



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

8th Meeting of the 47th SRC
6:00 pm, Sunday, November 22, 2020
Via Zoom (Online)

Attendance Record

Position	Name	Present	Regrets	Absent
President	Sarah Kohut	X		
Vice President Administration	Matthew Oram	X		
Vice President Education	Megan Cormier	X		
Vice President Student Life	Kyle McNally	X		
Off-Campus Representative	Sydney Shelley		X	
Off-Campus Representative	Kathleen Jones	X		
Off-Campus Representative	Ravtej Singh	X		
Rigby Hall Representative	Jonah Simon	X		
Social Inclusion Representative	Andie Amaya	X		
Sexuality & Gender Diversity Representative	Tyler MaGee		X	
First-Year Representative	Lauren Hayes	X		
Member at Large Representative	Victoria Young	X		
International Student Representative	Alex Nguyen		X	
Grad Class President	Alaina Mejia	X		

Staff Present: Brianna Hill (Chair), Minahil Fatima (Recording Secretary)

AQ Representatives: Hannah Rudderham

Guests Present: N/A



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Call to Order and Quorum Call

Meeting was called to order by Brianna Hill at 6:05 pm.
Quorum is met with 9 voting members present.

1. Approval of Agenda

The agenda was presented to council.
It was moved by Kathleen J. to approve agenda.
Seconded by Megan C.
The agenda was approved.

2. Approval of the Minutes from the 5th Meeting

The minutes from last meeting were presented to council.
It was moved by Sarah K. to approve minutes.
Seconded by Kyle M.
The minutes were approved.

3. Business Arising from the Minutes

3.1 Discussion on the Safer Spaces Workshop

Sarah: So, I will be discussing this today because Tyler sent his regrets, as well as Alex, which is why they're absent. But he sent me his report and his updates to say on behalf of him. So, this is going to get tabled. And the reason being because Tyler said that he had lost the file on his computer. So, he had to go back through his archive to find an older version of the module, update it so it matches the version that we all have seen and then redo the recording. And he says that you will definitely have it next meeting so we can get this item off the agenda. That's a direct quote from him, not for me. Unless anyone has anything to say about this, I would like to make a motion to table this.

Motion has been moved by Madam President to table agenda item 3.1 until the next SRC meeting.

Seconded by Kathleen J.

That motion has been approved by all present 9 voting members of council.

3.2 Jack.org STU Chapter Proposal

Kyle: Yes. So, hello again, everyone. So, the student mental health committee is supposed to meet tomorrow. So, I haven't been able to bring the chapter proposal to the committee yet. So that is the plan tomorrow. So, if there is no comments or questions, I would also like to make a motion to table.

Motion has been moved by Vice President Student Life to table agenda item 3.2 until the next SRC meeting.

Seconded by Kathleen J.

That motion has been approved by all present 9 voting members of council.

3.3 Women's Centre Liaison



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Sarah: I will give everyone a forewarning right now, I also don't want to jinx it, but this will be a very, very quick meeting. We're going to move through these agenda items like no tomorrow. So that gives everyone more time to do homework tonight or to relax or do whatever you're doing. But anyways, so we've had Victoria put her name forward and Tyler's as well put his name forward. So, as I mentioned before, when there's more than one candidate we will give them the opportunity to speak on why they would like to hold the position. But in Tyler's absence, obviously, he can't speak on that. And I want to give him the opportunity to speak on it. So, I apologize, Victoria. But I am going to table this for next meeting. But that also gives everyone else the opportunity if maybe they were hesitant about it, and they'd like to put their names forward. And then you can still put your name forward as we have another week. So, if you'd like to put your name forward, if you haven't already, just send me an email. But yes, I would like to make a motion to table this until next meeting.

Motion has been moved by Madam President to table agenda item 3.3 until the next SRC meeting.

Seconded by Jonah S.

That motion has been approved by all present 9 voting members of council.

