**13th Meeting of the 49th SRC**

**Date: January 29th, 2023**

**Location: Virtual via Zoom**

1. **Call to Order**

Ahmik Burneo, the Chair of the SRC called the meeting to order on January 29, at 3:03pm.

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 | Alex Nguyen |  |  |  |
| Vice President Administration | Minahil Fatima |  |  |  |
| Vice President Education | Julia Evans |  |  |  |
| Vice President Student Life | Anahi Alvarez |  |  |  |
| Indigenous Representative | Stevie DeMerchant |  |  |  |
| International Student Representative | Khanh Hoang |  |  |  |
| At Large Representatives (2) | Lauren Hayes  Chloe York |  |  |  |
| Off campus Representatives | - |  |  |  |
| Sexuality & Gender Diversity Representative | - |  |  |  |
| First Year Representative | - |  |  |  |
| Harrington Representative | - |  |  |  |
| Vanier Representative | - |  |  |  |
| Holy Cross Representative | - |  |  |  |
| Social Inclusion Representative | - |  |  |  |
| Grad Class President | Madison LeBlanc |  |  |  |

Quorum has been met with 7/8.

1. **Review of the Minutes.**

**[4.1.] BIRT** the Board approve the minutes of the 12th Meeting of the SRC as presented.

**Moved by:** VP Admin

**Seconded by:** VP Education

**Motion:** Carries

1. **Review of Agenda**

**[5.1] BIRT** the Board adopt the agenda as presented.

**Moved by:** VP Admin

**Seconded by:** VP Education

**Motion:** Carries

1. **Unfinished Business.**

No unfinished business.

1. **Executive Reports.**

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

**7.1. President report - Alex Nguyen**

Meetings

NBSA Executive Meeting

* I attended the bi-weekly executive meeting.

Meeting w/ VP Education

* Julia and I met to discuss advocacy initiatives for the rest of the semester.

Miscellaneous

* Office hours @ Help Desk – Thursday 12-1pm.

**7.2. Vice President Administration report - Minahil Fatima**

Meetings

* I did not have my office hour due to the snow day.
* The Finance Committe met to discuss a funding application we received from Indigenous Students Reconciliation Committee on behalf of Ekpahak for $500. The Committee has approved the application and thus it is brought to the SRC for final approval.

**Projects and Initiatives**

Clubs and Societies

* I received a few funding applications that the Finance Committee reviewed and approved.

Campus Trust

* Things were pretty quiet on the CT side of things aside from a few questions from students regarding coverage and billing.

**[7.2] BIRT** On the recommendation of the Finance Committee, the SRC approve the $500 funding application from the Indigenous Students Reconciliation Committee

**Moved by: VP Admin**

**Seconded by: VP Education**

**Motion: Carries**

**7.3. Vice President Education report - Julia Evans**

**Meetings**

**Advocacy Meeting with STUSU President Alex**

* Alex and I met to discuss second semester advocacy initiatives and dates for the value of a liberal arts education campaign.

**Meeting with the Director of Policy at UNBSU**

* Rose, the Director of Policy at UNBSU, and I met to discuss the plan for February’s MLA Monday. The next event will be February 13th at JDH at 12pm. The theme is affordability and we created a list of questions to help guide the roundtable discussion.

**Meeting with the STUSU Communications Director, Rey**

* Rey and I met to discuss the logistics of the liberal arts campaign. This campaign will involve an on-campus component, as well as a video that showcases students, faculty and alumni discussing the value of a liberal arts education.

**Projects and Initiatives**

**MLA Monday**

* MLA Monday is continuing into Semester 2. The two dates are February 13th and March 20th. This is a collaborative event between STUSU and UNBSU. The first event is taking place at. JDH with the topic of affordability.

**STU Sustainability Event**

* The Environment and Society Department & STU Sustainability event was cancelled due to the weather. I will let the Council know if the event with Elizabeth May is re-scheduled for a later date. Also, for those in the STUSU Sustainability Committee, keep an eye out for an email so we can re-schedule our meeting.

**President:** I finished registration for myself, Julia, and Stevie to attend the CASA AGM in Halifax on March 21st. This is exciting for us to be participating in, and I look forward to the event.

**7.4. Vice President Student Life report - Anahi Alvarez**

No Report available.

1. **Employee Updates.**

No employee report available.

