
Jasonique Moss
September 10th, 2020

Since the last meeting, I stated that I was brainstorming ways in which cultural competency training would be able to take place this year, and through the help of the McKenna, I look forward to executing that idea and bringing it to the equity committee's attention in our upcoming meeting. Our Instagram platform has begun to post things, such as our introductions and informative content in the form of blurbs that have received approval from Representatives, and tiktoks giving insight as to where resources can be found.

Student of African Descent Representative
Henderson Cartwright
September 10th, 2020

This month was a very slow month as many folks are starting to move back into campus and getting settled, me included. The planned Cultural Collab Coffeehouse between the Diversity Engagement Center, X-Pride and the Office of Internationalization was postponed until a later date but is still happening. This is good as we are getting more people signing up to participate. The MSI Virtual Info Sessions for International students who plan to sign up for MSI went well and were well attended which is good.

The Equity Committee has met and had many conversations about future programming and designing social media pages.

Education Representative
Michael Adetola
September 10th, 2020

Business relating to position:

Education students are a few days away from their return to classes and are eagerly looking forward to re-acclimating to their classes and schedules.

An online orientation is scheduled to take place involving both first year and second year students on Friday, September 11th, in which professors and the student executives will introduce the yearly schedule, course expectations, etc. Additionally, students will receive another small-scale orientation session on the first day of classes, which will include the distribution of program fees.

There is, however, questioning involving second-year program payments, in which the student executive feels that it would not be appropriate to pay program fees for this upcoming year given that last year's

fees we're not fully utilized due to the cancellation of classes and practicum. Hopefully this will be discussed and resolved soon.

Other business:

Still awaiting communication regarding Campus Affairs and Emergency Grant committees.

Graduate Student Representative
Lauren Viana
September 10th, 2020

Graduate Student Representative Business:

Organizational Review Committee: I have continued to collaborate with the Office of Internationalization on the creation focus group questions to better meet the needs of our international student constituency. The first draft of questions has been sent out to the other members of this committee, as well as key international student stakeholders. I hope to begin recruitment for the groups by the beginning of October.

Student Senators Meeting: The student senators met with our VP Academic, Siobhan Lacey to discuss academic ideas and advocacy points Siobhan has been diligently working on. Siobhan had mentioned graduate studies specific programing and I'm looking forward to further progress!

Other business:

The issue regarding the graduate students not receiving DocuSign emails was resolved and all graduate students were able to obtain the required documents to e-sign. While undergraduate courses begin next Monday, new graduate students will not finish the enrollment process until the end of the month. I have been in contact with Gina Sampson (Manager of Academic Projects and Planning) to obtain an updated grad email list, and will have one once graduate studies enrolment concludes in a few weeks.

I have also recently become aware of graduate student concerns about fees for the online MASC program, and was wondering if anyone on council has heard of reduced fees for those not physically present on the StFX campus, or know who I can talk to about this.

I have also submitted feedback on behalf of graduate student priorities for CASA. Lastly, I attended a wonderful positive space training session with Claydon Goering.

International Students Representative
Dhruv D. Patel
August 6th, 2020

Social Media Growth: 204 total followers on Su_Internationalrep

This past month has been great as we prepared for reopening up of campus. We have 7 new international students that have arrived on campus. We had online meet and greet sessions on 2nd and 4th September with our rookie XInternationals. I had a great opportunity to shoot a video for Respectful Communities Moodle Module (Thanks Alex for being patience and Sean for your sessions on public speaking). We were able to do MSI online info sessions with our healthcare provider which turned out to be a great success. Number of eligible International students applied for MSI. Thanks everyone for your efforts to get these important matters on table.

Other business: On September 10th, I had a great opportunity to speak for the “Black Lives Matter Scholars Protest”. I also did an IGTV regarding basic information of the MSI.

Thanks everyone for making it a great summer. I did shave my beard and got a new haircut.

