



The Students' Representative Council
Le Conseil Représentatif des Étudiants
Students' Union of St. Thomas University, Inc.

14th Meeting of the 44nd SRC
 7:00pm, Thursday, February 15th, 2018
 HCH, Room 5

Attendance Record

Position	Name	Present	Regrets	Absent
President	Philippe Ferland		X	
Vice President Administration	Matthew LeBlanc		X	
Vice President Education	Brianna Workman	X		
Vice President Student Life	Jimmy Beltran	X		
Harrington Hall Representative	Avery Wells	X		
Vanier Hall Representative	Beverley Pownall	X		
Holy Cross House Representative	Hailey Frenette		X	
Chatham Hall Representative	Gabby Kennedy		X	
Off-Campus Representative	Taylor Barrett		X	
Off-Campus Representative	Nicole Gonzalez	X		
Social Inclusion Representative	Rebecca Kingston	X		
Sexuality & Gender Diversity Representative	Olivier Hébert	X		
Indigenous Representative	Alexa Metallic	X		
Member at Large Representative	Robyn Metcalfe		X	
Member at Large Representative	Nicholas Decarie	X		
Member at Large Representative	Sean Kenney	X		
International Student Representative	Wasiimah Joomun	X		
Grad Class President	Leeanne Doxtator		X	
First Year Residence Representative	Dane Rose			X

Staff Present: Rachel Barry (Chair), and Recording Secretary (Laura Robinson).



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AQ Representatives: Sarah Betts.

Guests Present: Brianna Matchett.

Call to Order and Quorum Call

Meeting was called to order by Rachel Barry at 7:03 pm
Quorum is met with 10 voting members present.

1. Approval of Agenda

The agenda was presented to council.
The agenda was accepted as presented.

2. Approval of the Minutes

Minutes are approved as distributed as there were no changes to be made.

3. Business Arising from the Minutes

3.1. Funding Campus Ministry

Rachel Barry: Where we left off last week was looking at whether or not we would fund a campus ministry trip to the Dominican Republic. We were discussing the motion, that was made to give to Campus Ministry 1500\$ from Academic Assistance. Are we all clear where we are? I guess Avery wasn't here but you read the minutes. Does anyone have any questions about what transpired last meeting that you would like clarification on? No? If not we will jump into debate...

Jimmy Beltran: Well... What happened?

Rachel Barry: Basically what happened was the motion was presented and we were having discussion, however, we ended the discussion last week because we were losing quorum.

Quorum changed to 11

Sean Kenney: So I understand last time there was a bit of confusion because umm... it wasn't exactly explained, I guess, very well by me. So basically, what this is, is, we are going the Dominican Republic and it is a humanitarian education trip and that is where I mixed up the words in there a little bit and we are basically going to ummm... learn... learn about ummm... people in the Dominican Republic and about where our coffee comes from, we are looking at where basically at our back door is poverty, I mean this is in the Dominican Republic is not on the other side of the ummm world, it is right there, we are going to learn about the way of life there and kind of see... a third world country and kind of learn from it and be thankful for what we have here in Canada. So ... We are going to right here, in Ba...Ba de... you see, and I believe it is pronounced, you see. This is where coffee comes from, this is where sugar comes from it is not the other side of the world it is four hours away it is two back to back movies away in length I guess you would say in that sense to get there.

60% of the population of the Dominican Republic lives below the poverty line and the most vulnerable are women and children. The percentage of children not even registered, that is do not have a birth certificate, is between 12% and 17%. This year, 2006, obviously this is an old slide, up to 26%. These children do not exist they are taken away to sex traffic and sell drugs without anyone ever knowing.



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So basically year, we are going to kind of get an understanding for how life in there and I think to kind of understand how this is so close it is only 4 hours away. We are just going to kind of learn umm... and to understand ummm... what is going on there and to learn ourselves ummm... and to be better, I guess it might help us to be better, more understanding humans and also to kind of learn in a sense of history of there and what is made there and what we use on an everyday basis. When we think of coffee and we think of that, we peacefully go into the grocery store to get it but the uhhh what do you call it the uhhh the way it is gathered and the dangers and way stuff is happening for us to have our morning coffee.