4. Executive Reports

4.1 President's Report – Sarah Kohut

Hello, again, everyone. I hope you had an excellent past week, I hope that you are not feeling too overwhelmed with school and finding time for some self care and taking care of yourselves in and around all the final assignments that we undoubtedly have going on right now. Last Monday, as per usual, I had my NBSA exec meeting, we just continue to talk about advocacy, month, two weeks season, whatever you want to call it, which is actually underway now, which is very exciting. And so also on that same Monday, I had our first advocacy meeting with the NBSA with MP Wayne long from St. John Rothesay. So that was really great. He's very student friendly, is very nice guy. So, it was a good meeting to kick off with. And then I had a meeting with a group of people that I participated in a CASA advocacy meeting with to just kind of strategize before the meeting, figure out who's talking about what all that good stuff. And then on Tuesday, I had a my first, VP Academic and Research Review Committee meeting. So, this is a new committee that I get to sit on, which is very exciting. And Dr. Fenwick's term is ending, as maybe academic and research of the university. And so when that happens, and the person is interested in renewing their term, committee is struck to kind of get feedback on that person, and how they've, how they've done in their role over the past five years, because the terms are five years long, generally. And so yeah, get some feedback on how that person has done in the past five years. And also we get to interview Dr. Fenwick, which is going to be a little bit strange for me as a student sitting on a committee with lots of adults interviewing an adult, but it's great that I get to be part of that committee and represent student interest. So, we had our first meeting, and we put together a document. That was already sent out actually to faculty and staff. It's very comprehensive document that they will fill out to provide their feedback on Dr. Fenwick, in their experience working with her and how they feel that she's carried out her role during her term. And then the executives also got the chance to fill out that same document together and provide it to the committee. And so, the rationale behind the STUSU executives doing it is that because Dr. Fenwick's position is so high level, she doesn't usually come in contact with students very often. It's more so the STUSU executives that she works closely with and me in particular, which is why I got asked to sit on the committee. But nonetheless that was a recommendation that we provided is that because her position is so high level that we encouraged her, and all the university senior administration to kind of make themselves more of a presence on campus, you know, get to know students that they don't necessarily work with, kind of go to some events be around, because they definitely are around. But they you just don't get to get to talk with these individuals as much as you would a professor, or I don't know, the Student Services staff. So that was one of the recommendations we made, among some others. I had the CASA meeting that I prepared for in the day prior, and that was with I don't remember his title. I maybe I think it was an MP from Vaughn, which is an hour outside of where I live back home in Ontario. So that was kind of fun to be like, I'm from close to where you are, where you represent, even though I go to school



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in New Brunswick, so that was kind of cool. And then in the evening, I watched the movie screening of the documentary *Is the Crown at war with us?* that I mentioned last week that the university put on as part of their two day event regarding the Mi'kmaq fisheries in Nova Scotia. So, it was really great to watch. Our very own Mi'kmaq elder in residence is featured in that documentary. So that was really cool to see that relationship there between what I was watching and our everyday student life, and the documentary is great all things aside. Then on Wednesday, I alongside the NBSA executive met with (?) to discuss collaborating with the MOU that is going to expire at the end of the year. So, for those of you that aren't familiar, the MOU, which stands for Memorandum of Understanding is a document that all the universities in New Brunswick sign. A document between the universities in New Brunswick and the government. And basically, it just outlines kind of like the funding structure of what the universities receive, and some other stuff in there as well. So, we originally met to discuss how we wanted to collaborate going forward to advocate for students needs as the MOU was getting resigned. However, I will put it out there that the MOU might not be resigned this year, they might extend it for another year just because of COVID. And I don't think that the MOU has really been on any universities list of priorities because of everything that's gone on in the past year. So that might not even be something that falls under the NBSA and (?) responsibilities for this year. But nonetheless, we talked about it to be prepared. And also a really interesting and exciting thing that meeting turned into is over the past years and for a long time, actually, the NBSA has tried to engage in a formal partnership with (?), like a formal partnership, meaning like in writing like something like almost like a contract outlining the partnership. And for whatever reasons in the years prior, it's just never happened. But it was actually a (?) that brought that forward to us in this meeting that they wanted to look at signing a formal partnership and start negotiating that. So, it's really, really, really exciting. I know, it really doesn't seem that exciting. But it's exciting for me, because I know how much the NBSA has worked to make this happen for a number of years. So it's really exciting that it's looking like it very much will happen this year and then that evening, I attended the second half of the Mi'kmaq fisheries two day event, which was the panel with the Honorable Great Nicholas (?) and Dr. Pam Vomiter, she's a lawyer, a STU graduate. She currently teaches at Ryerson Law, really, really amazing individual. And the conversations that were had on that panel were incredible. They were so impactful. All those individuals are so well spoken and educated. And it was just really great to hear their perspectives. So, I reached out to the committee to ask if, because the event was being recorded. But I'm not sure for what purpose or what they're going to do with that recording afterwards. So, I reached out to see if they would be willing to publish the recording. So, people could go back and watch it if they weren't able to attend the event as it was going on. So, I'll keep everyone updated on what's happening with that. And then sadly on Wednesday, I missed my first Wabanaki lunch of the year, and I was quite upset, but I had a lot of schoolwork to do, but I will make it next week. And then on Thursday, the executives had our weekly meeting as per usual, I also have my office hour, which is great. I participated in the second NBSA advocacy season month, two weeks meeting with our Fredrickson South MLA, David Kuhn, which was also very excellent. He asked some very, very awesome questions, which really helped the NBSA kind of go back and refine our asks and become more prepared. So it's really great that we got to hear those questions so early on, so that we could become more prepared for our next meetings going forward, especially when we meet with the Minister of Post Secondary Education, Training and Labor, Trevor Holder, which I think is next week or the week after, but, so it was great to experience and then, I on Friday ended my week with my bi-weekly meeting with Ryan Sullivan, just to touch base on what the university is doing and what we're doing usual. And I also did the NBSA minutes, like I do every two weeks. And I'm in the process of writing the Board of Governors report for our meeting, which is in two weeks time. I'm sure you all saw my email. But in the interest of the rising cases that's going on right now, we decided to move our retreat virtually, which really breaks my heart. But putting everyone at risk breaks my heart even more, so I need to make some sacrifices here. But with that being said, the executives are going to figure out how to hold the retreat, virtually, I just will let you folks know in advance that it's definitely not going to be easy to kind of translate it onto a virtual capacity just because of some of the activities that we're doing, which are very, very important. And we're going to do our absolute best to move them to a virtual format and make it go really seamlessly. But yes, it'll be virtually just over zoom, I will send out a zoom links, or just one singular link, if I can do that on the very near future. And then the times are still the same. It's still November 28th and 29th, from 12 to four. So, nothing has changed, besides the fact that we are now virtual instead of in person. And now I'm done.