Constituency report
Johanna Gates- Business Representative
September 10th, 2020

Since my last report I have continued to try and hear business students concerns and questions, and this includes giving out my Instagram and email as widely as possible, as well as reading posts on the STFX Student Strike Facebook page in regard to the school reopening in September. I am so excited for school to start, as well I look forward to the council meeting this Sunday.

Executive Reports

Executive Report: Sarah Elliott, President & CEO

Date: August 7th

Reporting Period: August 6th – September 9th

Internal:

- **Meeting with Town & County (Fall opening updates):** With all of the students coming back to Antigonish they have a lot of questions, we have done our best to answer those of our students; however, the community members also have many questions. When meeting with the town & county we had the opportunity to go over the University's reopening plan and answer any questions.
- **STFX Site Visit and Project Update with Dr. Lisa Barrett:** A few weeks ago, the Province of Nova Scotia implemented three mandatory COVID tests during isolation. This is very exciting but a lot of work to implement on campus, Dr. Barrett and her team walked us through what testing would look like, who is going to administrate the testing, the PPE used while testing, and why it is so important.
- **Virtual Town Tour:** With many of the first years in isolation, they are not able to tour the town. The Students' Union executive team filmed a series of videos walking around Antigonish and explaining some of the "Antigofamous" places around town."
- **The U Cast:** Matt, and I have started a podcast called "The U Cast" where we have different guests from the University and The U, it is very fun and a chance to keep students updated on the U! It has been a ton of fun, we have had a new guest on every week, please reach out and let us know if you want to be on it!
- **Cultural Competency Training:** Thank you for Megan & Terena for doing the cultural competency training with the executive team. We talked a lot specifically about the issues BIPOC people face, as well as our own biases. We talked a lot about white fragility, and how to be a good ally. This is a continuing conversation that will never be done.
- **MacKinnon Hall Hiring:** We did another round of hiring for the House Presidents and Vice Presidents of MacNeil and Chillis, unfortunately these candidates did not take the jobs, however Jack is still working very hard to fill that position.
- **2SLGBTQIA Support Survey:** I have been working with Claydon to complete a survey for our 2SLGBTQIA+ students on campus to get a better idea of the issues they face, and how we can make the Students' Union and X a more inclusive place. Their suggestions will be implemented into the strategic plan to ensure that the Students' Union is continuously focusing on equity.
- **Student Information Sessions:** After the Province implemented the mandatory testing, there were a lot of questions from students, parents, and community members. We wanted to give everyone the opportunity to ask questions and explain all of the processes expected of students.
- **X-Ring Social Media promotion:** All students who are eligible for their X-Ring can now go get fitted for their rings! This is very exciting so as the chair of the X-Ring committee I helped with recording some promotional materials with one of the senior class co-presidents.
- **Positive Space Training:** Thank you Claydon for facilitating Positive Space Training for the executive team and council. Positive Space training focused on education surrounding the LGBT+ community as well as addressing how to be a better ally, and how to make the Students' Union more inclusive.

- **Student Food Drive U:** The past week and a half students' have been in isolation. Many students depend on the food bank, as well as having financial difficulties so we wanted to bring the food bank to them! We set up a form on our website where students could request food boxes and then we used Drive U to deliver them. We have a few more to go and then everyone is out of isolation!
- **Packing & Pizza:** One of my favourite X-Fest traditions is when O-Crew and the exec pack all of the X-Fest kits to go to the first years! Obviously, it looked a little bit different this year, but I am so happy we got to continue to do it!
- **Not Your Grandma's Bingo:** I had the amazing opportunity to co-host the first Not Your Grandma's bingo with Claydon! It was ton of fun and we had a huge uptake from first year students. X-Fest is off to a great start!
- **Meeting with Sean Fraser:** The executive team met with Sean Fraser to chat about economic recovery in Nova Scotia. We had an amazing conversation, specifically focusing on student retention and how to set students up for their life post-graduation. We chatted about affordable housing, work-integrated learning, and investment into co-op and entrepreneurship.