So basically yeah, we are going to get some knowledge and to learn and to come back with knowledge to make sure that people see first-hand... To be honest and I am not trying to be rude, when I thought of the Dominican Republic when I was younger, I didn't think it was only four hours away I thought it was all the way over there. So the most important thing is to learn umm... you know what people are going through so close. You know we have poverty and homelessness but yeah the basic thing is to go over and understand and help out with people with their daily duties they are doing over there and to understand how lucky we are here and to bring that back with us to better humans and to be better students on campus and better human beings over all I think.

Question from Olivier Hébert: Thank you for your presentation and I appreciate the information that you included in it, however, my concern and question is how is you going to this country witnessing is going to have any significant impact on the people who are going to be observing? Basically, how... How is your presence going to have any impact, other than your benefit?

Answer from Sean Kenney: You mean by us going over and watching them? So basically we are actually going to be going over and helping in a way that you know, our currency is actually worth quite a bit more... uhhh what we are going to be doing is going to the places they have... the bean fields with the coffee and the sugar and we will be going for... ummm... we'll be going for ummm... tours and things like that. Part of the money we are looking for is to give to the people who are taking the time out of their work day and our money to them will definitely a bonus you know to them.

I think the main thing is, if we go over there, especially me, if you see how hard they work... how... they are... year, how hard they work to just make ends meet it will make us better people and more compassionate towards the less fortunate I guess. In the sense of the question-

Rachel Barry: Sean, just as a point of order, I am going to ask that any questions, they are normally pretty short questions, I am going to ask you to keep the answers under a minute. That goes for everyone, okay?

Question from Nicholas Decarie: Not sure where to start: Ummm... as it stands you are going to the Dominican Republic-

Rachel Barry: Also, sorry, one more point of order, please try not to address people directly especially when we are having these more serious debates just because it takes the tension out of it.

Nicholas Decarie: Madam Chair, If I understand it, if we are using student money to pay for a trip for, as we were last told, 6 students to go for a non-credited trip to the Dominican Republic, to a tourist destination I might add, that is significantly better off than its poorer neighbour Haiti. The way I just heard it from the presenter, they would be paying people to explain how they harvest coffee and other cash crops. I have a hard time seeing the educational value, especially as you can google this. And in a number... I see it so problematic especially as it is being problematic, especially when asking for such a large sum of money is being used for the education for 6 people in a non-credited program when there will be no tangible benefits to the people in the Dominican Republic given that they likely also do this for many, many, foreigners.

Question from Rebecca Kingston: I am just wondering if there is any sort of reflection or like paper, or anything that will have to be done for academic credit or like at the end of the trip or any sort of like academic value that you could like earn from going and what that could look like?



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Answer from Sean Kenney: If that is what they want, yeah sure, we can do that. I think uhhh, like I said it is not ummm, we are trying to, especially where the union is involved, we kind of changed the wording that I used last time. It was not correct.

It is not a mission trip, we are going over. It is a learning experience and uhhh we are going to be helping out at the places we will be visited and also we will... yeah we will be he be helping out at the places we will be visiting. Also, we will be going over and seeing the process... we will not... Where we will be housed in downtown, it is not in a... We are not in a resort, he has friends who are from there and we will be staying and we will be focusing on the life of more of the lower-class, middle class. We will not be at a resort we will not be swimming or things like that.

Question from Rebecca Kingston: I don't think I said that very well, is it mandated by... who is taking you? The pastor?

Answer from Sean Kenney: It is umm it is done... this event is through the campus ministry.

Question from Rebecca Kingston: Okay, so is campus ministry mandating you to do any sort of academic reflection upon your time in the Dominican Republic?

Answer from Sean Kenney: No they have done this now I think... for... 5 years, but what I can do is I can definitely- because I think that is definitely important. Because especially when you are giving money that is important. Like when you donate to, I don't know, a political organization or something they will usually send you like a letter or something to see where your money is going. I don't know. So I think it is important that you guys should know that your money is going to good so if you guys want to set up that we sit down and have an actual essay or whatever written- then fine.

Comment from Brianna Matchett: Hello, I'm not normally at council, but I'm here. Firstly, my concern is that this trip does not seem to be very academic. I know the academic assistance line is meant to be reserved for trips for students going and presenting at academic conferences or courses and it has been used for travel in the past. For example, at the end of my 3rd year, I actually got academic assistance to do a travel study. This travel study wasn't like I was going abroad for a long time, it was only 10 days, but in the lead up to the trip I had to attend webinars, buy a text book and write continuous reflections. Upon returning from the trip I turned it into an independent study and wrote a paper for a professor here as well.