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Andie: So, for the for the retreat do we meet? Because it's on a weekend, Saturday and Sunday believe? Do we still have an SRC meeting that Sunday? Or is that our meeting?

Sarah: I actually was thinking about this this weekend. And I guess I'll leave it open for everyone, we will still definitely have some things to cover in a meeting. And I'd like to touch base with you all every week as I do just to see how everyone's doing and what everyone's up to. But, if folks are open to moving our meeting up so that it go like falls into the retreat on Sunday, if you're getting what I'm saying or if you want to keep that from four to six, open, and then just have our regular meeting at six. That's also fine, but I'll leave it up to everyone with what they want to do, because that definitely is an option.

4.2 Vice President of Administration's Report – Matthew Oram

Hi, everybody, hope everybody had a good productive week. So, to start off, my report is going to read a little thing about Campus Trust. It was sent out to be added to our website. It just has to do with cognitive behavioral therapy. So, it's just another thing it'll be covered through Campus Trust for students at the school. So, Paul from Campus Trust emailed me saying in preparation for the upcoming 20-2021 benefit year, we would like to add an additional page, each school's page on student benefits.ca. The page is for beacon counseling, a cognitive behavioral therapy program that can be done online, anywhere in the world. So, this isn't raising costs for students in terms of coverage because it's covered under the counseling part of our health plan. So, it's always good to have new coverages and new things available to students and this is available anywhere in the world online. So, I'm glad to see that. And Sarah, myself and Tina spoken with signing it and we agreed to add it to the website for a one-time charge. I think it's \$300. So, I just wanted to provide you with an update on that. The Governance Committee met on Friday night, we just went over the clubs and societies constitution review process, which is basically what the committee deals with for the year. I gave the committee the heads up that this year because students are all around the world, and there's not really in-person events going on, we may not have very many constitutions to review from people proposing new clubs, the school. But anyway, just in case we did, in the future, I went over that. It's just a document that can be found on the STUSU website, under the clubs, societies toolkit. But yeah, so that's what we talked about that committee meeting. Megan, and Sarah, also emailed by a student with a concern. So that was passed on to me, regarding professors. So, I will be bringing that to the Student Advisory Committee. In the near future, once the student gets back to me, that will be addressed through the committee. So, it's going to the committee and we will be getting put to work this year. So far, we haven't had much to deal with. But it's always good for students out of the committee to get the experience of dealing with these types of issues. A student also reached out to me, who was taking a year off this year because of COVID related stuff about me facilitating a conversation between them and Campus Trust, just to see if they could give proof of coverage over the last 60 days. So, I helped the student reach out to Crystal from Campus Trust. And I hope that all went well. I didn't hear anything back. So, I'm assuming that she was able to figure that situation out. I was also in contact with Theatre St. Thomas for getting the funds that we have allocated for them, or just for those of you who don't know, the funds, I think it's \$3,000 in our budget for GST each year. So, we give those funds to them when they send us invoices, and receipts and stuff like that. So yeah, me and Tina went over that with them. The individuals name was Christopher Saad from Theater, St. Thomas. So usually we don't give them all the funds at once, but rather besides invoices and receipts, that we give them the funds that way. So that went over well. I've also continued work continue to work on by presentations for the retreat. Obviously, it is not going to be in person now, presentations ought to be updated and stuff like that. So, the things on Robert's Rules, Campus Trust, all that stuff. I'm in the midst of updating that. I have an office hour the same as the rest of the executives, and then the SEC meeting. And then I also was in contact with Tina about a small refund for Andy for her Mental Health Forum. That should be going over later. And that's it for me.

