**7th Meeting of the 50th SRC**

**Date: Friday, November 17th, 2023**

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

1. **Call to Order**

Elizabeth Namit, the Chair of the SRC called the meeting to order on Friday November 17th, at 3:30pm.

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 9/13.

1. **Review of the Minutes.**

**[4.1.] BIRT** the Board approve the minutes of the 6th Meeting of the 50th SRC as presented.

**Moved by:** President

**Seconded by:** Vice President Education

**Motion** CARRIES

1. **Review of Agenda**

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

**Moved by:** President

**Seconded by:** Vice President Administration

**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**

Meetings

* **Touch-base with Canadian Alliance of Student Associations Executive Director:** During our bi-weekly touch base, ED and co-chairs were discussing our upcoming advocacy week and what still needs to be completed before then.
* **National Indigenous Advocacy Committee Meeting:** During this meeting we completed and advocacy training and provided updates to students
* **Board of Directors meeting for Canadian Alliance of Student Associations**: During this time the board of directors provided updates and had some conversations around the schedule and budget for the upcoming advocacy week.
* **Meeting with the Deans**: during this meeting we had the opportunity to discuss the cubs & societies on campus and how the deans can support those groups

Miscellaneous:

* **Quebec Students Union Conference**: During this conference myself and another CASA board member joined the Quebec Students Union at Bishops University where we discussed a variety of topics including mental health, housing rights and how the UEQ continue to advocate for their students.
* **Answered Emails**: Most of my emails were general questions, emergency bursaries and planning for future meetings.

**7.2. Vice President Administration report – Ahmik Burneo**

**Oct 30-Nov3**

* Regular office hours at the help desk
* Governance and Finance Committee
* Trick or Eat
* Guide the Irish Society on the process of gaining ratification

**Nov 6-10**

* Received an academic assistance application sent by Carrie on behalf of a student, but the application said it was an emergency bursary, so I directed them to the EB coordinator.
* Contacted all recent elected representatives to give them their accounts and invite them formally to SRC this week.
* Contacted Director of Communications to include the bios of the new reps on the website.
* VPSL reached out asking for SRC members contacts.

**Nov 13-17**

* Guide the Irish Society on the process of gaining ratification
* Kept active communication with the International Rep regarding the prize for the global connections challenge event organized by her.
* Approved a funding application for the French society
* Approved a funding application for the Sustainability society
* The Activities Coordinator reached out asking me to send a message to all clubs and societies who might be interested in taking the lead on the coat-check for the winter formal.
* Governance and Finance Committee
* Regular Hours at the help desk
  1. **Vice President Education report – Emily Boucher**
* Wrote senate report and will be reaching out to our new student senator shortly to welcome them into their new role and answer any questions they may have.
* Been in contact with Professor Laura Levick and David Coon. MLA Coon was able to come into a political science class this morning to chat with students about key issues, I am planning to debrief with both Levick and MLA Coon to see what went well and we are hoping to continue this initiative next semester and have MLA Coon set up a pop-up stand in JDH to answer any questions.
* Met with Susan Sears and the dean of humanities to discuss student societies and to answer any questions they had on the organization of societies and the process of starting one.
* Had our weekly student executive council meeting.
  1. **Vice President Student Life report – Isabella Baralt**
* Alongside the Activities coordinator we have completed to booking of all services for the winter formal, as well as the menu for the appetizers.
* I have started the planification of a Christmas Market/Entrepreneurship fair for December 5th .
* I was present in the Wall of Flags ceremony and delivered a speech to commemorate the impact of international students in the STU community.
* I met with Phill Cliff and Dave Dunbar to discuss security for the winter formal.
* I’ve met with Jeremy Fowler and Brett to start discussing the winter carnival and the presence of STUSU.
* Forwarded Ahmik emails from Clubs looking to be reactivated.
* I met with Cory Flynn from Residence Life and Accesibility office in different occasions to discuss a students case and how to support the student.
* I’ve sent the Doodle poll to find a time for the retreat. More details to come!!
* There was no community food smart in November because of Reading week.
* I answered students concerns and questions regarding emergency bursaries procedures.
* Alongside the Help Desk Manager, we conducted the Help Desk volunteers training.
* We did trick and eat and it was a total Success! Alongside the activity’s coordinator and volunteer, we collected a lot of food for the food bank.
* I have been in communication with Campus Patrol to set up security for the winter formal.

1. **Employee Updates.**

No employee report available.

1. **Representative Reports.** 
   1. **International Rep report**

* This week was international education week, it was a lot. For me, I just did the wall of flags, and I gave out a speech.
* GCC (Global connections challenge), I just want to start off and say thank you for to the executives for your support and for helping me out. During the event, I can’t stress this enough, but Canadian involvement rarely happens. While the event was taking place I had to literally “kidnap” Canadian students so they could participate, I just gave them a passport and they started playing. After the game ended, I was talking to one of the Aquinian people, he actually played the game. He was there to interview but he played the game. After the event we had a debrief all of us and we concluded that anchoring Canadian students and international students is key, because otherwise not only Canadian students don’t learn much, but also international students don’t have a reason to stay here in Canada.
* After that I had a meeting with Carrie and Andrew to do another event, like this one instead an international student panel, not targeted to Canadian students but rather professors and staff. We want them to know that a B for an international student is not the same for Canadian students.

**Indigenous Rep:** When you say Canadian students do you also include indigenous students.

**International Rep:** Yes

**VP Administration:** It is more than a comment rather than a question. I just wanted to congratulate you for taking the lead and putting on such a great event. I know it is hard to gain as much engagement from students overall especially transitioning from a post covid era. Having the courage to take the microphone and say I don’t care that you are here you are taking the passport and playing, it takes a lot of courage to do that, and I wanted to congratulate you on taking the lead on that.

* 1. **Indigenous Rep report**
* Just a recap of the Indigenous sales that happened, it was a huge success, we did unfortunately have a few vendors who didn’t show up and did not inform us of that. Which is unfortunate but it is expected especially with Indigenous artists sometimes, but the turnout was great and the believe all the artists who did come left happy. I did contribute a lot to their sales. The raffle was a success, and it was won by my brother, and just so you know there is no nepotism he just happened to win.
* The committee was on recess for two weeks and will be meeting again next week.

1. **New Business.** 
   1. Budget Updates – October (VP Admin)

* Pretty much, there aren’t big changes so far between September and the update from October we might see the changes starting in November/December particularly due to the bigger events such as the winter formal. You might have noticed that office supplies there wasn’t any pending in September but in October we did of 27.58.
* In terms of communication there hasn’t been many changes yet, but there might be in the budget update of November or December. There might be some spending there we approved the use of Canva Pro particularly we approved it to make a design for the winter formal. The spending has been on activities budget, because of the activities taking place and the expenses of the winter formal and mainly the emergency bursaries. That is pretty much it for the October Budget update.

**VP Education:** for Canva pro, what I did in the summer if you are non-profit, you can get it for free, because we got it for completely free because we are a non-profit.

**VP Administration:** Thanks for telling me that.

1. **Questions, Announcements & Notices**

No questions, Announcements & Notices.

1. **Adjournment.**

**[12.1.] BIRT** the meeting of the SRC adjourned at 3:53pm.

**Moved by:** VP Administration

**Seconded by:** VP Education

**Motion** CARRIES

**Submission:**

The minutes were respectfully submitted to the Vice-President of Administration on Sunday November 19th at 12:30pm

**Alyssa Ivany**

Recording Secretary

STUSU Student Representative Council