To me this seems more academic because I was learning about the Holocaust, then I went to visit Holocaust memorial sites and then I had to do actual academic work on these issues.

To me this seems like a misappropriation of this money. There seems to be other lines in the budget where this could come from.

For example, you mentioned improving the lives of people in these countries, well, to me, that seems to be more of a charitable assistance. If it is a school group that is going, it seems to be more of a club and society. I think one way to mitigate this issue is it is really easy to create a club and society. I have done it multiple times. You write a constitution and get it approved by governance. So if money is going to be given it should be coming from that line and there is an easy way for this group to get what they want without saying it is academic when it doesn't have the same kind of academic rigor that other things might.

And if we spend so much money on these 6 particular students to do something non-academic then it is taking away from other students who might attend conferences or do other things that will improve their academic future.

Comment from Brianna Workman: To speak to a couple of the points that have already been raised, I would say as well, as I have mentioned a few times, I sit on the provincial committee for experiential learning and a bulk of that work has been talking about the definition of experiential learning. And actually, it is necessary to have that reflective component whether it is via an essay or whatever that may be. In order for something to be determined experiential learning that related to a degree, it needs to have that. I would reiterate and support those comments that have already been mentioned.

I would also say that it is not for the STUSU's benefit but for the students who are going. In order for you to actually do experiential learning of any kind, that is required for yourself. I would give an example, this summer I



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did an internship at the executive council office and I am studying communications but I didn't have any goal setting or reflective component so by a lot of standards it actually wouldn't be considered an internship, it would be considered straight up employment.

So it is not for the STUSU to see where our money is going, it is for the students to have an experience and I think that needs to be a part of it before we give money as well.

Nicholas Decarie: So, uh, just another question about, Madam chair, about how is the poverty of the Dominican Republic being framed? Because it sounds a lot like, oh, these poor unfortunate people, but part of an educational trip to a country where poverty is a rampant or for a significant part of the population needs to be understood in its context, I don't claim to be an expert in the Caribbean or Latin America but I have taken courses related that subject. There is a long history of classism, racial... uhh, discrimination, colonialism and other such factors and I just want to make sure that this is not... these people are poor, but without context. Ummm I would ask the asking party, what kind of context is given or do you have any idea about how the trip is being framed if it is being focused on poverty and what kind of explanation do you have?

Answer from Sean Kenny: Now I am going to answer a few questions

First, there is not 6 people, it is 10 people.

Second of all, clubs and Societies is where we *asked* for the money initially, and I believe Phil and Matt said we wouldn't take it from that. We had more money and it would be more... uhh... just easier that that they would take it out of academic assistance I think. So originally it was worked out we would take it out of clubs and we had the numbers and everything of what would be left.

And number 3 they are working on it now but they are just finishing it up because it changes every year. But we have the schedule, not hour but hour but day by day that says exactly what we are doing for the five days we are there. Which I can forward to you. Ummm. Yeah.

Question from Rebecca Kingston: For comparison, the money we gave this year to other programs, academically:

The way it is broken down, I did it for 6... how many did you say? Okay, 10 people, so it is 150\$ per student.

We gave 100 per student for Moot Court and 75 for Global Brigades,

Which makes, if we high and low ball those numbers you gave me, it would go from 750 to 1000 instead of your 1500.

Answer from Sean Kenny: This amount, was... I guess I should have done what most people did and start at 2\$ and just kind of work up. I mean, we don't have to sit here and argue about that amount, like I said, it is just a donation from the STUSU and if we want to drop it that's fine. But yeah, like I said, Moot Court gets 100\$ per student and things like that. Campus ministry does a lot at STU as well. As well as other groups do... Alright yeah so. Yeah so that's what I had to say.

Wasiimah Joomun: So I kind of forgot, when is the trip exactly and if the trip is later, is there a possibility that we can have this discussion after all the plans of what is going to be done there and incorporating a reflection part is brought to council? Then we can motion for the money?

Comment from Brianna Workman: If this is not a time pressing issue we can table it again, if you want to table it pending seeing the schedule and pending seeing an academic piece that is certainly possible for council to be, unless there is time sensitivity. That would certainly then be a question directed to the member opposite.

Just speaking to some of the groups that have received funding as the social inclusion rep has cited, moot court for example, moot court students also contribute 250 dollars themselves to the program. So how much are the students contributing themselves, if any, and what are other sources of funding or fundraising that is being done?