External (affairs):

- **SNS:**
 - **Annual Plan Conference:** Every year we do a conference to discuss the plan for the year, and what students want us to prioritize at the Provincial level. Our 3 priorities for advocacy this year will be; affordability through financial aid and investment in scholarship, work-integrated learning, and Open Educational Resources.
 - **Annual General Meeting:** Every year Students' Nova Scotia has an Annual General meeting to approve the budget, the financial audit, the annual plan, the yearly executive director report and the committee work plans. The audit came back fine, and all of the plans were approved! I am looking forward to a great year.
 - **Membership Committee:** We have been off to a great start on the membership committee! We put out our first stakeholder newsletter that was an introduction to the board and our priority themes. We are currently working on StudentsNS branded masks, I am very excited about that! Our committee work plan was approved so our 3 goals we are working on is work on a provincial Get Out the Vote, strengthen our relationship with stakeholders, and strengthen our social media presence.
 - **Policy Committee:** I have currently been working on a policy for student retention. I am looking at many different work-integrated learning programs and how that will help with getting students jobs post-graduation & getting jobs in their field!
- **CASA:**
 - **CASA Priority Themes Survey:** This year, we put out a survey to the students' union representative council so they could tell us what each of their constituents wants to see us advocate at the federal level. I just want to thank each counsellor who took the time to chat with their constituents and fill those out!
 - **Membership Committee:** I am on the Membership Committee with CASA as well this year, a few of our goals this year is prioritizing social media to get a greater reach, integrating College and Grad students, and virtual bonding with the delegation.
 - **Governance & Internal Review Committee:** I am on the GIRC committee! We have only met once so far, but a large majority of the work we will be doing this year will be the CASA Strategic plan.

Committees:

- **X-Ring Committee:** Currently in the X-Ring committee we are looking at updating the X-Ring policy, this is looking at who is eligible, what the appeal process looks like, and the contingency of the X-Ring ceremony/honorary X-Ring. The policy is a majority of the committees work but we are also looking at new post-grad and master's programs offered at StFX that need to be looked at in terms of eligibility. We are continuing to work on the policy. We found a discrepancy between the many different grad student programs, and how they receive their X-Ring. The senior class co-presidents and I have decided to team up with the Grad Student Representative and Education Representative to create a focus group to learn more insight to what the best way for Grad/bED students to receive their X-Ring.
 - **Organizational Review Committee:** Org Review has been meeting diligently to try to create the Students' Union Strategic Plan 2021-2024. We are doing a number of surveys to try to find deeper issues of inequity and how we can combat them going forward.
 - **StFX Respectful Community Module Working Group:** We completed the project! The Province has completed their end and we have successfully integrated it into the orientation schedule. The last few steps we had to do is record the introduction video, upload it to moodle, and have Heather walk through the module with the first years.
 - **Communication Task Force:** has been working hard on a number of different projects, the objective for everyone is to communicate the announcements, COVID-19 updates, and new regulations.
 - **Board of Governors:** We had many Board of Governors meetings this month, a majority of the meetings revolved around the decision to reopen in the fall. The board was very thorough in asking questions and making suggestions for the reopening plan, and ultimately felt confident to vote 'yes' for the University's decision to return to campus in September.
 - **Virtual Student Service and Support:** This committee has been meeting bi-weekly and essentially has a representative from every stream in the University and what they have been doing to support students during this time. Many students go to whoever they are most comfortable with and will ask them questions, so we wanted to make sure that we are all updated on each other's offices to ensure we are sending students the right information, and to the correct sources!
 - **StFX and Stakeholders COVID plan:** We have created an ad-hoc committee of all of the stakeholders in the town, to plan and discuss any challenges that come from COVID. This is made up of town representatives, landlords, the RCMP, the students' union, and the administration.
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If anyone has any questions, please feel free to email me or schedule a meeting!