1. **Representative Reports.** 
   1. **Indigenous Representative report**

* We are currently planning the Mid-Winter event which is an elder and youth gathering. During this ceremony, there will be sharing knowledge and The Lighting of a Sacred Fire, Talking Circles, and Longhouse Teachings. We are asking for volunteers to help direct people, assist watching children, and help with taking photos. This week in the Student’s Reconciliation Committee, we had a meeting to vo vote on a new Co-Chair and to discuss the NIYEC AGM. I was also asked to speak on. The Students Reconciliation Committee also received apparel this week. Lastly, if you attend the Mid-Winter event, there will be free meals that will be provided as well.
  1. **International Student Representative report**
* The Vice-President of STUISA reached out to me, regarding the multicultural fair. I received also my VISA for my exchange, and I will be leaving next week for Korea. I will also reach out to Mina to scheduling, since there will be a large time zone difference.

**President:** Safe flights and travels to Korea, and let us know how we can best help accommodate with your scheduling moving forward. With the weather being unpredictable, we will discuss the possibility of returning fully virtual for our meetings.

* 1. **At-Large Representative report**
* Due to the weather, we were not able to meet this week. We hope to schedule our event around Valentine's Day.
  1. **Grad-Class President report**
* The event held this week for Grad’s was really fun, and the clothing was great.

1. **New Business.** 
   1. Amendment of STUSU By Laws – President

**President:** There are a few particular reasons for this change in the Valedictorian selection process. In collaboration with the university, this new process will be under the university guidelines, rather than STUSU guidelines. We want to ensure that the selection process is opening and inviting for everyone. As well, we want the process to be consistent with other universities in NB and in Canada. Starting this year, this new process will be implemented, so for the 2023 Convocation.

The Valedictorian will be chosen by a selection committee, similar to the selection committees for scholarships. Interested applicants from the graduating class will submit their applications for the positions according, so long as they meet the requirements. An interview will be conducted as well. Deadlines will be vital in this process, and I believe this new process will encourage more people to apply to be Valedictorian than in previous years.

[10.1.1] Motion to amend STUSU By-laws to **remove** Section 4 ***“(iii) Who shall be elected by the graduating Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of  Applied Arts classes of the year: Valedictorian;”*** of Chapter I, Article 1 (supporting document attached) *(President)*

**Moved by:** President

**Seconded by:** VP Admin

**Motion:** Carries

[10.1.2 ] Motion to amend STUSU By-laws to **remove *“Valedictorian*”**from Section 5,Chapter I, Article 3. *(President)*

**Moved by:** President

**Seconded by:** VP Admin

**Motion:** Carries

[10.1.3] Motion to amend STUSU By-laws to **add** ***“(c) be the liaison between the SRC and the graduating Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Applied Arts classes”*** to Chapter IV, Section 10. *(President)*

**Moved by:** President

**Seconded by:** VP Education

**Motion:** Carries

[10.1.4] Motion to amend STUSU By-laws Section 1 (f) & (g) of STUSU By-laws, Chapter VII, Article I to ***“(f) Advocacy Committee”*** *(VP Education)*

**Moved by:** President

**Seconded by:** VP Education

**Motion:** Carries

[10.1.5] Motion to task the VP Education to amend the SRC Committee Operations Operational Policy

**Moved by**: President

**Seconded by:** VP Education

**Motion:** Carries

1. **Questions, Announcements & Notices**

**Indigenous Representative:** Our SRC has a team for coldest night of the year. 2 weeks ago, I began posting to advertise. Please promote this event and start the conversation, and if you need any additional information, please feel free to contact me.

**VP Education:** The Coldest Night of the Year is on Saturday the 25th?

**Indigenous Representative:**  Yes.

**President:** The weather has been very unpredictable lately; however, I believe that it will be best to keep the 3-5 in-person time. If classes are canceled, then we would automatically move to the 3-5pm time on Sundays virtually if need be.

1. **Adjournment.**

**[12.1.] BIRT** the meeting of the SRC adjourned at 3:49pm.

**Moved by: VP Admin**

**Seconded by: VP Education**

**Motion: Carries**

**Submission:**

The minutes were respectfully submitted to the Vice-President of Administration on February 1st.

**Grace Steeves**

Recording Secretary

STUSU Student Representative Council