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Answer from Sean Kenny: So first off, ummm... We are looking at 900\$ per student for this that we are going to have to get ourselves. Timing is to get the tickets now. He is buying the tickets now himself privately and we are paying back the money I think it is a week before we leave. He is buying the tickets I think it is this week because we had a meeting last Thursday... And also we are doing fundraising from groups that have supported in the past, like some of the executives from St. Thomas, Dawn Russell donates and we have charities and the city that...

Comment from Brianna Matchett: I also just want to raise a concern that it does worry me to give money to one particular religious group from one particular denomination the same way giving money to one particular political party worries me because this is money collected from all students. I think it is different to give it to a special interest group but someone going on a trip with a particular religious mandate seems to go against some of the values, or not necessarily values, but, I just think it creates almost a slippery slope if we- or if you guys create an exception of one particular trip that this could continue to happen and I think it could create a problem going forward for the union.

Comment Olivier Hébert: I don't have a problem with students wanting to travel, I think that is something that is encourage-able. But I think the point of STUSU, as many people have said, is the educational purpose and I think, at the end of the day the ideals that this type of trip is coming from are perhaps not ones that the STUSU should not be financially investing in.

This sounds like a wonderful trip but it sounds much more like a vacation that is going to include elements of tourism that are educational- which any great trip is. So I don't think there is necessarily that connection there. Furthermore, as Nick was referencing about the historical context: white people have for a very, very, long time watched brown people and ogled at them and seen them as other. I think that we need to be very careful about what kinds of initiatives we support with regards to that because as a primarily white council, we need to be very aware of how our decisions and actions can have repercussions on people of colour on campus here and in the wider community

Comment from Nicole Gonzalez: I am going off what Olivier said: It just doesn't seem that it is an actual *humanitarian* trip. I am from Cuba, and it is close by and what I know from people who live in these countries and from poor areas is that it is not pleasant to have these people come from another country that is known to be well and they are taking tours and they are not really learning what the real struggle *is*. Because there is a difference what people show you. Because they are going to make it pretty and they are going to show you the benefits of it- they are not going to show you their houses or they are not going to show you that they don't have water or that they don't have food. They are not going to show that to you. So there is no...

I don't see the benefit of it. From what you have told us, you are not actually going to help them with anything! You are not going to help them in their coffee production you are not going to actually donate money to them. And also what Brianna said with the religion too, some of those countries may have a different religion from you and it might depend on how it goes by and I totally agree that if we do this for one particular group others might not be happy with it and some of the money we give could be iffy.

Answer from Sean Kenny: So, first off, campus ministry is open to *anyone*, there is no specific religion. If somebody is an atheist and wants to go on this trip, that is completely fine. They have completely said that anyone who is wanting to go on this trip, it is simply about a humanitarian trip. There is, as you know, Vivian and they have always had open doors and I have been to meetings - it is not Christian based, it is not- there are people from all parts of the spectrum. Also, are you, I, I know the girl that is coming back to go on our trip as well, what was, sorry, I guess I gotta, what was, Jimmy and Robyn are going to...?

Rachel Barry: Global Brigades.



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Answer from Sean Kenny: Global Brigades. So what is that *that* entail and is Jimmy getting funding from STUSU for that?

Jimmy Beltran: It is a non-profit organization it is non-deionizational and yeah we got funding from STUSU.

Nicholas: If this has been a constant thing as you said, I believe you mentioned they have been doing this for like 3, 5 years on a regular basis. I have been sitting on council for like 3, 4 years now, why is this the first time this is coming up for us with funding you know, if previous students have been able to pay for this. Secondly, it being organized by a religious minister, a person of the faith who ministers the faith, I'll go ahead and say I'm an atheist and say wouldn't feel comfortable going on a trip organized by campus ministry being led by a priest. I would feel very unwelcome but I am aware that the ethos of the campus ministry is of inclusivity and that on the surface it is very open towards atheist and non-believers but that still doesn't translate on the ground and that is an important thing to know. Madam Chair if the asking party could answer the question as to why they are asking for funding now as they have not in the past?

Answer from Sean Kenny: They said in the past years that they had talked about it but they knew that the council would not support this so I took it on myself and said that I believed that ummm, there is a lot of other non-profit organizations and there is a lot of other campus groups. People that who are doing good things. And I said that I thought the group in there would be understanding and would see that we don't need the funding we can get the funding yes, but it is important for the STU students who are going on this trip to know *at least* that the union will listen proposition and know their student's union is behind them on this. And that is why I took it on and I wanted to present it ... uhhh and either way if I don't get the funding or not it is not a problem I just thought they would appreciate the fact that I at least tried.