4.3 Vice President of Education's Report – Megan Cormier



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Hello, everyone. I hope you had a great and restful weekend. I know you all deserve it. So, starting with the work I have done this past week for STUSU. Monday, we had another MLA Monday with a special guest from UMB. He's the Mental Health Strategist. His name's Matt. And we kind of discussed coping mechanisms that he's seen that were implemented that went well for students, especially first year students or those in residence, and had a few students there talking about their experiences, which was amazing to hear. Again, I'm really proud that there's always STU students in general and not UNB students, even though we both host so I kind of feel good when that happens, because our students are always there to support us. Monday as well the Sexual Assault Awareness Committee met. And then directly following, I met with the Academic and University Affairs Committee. And we just did a general introduction and kind of set the plans for our next meeting and how we plan to get to what we want to address this year. So, it was just a very general quick meeting to get the ball rolling. Tuesday morning, I met with the ad-hoc committee on remote learning. And we had Heather from the Writing Center join us to talk about the feedback she has received from students because she was saying how sometimes students go to the Writing Center, and they don't necessarily need help with the writing but rather an area to vent. So, it was really good having her there to hear some more perspectives from students, especially some of our students that might not generally be those who struggle academically. But in the COVID era, it's really good to have those testimonies to bring to that committee and then it's very useful to have such information to plan for next semester, as we're hoping to improve as much as we can to ensure students are getting the quality education they're paying for. Tuesday, I also created two videos for the Wall of Flag ceremony that's happening this Wednesday at 12:30. They're both the same video, but I didn't know which one they wanted. So, I made two versions just to ensure I was covering all my bases. And I also wrote my script for the event as I will be speaking, it's going to be virtual, it's going to be over zoom. And there will be a live portion that you can attend. But it's also going to be recorded. So, if you're busy at that time, I know Dr. O'Regan's actually speaking at that time and has a presentation at the exact same time. So, if you're unable to attend, it will be recorded to be posted later. I'm also on Tuesday, I met with Karen Robear, who is a member of the ad hoc remote learning committee, and she is our faculty representative. And we will be starting to have office hours every Thursday at 3pm for students to come meet with us, myself as a student rep and herself as the faculty and Dean rep to talk about your perspectives and what you'd like to see change. Because we know that one of the biggest things this semester is students feeling disconnected from decisions and from faculty. And it's really important that students know that both students and faculty are struggling equally, and we kind of need to join together for the next semester to improve. Additionally, we will also be starting a podcast every week of using different student perspectives to demonstrate the struggles students are having with remote learning. And we're hoping that this will also bring awareness to a lot of our faculty members who might be hearing statistics of what students are going through but not necessarily getting those stories that might hit a little closer to home. Wednesday, I met with the International Student Office as well as STUISA to continue our work on the Wall of Flag ceremony, like I said, will be happening this week. And we also talked about mental health of our international students, just because that's an area that's being hit pretty hard for students who might not be at home or those who are at home. But pandemic is hitting significantly harder in certain areas. So, ensuring that we're having those conversations to improve as much as we can. Wednesday unfortunately, I had to cancel my External Affairs Committee because I left my computer on somehow in my backpack, my fans ran for five hours and my computer was pretty messed up. I'm really glad I didn't have to pay for a new one. It seems to be working fine now. Let's hope for the best because I just got this one. Thursday, I submitted my student senator report for this upcoming Senate committee meeting or Senate meeting, which I do for every meeting. As everyone has mentioned, we had our executive meeting Thursday, which we will always have. Friday, I unfortunately had to cancel my office hour as I was participating in a moot court competition at the exact same time. And like Matt had already mentioned, I sent him along a student who had some issues with Profs to ensure that they're being addressed in the most formal and proper way through his committee. For the NBSA. I haven't really done anything for the NBSA this week. But I really want to send a shout out to Sarah, for taking on the NBSA a report this week as I was just incredibly overwhelmed with school and work and the moot court competition that really just took me by surprise. So, thank you, Sarah, for that. And then for CASA. I had no CASA meetings this week. Neither board meetings nor ADVO meetings for ADVO month, but I did create the liaison call guide for our November, December calls and I will be sending that out tomorrow as well as scheduling a Member