Sarah Elliott, President & CEO

su_pres@stfx.ca

C: 905-767-0592

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, Saint Mary's, and NSCC Campuses. 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, Clancy McDaniel 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/>

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

Date: Wednesday September 9, 2020

Internal:

- I. Attended StudentsNS Annual Plan Conference.
- II. Attended StudentsNS Annual General Meeting.
- III. Participated in a meeting with the Department of Health and Wellness, Labour and Advanced Education and Dr. Robert Strange.
 - A. Topics of conversation included Covid-19 protocols update and return to campus outlook.
- IV. Met with DM Montgomerie and staffers from Labour and Advanced Education on return to campus protocols.
- V. Participated in the StFX site visit with Dr. Lisa Barrett nasopharyngeal (NP) Covid-19 testing project lead and infectious disease specialist, research staff and StFX staff and administration, to roll out NP testing initiative.
- VI. Attended OER student campaign meeting with SNS executive director and CAUL.
- VII. StudentNS Board Meeting.
- VIII. Met and updated the Antigonish Police and License Committee.
- IX. Met with MP Sean Fraser (Central Nova) to discuss this upcoming year and economic recovery in Nova Scotia.
- X. Appointed to the Graduate Advisory Group (GAG) Committee for CASA.

External:

- I. Attended and completed Cultural Competency training.
- II. Worked with marketing team and external stakeholders to film a segment of the welcome to Antigonish Video.
- III. Attended and completed positive space training.
- IV. Delivered a presentation to the SUCLs as part of their training week.

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. Focus group to begin primary development of advocacy guide for times of crisis.
 - A. Topics included:
 - B. Advocacy done differently: How to advocate effectively in an online environment.
 - C. Online advocacy campaigns.
 - D. Online meeting platform etiquette.

- E. Staying healthy, focused and fighting online fatigue.

Policy Committee (SNS).

- I. Current assignment to develop a policy position on Post-Secondary Accessibility.
- II. Continued work surrounding policy updates.

Governance Committee (SNS).

- I. Reviewed SNS operation policy, abuse policy, and social media policy.
- II. Edited and updated above policies.
- III. Committee will vote to approve updated and amended policies next meeting.

Organizational Review Committee.

- I. In the process of developing first generation PSE student survey.
- II. Met with Terena Francis to discuss a survey for Indigenous students.
 - A. Terena informed me that there is already a survey being constructed and she advised me to forgo another survey as it can cause trauma for students.
 - B. I will be active in participating with Terena in the current survey.

Federal Policy Committee (CASA).

- I. Currently developing policy updates on affordability, and pre-post-secondary outreach and intervention.
- II. Recording secretary and member resigned from committee, will hold re-election next CASA delegate meeting.

Sub-Executive:

- I. Safely returned to Antigonish.

Outreach:

- I. Consultation with SRC on CASAs priority themes in the form of a survey.

Executive Report: Jack Irvin, Vice President of Residence Affairs

Date: August 7th

Reporting Period: August 6th – September 9th

Jack was granted an extension on this report because his portfolio has required him to be focusing on orientation week. The report will delivered orally at the Council meeting and will be sent to Council by Wednesday, September 16th.

Executive Report: Kielan Pilgrim, Vice President of Activities and Events

Date: August 7th

Reporting Period: August 6th – September 9th

Kielan was granted an extension on this report because his portfolio has required him to be focusing on orientation week. The report will delivered orally at the Council meeting and will be sent to Council by Wednesday, September 16th.

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

Date: August 7th

Reporting Period: August 6th – September 9th

Patrick was granted an extension on this report because his portfolio has required him to be focusing on the Student Food Resource Centre care kits. The report will delivered orally at the Council meeting and will be sent to Council by Wednesday, September 16th.

Appendix A – Missing Reports

Alex Clow – Arts Representative

Daniel Winters – Science Representative

Siobhan Lacey – Vice President Academic (Her report was completed but due to technical difficulties it was not included in this package. It will be sent to Council separately.)