Comment from Brianna Workman: I just want to speak to an earlier point raised about why this money is not coming out of clubs and societies. It is true that it was mentioned that there is more money in academic assistance, just for context for council, there is about 4100 dollars in academic assistance and 1700 in club, however, this trip does not qualify to access money from clubs and societies because they are not a ratified club or society at this time. So I cannot speak to the conversation that member opposite had with the Vice President Administration, however, that would be part of the reason, in addition to, yes, there is more money in academic assistance, but this trip does not qualify to access clubs and societies funding.

Wasiimah Joomun: Can we table this for when, if we are taking this from Academic, what I got is that we need to have like a reflection piece of it. So if the opposite side needs to incorporate that in the trip and actually come back and have a presentation to show how they learn about stuff from their trip, then if they bring uhh and competent of it and how they will spend their trip there we can motion to table it for next week.

Brianna Workman: I just spoke to how it does not currently qualify for clubs and societies and council may feel that, and I currently believe from my position that it does not qualify for academic assistance either because there is not an academic component tied to it then tabling would certainly be an option.

Question from Sean Kenny: In the sense of... of getting more information and stuff behind it. People people who are involved in the scheduling and who have done it for years, I asked if they were able to come in and explain it a lot, like 10 times better than me, but due to the, I guess Roberts Rules, or a guess whatever the rules are, that the person has to be a student, umm or a part of the student's union so the person who would be in charge of the trip and would be able to explain it to the T is not able to come in an explain it to you guys. So I don't know how it is going to be able to get any better than what I presented to you guys.

Rachel Barry: Just a point on Sean's comment, the reason that people are not allowed to come in, is that per the By-Laws, only students may speak at council And presentations we have had at council have been information from organizations we are affiliated with, whereas this would be, for lack of a better word, direct lobbying of an



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organization during a meeting. My thought earlier today was this would be like the NRA come on to the congress floor.

Olivier Hébert: That is pretty extreme, 'aight.

Rachel Barry: But it would be direct lobbying portion and that is the reason how I interpret the bylaws and why I see they are in place.

Beverley Pownall moves to table this motion to give Campus Ministry 1500\$ from Academic Assistance until there is an academic portion to discuss.
Seconded by Wasimah Joomun.

Initially there is 9 in favor and 2 against.

Rachel Barry: You should abstain Sean, not object,

Sean Kenny: I'm rejecting it. Not abstaining

Rachel Barry: It is because it is a conflict of interest for you, you have to abstain.

Sean Kenny: I abstain then.

Rachel Barry: Are you going on the trip as well Jimmy?

Jimmy Beltran: I don't know yet. Should I just...?

Rachel Barry: I think you should abstain too because it is a conflict as well.

The motion passes with
2 abstentions
1 against
7 in favor

Quorum changed to 10, (Sean Kenney left)

4. Executive Reports

4.1 President's Report –Philippe Ferland:

No report available.

4.2 Vice-President of Administration's Report – Matt LeBlanc:

No report available.

3. Vice President of Education's Report – Brianna Workman:

We had a senate meeting today which was interesting. The president spoke a little bit to what has been happening with the MOU but nothing I haven't discussed here before.

There was a budget development document circulated to senate which is a preliminary document before the university enters into discussions about the upcoming budget. I will also just flag for all of you that March 22nd at 4 pm in BMH 101, there is a budget town hall, usually there not many students who attend town hall and it is the university's way of gathering student feedback. Tuition fees do make up 50% of the revenue for STU's budget. It is in the student notice and we are trying to promote it through social media.

We approved one new Criminology course and 2 new Journalism Courses.



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We also approved a new Part Time Teaching Award. Every year at convocation STU recognizes professors for their contributions to the community. It was lost after the last round of collective bargaining but we have brought it back. It will have 1500\$ attached to it which is the same as the other teaching words. The most exciting thing that happened and the AQ is on the ball and already has a story up about it, is that STU approved a Fall Reading Week! It is the same as UNB's. UNB's was in direct response to UNB's advocacy to students needing a break for mental health purposes. The break is November 5th to 9th. It will be the first time STU will have that.