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Relations Committee meeting or the committee I chair through CASA for the month of November/December since has been such a wild time. And that is it for me. If you have any questions, just let me know.

4.4 Vice President of Student Life's Report – Kyle McNally

hello again, everyone. Similar to the other execs, I hope you guys had an excellent and productive or restful week and weekend. So, here's what I've been up to since our last SRC meeting. So, on Monday, this week, the Sexual Assault Prevention Committee met in the evening where we updated the committee on the work that Megan Coston, the co-chair, and I have been doing since our last meeting. And so that was just updating them on the fact that we got our Instagram account going. And we followed a lot of students on that over the reading week, we discussed that we'd be promoting this account on STUSU's social media accounts just to get a wider audience, talked about having resource highlight on our Instagram, which I am talking to the **(cesases?)** on right now. We talked about the first couple of posts we made on our account. The first was to encourage students to attend the UNB protests that occurred. And the second was to encourage students to start the Bystander Intervention Training on Moodle. So also, on Monday, I met with Brock as part of our bi-weekly meetings. We talked a lot about the sexual violence stuff that was going on, as well as the Midweek Motivation event that was happening that week. So, on Tuesday, I had my in person virtual office, our big shout out to Jason, for stopping by and chatting. I always look forward to chatting with Jason, chatting anyone, so I was nice. Also, on Tuesday, I posted the sexual violence New Brunswick graphic, like I said, encouraging students to self enroll and begin the bystander training online. And a few students so far have reached out about this. So that's nice to see that a few students have started anyways doing the training. I'm currently looking for volunteers for students who would be interested in helping out with the motivation event. So, duties include just like making sure registering students for contact tracing purposes and providing guidance to students where study spaces are, and where the snacks are and stuff. So, if this is something you can devote time to that would be great. Just feel free to send me an email. On Wednesday, the Activities and Events Committee met, and we finalized our plans and ideas for the Netflix trivia that's coming up this Thursday, which is open to all students. So, I encourage you all to attend and encourage you all to encourage your friends to attend as well. Also, on Wednesday, spent a couple of hours on campus for the midweek motivation event that was happening. And it was nice to volunteer with a few students from the Activities and Events Committee and get to know them more. So that was nice. As the other execs mentioned, we had our exec meeting on Thursday evening. Also, on Thursday, I posted the Netflix trivia event graphic that Valeria had made and the zoom link information for that event. Myself and AIDS New Brunswick are currently working on planning an in-person Naloxone Kit training for the week following when students return from the break. Unfortunately, they didn't have any availability at the beginning of December, which is when I was kind of hoping to but they're busy with World AIDS Day around that time, so it'll be busy. In the evening on Friday, I sent some resources just from the first Naloxone Kit training session that AIDS New Brunswick had touched on and couldn't find during the presentation. So, I just sent that out to the 34 students who attended. I've been in discussions with Andie about her mental health form event and we are going to be meeting this Wednesday. I'm going to be meeting with United Way Moncton, tomorrow morning to discuss 211. We tried to call on Friday but unfortunately, we're both having technical difficulties on both ends and our calls were not going through. So, tomorrow morning, we will be chatting about that. Few days ago, now I completed the STUSU retreat agenda and sent that out to you all. I reached out to our Grad Class President Alaina about a \$25 gift card that was donated to me when I was picking up donations for the STUSU giveaways that are going on, just to see if she was interested in putting that to use and I made the agenda for tomorrow's STUSU Mental Health Committee meeting. And lastly, the Emergency Bursary Committee did not meet this week, just because we didn't have any applications to review. And that is it for me. Thanks so much, guys.

