**8th Meeting of the 50th SRC**

**Date: Friday, December 1st 2023**

**Location: Holy Cross House, Room 5**

1. **Call to Order**

Elizabeth Namit, the Chair of the SRC called the meeting to order on Dec 1st, 2023 at 3:34pm.

1. **Land Acknowledgement**

St. Thomas University Students’ Union recognizes and respectfully acknowledges that it carries out its work on the traditional unceded territories of the Wolastoqiyik, and Mi’kmaq peoples. This territory is covered by the “Treaties of Peace and Friendship” which these nations first signed with the British Crown in 1726. The treaties did not deal with the surrender of territories, but in fact recognized Mi’kmaq and Wolastoqiyik titles and established the rules for what was to be an ongoing relationship between nations. STUSU members and staff pay respect to the elders, past and present, and descendants of this land.

1. **Roll call**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Position | Name | Present | Regrets | Absent |
| President | Stevie DeMerchant |  |  |  |
| Vice President Administration | Ahmik Burneo |  |  |  |
| Vice President Education | Emily Boucher |  |  |  |
| Vice President Student Life | Isabella Baralt |  |  |  |
| Indigenous Representative | Tanner J Augustine |  |  |  |
| International Student Representative | Ana Lucía Pavón |  |  |  |
| At Large Representatives (2) | Lauren Hayes |  |  |  |
| Off campus Representatives (2) | Emma Craib  Taylor Armstrong |  |  |  |
| Sexuality & Gender Diversity Representative | Emmanuelle Jackson |  |  |  |
| First Year Representative | Aidan Steeves |  |  |  |
| Harrington Representative | - |  |  |  |
| Vanier Representative | Fae Swinamer |  |  |  |
| Holy Cross Representative | - |  |  |  |
| Social Inclusion Representative | Colby Beers |  |  |  |
| Grad Class President | Lindsay Graham |  |  |  |

Quorum has been met 9/12.

1. **Review of the Minutes.**

**[4.1.] BIRT** the Board approve the minutes of the 7th Meeting of the 50th SRC as presented.

**Moved by:** VP Student Life

**Seconded by:** VP Administration

**Motion** CARRIES

1. **Review of Agenda**

**[5.1] BIRT** the Board approves to amend the agenda as presented to include “Item 10.2: Resignation of Representative.”

**Moved by:** President

**Seconded by:** VP Administration

**Motion:** CARRIES

**[5.2] BIRT** the Board adopt the agenda as amended.

**Moved by**: VP Administration

**Seconded by:** VP Student Life

**Motion:** CARRIES

1. **Unfinished Business.**

No unfinished business.

1. **Executive Reports.**

*Executives provided verbal report followed by a written one.*

* 1. **President report – Stevie DeMerchant**
* Canadian Alliance of Student Associations Advocacy Week: During the week of November 19th- 25th the Canadian Alliance of Student Associations held their annual advocacy week. 22 schools from across the country gathered in Ottawa to advocate for the 400,000 students they represent. The advocacy document covered issues such as mental health, Canada Student Grant, International student work hours, post-secondary student support program (PSSSP), copy right, housing and research funding. We were able to take over 100 meetings in the span of 5 days along with attending the fall economic statement and question period at the House of Commons.
* Meeting with VP Administration & Dr. Fenwick: During this meeting we provided updates on what STUSU has been up to lately including the upcoming Christmas market and winter formal. We ended the chat by discussing events that we may need support on.
* Help Desk hour: I had a few students come to ask general questions.
* Talking circle with senate committee on reconciliation
* Answered emails regarding general concerns and questions
  1. **Vice President Administration report – Ahmik Burneo**

Nov 20-24

* The VP Student Life reached out to explain her idea about the Christmas market. I sent all clubs and societies an email on her behalf inviting them to register for the market if interested.
* Psychology Society was planning on selling Candy-Grams in JDH to raise money for the STU food bank and they were wondering if clubs and societies were allowed to collaborate with external organizations to receive donations. I let them know that yes, clubs and societies are more than welcome to collaborate with them.
* French Society did their event in mid-November and had some leftovers from the funds approved by the Finance Committee. I let them know they may use those for future events.
* Anthropology Society – they have been working on their constitution as they requested a recognition application, and the Governance Committee has been guiding them through the process. They sent me an updated version of the constitution, but I noticed some mistakes. Haven’t received a response from them yet.
* I kept in touch with the Faculty of Irish Studies as they intend to reactivate.
* Vanier Hall Representative – sent me an email asking for clarification regarding the SRC and those were answered.
* I had a conversation with the Sexual and Gender Diversity Representative.
* The VP Student Life asked me for a full list of clubs and societies as she attended the Senate committee last week.
* Regular office hours at the help desk.