I met with STUISA yesterday and it was a great meeting. I will let Wasiimah speak to it more in her report. But basically part of the advocacy policy we passed in October is that the VPED is supposed to meet with the international rep on council and STUSIA by February to consult on the section of the policy that matters specifically to international students. I got some great ideas for advocacy for my successor and president next year.

I have been working with Nicole and Taylor on the Housing Fair next Tuesday which Nicole will touch on.

I have been working with CASA on the National Advocacy Committee. There will be 3 national letter writing campaigns for next year's CASA membership, we are picking the topics. There are great topics thrown around so we are narrowing them down.

CASA released a policy paper on financial aid and financial barriers to post-secondary education. Our last policy paper was released in January and it was on mental health and it got a lot of great attention.

Federal budget will be dropping on February 27th so we will see what successes CASA had.

I have a meeting with Carrie, Brock, and Andrea Lopez for the plaque for the Hall of Flags.

I met with a student intern from David Coon's office to discuss restructuring David Coon's Student Roundtable. They want to change to quarterly meetings instead of monthly and hold them on campus instead to open it up and make them less difficult for students. It would be a much better format and I am excited to see it come into fruition next year.

4. Vice-President of Student Life's Report – Jimmy Beltran:

The Sexual Assault Prevention Committee in partnership with FASAC has trained over 80 students in sexual assault prevention. We are hoping to have our last training in March. We'll see how it goes.

We released a video on Healthy Relationships and will release a longer version next week or the next one. The guy who helped us was Bishop, he is a former STUdent and I think he did a great job.

We had a jobs fair February 6th where we partnered with STU employment and it was a great success we have over 200 students attending and 13 employers. Trish was approached Scott Dugay to present the fair to the Board of Governors and it is the first time her office is being recognized in this way so I am very happy for Trish.

We have 3 activities for mental health, on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday.

Tuesday we have a salsa instructor coming to teach. I love to salsa so I am excited.

Wednesday we have an art show we have this company in NB who teaches students to paint. They bring canvases that help students paint and it sounds pretty cool.

Thursday, we have a yoga night in the O'Keefe.

The ACA Volleyball is next weekend, the board members asked me to share this information with you. It is February 23-25th, most games are in the Lady Beaverbrook gym and students are free to enter and each day



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you go you get a free entry into a draw for things like Nintendo Switch, Play Station, iPad, stuff like that. So if you can share that information with your respective communities and residences.

Olivier Hébert: I just wanted to say good job on the video and I am excited to see the rest. I really liked what I saw and I liked the diversity of the voices.

5. Employee Updates

No employee report available.

6. Representative Reports

6.1 Harrington Hall

Nothing to report.

6.2 Vanier Hall

It was a sad week in Vanier. We lost our secretary treasurer, she is not dead, she resigned for personal reasons. We tried to have elections but nobody wanted to run.

6.3 Holy Cross House

No report available.

6.4 Chatham Hall

No report available.

6.5 Off-Campus (Nicole Gonzalez)

We have the housing fair on Tuesday from 11-2pm, we are going to have landlords and the Tribunal come in for students with food.

Brianna Workman: We have four confirmed landlords coming, they are who own a majority of the buildings on the South side, Killam, Colepits, Gorham, and Considerate Properties Management. We also have 2 people coming from the Tribunal, which is an important part of this event we want students to get information about where they can live but we also want them to get information about how they can, just tips and tricks because students are renting for the first time, so things they should know before they sign a lease.

Members from STUISA and the OC committee are going to be there as well to speak to living off campus and how to get involved in OC. There will also be cookies and hot chocolate, so come on by.

Comment from Nicholas Decarie: As somebody who has gone through the tribunal before I highly recommend going and listening to them so you don't have to end up in a situation like I did, in the AQ.

Question from Olivier Hébert: Is there an online event to share?

Brianna Workman: Yes, we shared it recently. For the house reps in the room, pick up your posters from the Help Desk!

6.6 Social Inclusion Representative (Rebecca Kingston)

As I mentioned last week, Scott Dugay, Phil, and now me, we are putting on a Post-Secondary Education Partnership-Alcohol Harms (PEPAH) Conference. It is our national board to eliminate harms against alcohol. I



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emailed Jeffrey Carleton because we need a faculty member on board and Phil suggested I just go talk to my faculty but I am only in 2 faculties exclusively and they are very small but there are many big faculties out there with professors who want to do things. So Jeffery will be sending them an email.

I am just waiting for the keep it social posters to come in, they did not come in as fast as the can covers.

6.7 Sexuality & Gender Diversity Representative (Olivier Hébert)

Not too much happening this week. Q&A has a need meeting time, Tuesday, 5:30-6:30, I think. This past weekend was the second annual Pink Lobster film festival. Which is an LGBTQIA+ I attended one of the nights. They bring films from all over the world, it was powerful, funny. People were sobbing. I highly recommend, you will learn so much.

6.8 Indigenous Representative (Alexa Metallic)

Nothing to report. We did not meet.

6.9 At-Large Representative (Robyn Metcalfe/Nicholas Decarie/Sean Kenney)

Nicholas Decarie: We had a meeting last Friday, it was well attended, I was surprised, I would not have attended if I was not running it. Because I am a lazy councillor. However, it went well.

However, a problem I encountered was, the last time I held a meeting in the OC lounge at 2:30 on Friday it was quiet. But this time, the problem was that I couldn't hear most people. The OC lounge is notoriously loud this year. So can I use your offices next time?

As per the content of the meeting, we had a lot of cool ideas come up, for the elections, ideas were brought up to boost engagement with the STUSU. Such as, including more information on what the roles do. It is not clear unless you go to the website and read the constitution. It might be easier to get students involved if they know what they are signing up for.

Often, a lot of candidates start in the election because they know somehow who is already on council and they push them into it. That is how I came to be on council, I went to a political science society meeting and I was talked into running on a whim and that's how I am sitting here now.

There the idea for having a mixer with candidates running as most students wake up to campus and their FB full of election vote for me posters. That might bridge information gaps as most students are ill-informed about what the union actually does.

Some suggestions were similar and I will send them along to the execs later.

Apparently there is a suggestion box still in use at the help desk but nobody knows it is there. So a suggestion came up of reintroducing it to get more accurate feedback. Most emphasis on the meeting was placed on the election and getting more students engaged.

Comment from Brianna Matchett: The problem with the suggestion box is that there is no key to the box and there is a lock on it. I was on council for 3 years and nobody has a key. Somebody could have given suggestions, but we have no way to know. So we need to cut the lock off of it.

Brianna Workman: Just for the stuff on the elections, I would encourage you to reach out to Phil and or Erickson. Especially because nominations began on Wednesday and run until next Thursday. About the office space, you can use it, but I find students find it easier to meet on campus so you can book a class room, but you are welcome to use our office.

Comment from Olivier Hébert: Since it is 2:30 on a Friday all classes are done we can walk into any old room and plop our asses down.



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6.10 International Student Representative (Wasiimah Joomun)

We went over the STUSU advocacy policy under matters specific to international students to discuss what we think is right and what we think can be changed. The first thing that was brought up is having somebody from STUISA or international student rep attend the budgeting committee with the VP Admin when they are discussing tuition increase because international students are affected by this and they need to know how it is being increased. Brianna said she will talk to VP Admin about this.

We talked about some type of services, in the advocacy policy thing, it says that types of services. So we delved into ID, addresses, and having spaces to store our things when we leave for break. If we want a specific amendment or policy to be made, Brianna said she could do that.

On behalf of the whole STUISA executive board they say that meeting with Brianna was really helpful.

Concerning the sleigh ride on Monday, we have 30 international and domestic students registered. We extended the deadline until tomorrow at 2pm, so if there is an interested student, send them to Sarah at ResLife and they just need 10\$.

6.8 First Year Residence Representative (Dane Rose)

No report available.

7. New Business

No new business.

8. Questions, Announcements and Notices

Brianna Workman: there was an announcement this week at NBCC about the SEED program. It has been open for applications for a few weeks now but this was the official launch. The government placed an additional 4 million dollars into the program, meaning that there are more placements and the placement can be extended for 14 weeks instead of 8-10 weeks. This is good for university students so we don't need to maybe get a 2nd job. I just wanted to let you folks know and to encourage you to apply.

Question from Nicholas Decarie: When do we find out about vouchers?

Answer from Brianna Workman: The draw is April 13th this year.

Avery: I just want to ask the other house reps to ask their RCs to confirm their time for Washburn, thank you.

9. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:06.

Submission:

The minutes were respectfully submitted to the Vice-President of Administration on Saturday, February, 17th, 2018.

Laura Robinson

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Recording Secretary

STUSU Student Representative Council



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