Nov. 27 – Dec 1

* Q&A and English Society are interested in reinstating the society in the university. We have been in touch with them to guide them through the process.
* A student contacted me regarding the student health benefits.
* Stevie and I joined the monthly meeting with Dr. Fenwick
* The Irish Society has officially sent a ratification application which will be soon revised by the Governance Committee.
* Regular office hours at the help desk.
  1. **Vice President Education report – Emily Boucher**

**7.4. Vice President Student Life report – Isabella Baralt**

* Getting with Brock, Ryan and Tina: I met with them to discuss a pilot project with the Helpdesk with the goal to increase the support to the students.
* Senate:

            I assisted to senate meeting where I reported on what we have been working on.

* Discussion SafeRide:

I had a conversation with UNBSU VPSL to discuss changes on SafeRide services and address students concerns.

* Alongside the activities coordinator:

We have booked and advanced many things for the winter formal.

* Christmas Market:

On December 5th, I am planning a christmas market. For that I have been trying to get vendors. If you know anyone let me know!

* Forwarded VPAdmin emails on clubs and societies.
* Meeting with Brock Richardson;

I had a meeting with Brock to discuss food insecurity and start developing new strategies to better support students.

* Paint and Sip event:

I assisted the activities coordinator with a Paint and Sip event sustainable edition to help de-stress from the holidays.

* Sales of tickets

Ticket sales for the winter formal started, with volunteers and the activities coordinator and myself.

1. **Employee Updates.**
   1. **Help Desk Manager**

* Recently have been working on restructuring the help desk, we reviewed the procedures from last year, altered some things. We started giving out supplies instead of selling them to be more accessible for students.
* We still have the charging deck available and other things; we got a new chair and we have just been mainly focusing on the organization of the help desk.
* We did the training with the current volunteers, that’s been completed. We went over the plan of operations.
* The volunteer schedule does need some reworking, I’ve had a couple people reach out to me and basically let me know that they are no longer able to volunteer and other’s that have been absent without notice. So that does need a bit of tweaking, but I have had people reach out to me who are looking to volunteer so that shouldn’t be too hard of a fix.
  1. **Director of Communications**
* Lately I have been focusing on the winter formal that is coming up, I have been doing a lot of promoting for that.
* I think most of the events have been mentioned already, I made a post for the Christmas market a call for small businesses and entrepreneurs for people to be a part of it
* The paint and sip that happened yesterday.
* The formal invitation to the market that will be happening on December 5th
* I have been focusing on the winter formal, I decided to not post anything that is not related to the winter formal on our feed. Reminders and news and updates are being posted on the stories.
* I am still promoting winter formal right now.
* The last thing that I have been working on is the STUSU Logo for 50 years.
* There are also flyers for the winter formal that I have been putting up.

1. **Representative Reports.**

No Representative Reports.

1. **New Business.** 
   1. **Volunteer Winter Formal – VP Student Life**

* You all got an email, asking if you wanted to volunteer for the Winter Formal. If you haven’t reach out to her yet, you are encouraged to do so. We appreciate all the help we can get, if you still want to volunteer, please reach out.

**At Large Representative:** I was just going to ask if you knew when we would know what position we will be working at the winter formal?

**VP Student Life:** It is already decided so I will get her to send out an email with all the information. I think everyone got what they asked to volunteer for.

**Indigenous Representative:** Do we have to be there earlier than everyone else?

**VP Student Life:** Winter Formal starts at 8, it depends on what position you are working. I will make sure there is an email sent you to let you know when you should be there for.

**Vanier Representative:** I am just wondering if it is too late to volunteer.

**VP Student Life:** No, have you gotten the email yet?

**Vanier Representative:** No, I haven’t gotten an email yet.

**VP Student Life:** I will make sure we will resend it to you, sorry about that.

* 1. **Resignation of Representative – President**
* Last week I received a resignation letter from our sexual and gender diversity rep, due to personal circumstances they felt that this resignation was best for their health and wellness. Just to ensure transparency we are bringing this to SRC, we don’t vote on it but just making sure that is on the radar for everyone today.

1. **Questions, Announcements & Notices**
   1. **Question: Off Campus Rep**

**Off campus Rep:** I had a student come to me and inform me of their Dead Name being used on their certificate, and they were having trouble getting it reprinted with their chosen name.

**VP Student Life:** There is a policy that came out, I will let Stevie continue.

**President:** There is a committee that has been created to ensure that chosen names are to be used on every aspect of the institution. So that should not be happening. I will look into getting that name of the committee so we can talk about this.

1. **Adjournment.**

**[12.1.] BIRT** the meeting of the SRC adjourned at 4:02pm.

**Moved by:** VP Administration

**Seconded by:** VP Student Life

**Motion:** CARRIES

**Submission:**

The minutes were respectfully submitted to the Vice-President of Administration on Monday December 4th, 2023 at 12:13pm

**Alyssa Ivany**

Recording Secretary

STUSU Student Representative Council