5. Employee Reports

No employee report available.



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6. Representative Reports

6.1 Off-Campus Representative (Sydney S./ Kathleen J./Ravtej S.)

Kathleen: Hi, everyone. I don't really have much to report today. I did do a podcast interview for Isolation You with the Aquinian. And it was quite fun. And I had realized that I had done one previously with LARS for Isolation You and its Episode Five, I think. So, if you guys want to take a listen back, I'm on that podcast episode which was kind of cool. For off campus, we've still been discussing what we want to do. But we've all been really busy with schoolwork. So, it's been a little bit difficult to get things done. But we are really thinking about something to do for the holidays, as well. I'm on the French society, and we're going to be rolling out something tomorrow for an activity just to make the French society more popular, I guess, within the STU community. So that's about it for me.

Ravtej: I think I'll just say that I attended a workshop at STU that was by STU Experiential Indigenous Society. That was the hand drum making workshop. And it was pretty good. Like, the drums were made out of deer skin, or everything was basically from deer. And then you got to keep the drums. After that I attended the STU Activities Committee like Kyle said, we're putting the trivia on and the winning prize is actually, we have three gift cards, like one, two and three. Like it's \$50 gift card for the first place for the bookstore. So, I guess you all should come up. That's it for me. Thank you.

Sarah: Personally, I will say don't stress too much for not having time to plan. We all get time at the retreat to plan stuff for the year. But that's not actually what I wanted to say. I wanted to say that I think holiday themed event sounds really great. And especially for off campus folks that are not from Atlantic Canada. There's a lot of uncertainty right now of if people can go home for Christmas, and that's making students quite upset, myself included. I think that I see Victoria nodding her head. Sadness. So, I think that'd be a really great idea of an event. And to Rav, I'm so excited that you attended the hand drum making event. I didn't even know what was going on. And I missed it. And I was so sad about that. So, I'm happy that you went, and you enjoyed it. And that's really exciting to hear.

6.2 First Year Representative (Lauren H.)

Hi! I don't really have much to report on, but some first years mentioned that they really enjoyed the midweek motivation. So that was good and yeah.

6.3 Social Inclusion Representative (Andie A.)

Hope you had a great week and weekend. So, I had an email correspondence with Kyle, as he talked about, regarding the Mental Health Forum that I'm putting on, and I am putting him as an official moderator for the website. And I'll do this between tonight or tomorrow. He also sent me corrections for the site, which I very much appreciated. Thank you so much, Kyle. And also, Kyle and Tyler were kind enough to provide me with mental health resources from the community I had no idea existed or didn't think about. And then Matt and Brianna helped me put forward an item for the agenda, which is really exciting because something on there's mine, and then I also made like a privacy policy. Because when I was testing the forums, if you put your name as anonymous, your email still showed up on the moderators. And so, we can see emails, therefore, it's not completely anonymous, but other participants don't see the email. So, if you put your name as anonymous, or whatever else, other participants don't know it's you. I also contacted Cassidy Wilson to introduce myself and to see how we could collaborate throughout the year. And my main purpose of asking her, emailing her was to ask her for permission to use your picture for the resource's web site on the forum page. And then finally, as Kyle mentioned, I will be meeting with him on Wednesday to discuss the forum. And I think it's just like the little final tweaks that I have to do and that's about it for me.



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6.4 At-Large Representative (Victoria Y.)

Hey, guys, hope you all had a good week. Um, not really too much to report on this week, I've been looking into how I can develop my sustainability portfolio, looking into what was done in the past, what was successful, how I can grow from, like, what was done before, I'm considering how maybe I can incorporate different activities or initiatives into the midweek motivation activities, because I think that's where a lot of people like are on campus, come together, are looking for something kind of different as sort of a break from their studying. So, looking at how maybe I can incorporate that. So, it's all

6.5 Rigby Hall Representative (Jonah S.)

Good evening! Hope you guys had a good few weeks. I just have a lot to catch up on. Since my last meeting, Rigby Hall held a town meeting. And with that, for two weeks, students were able to send in their questions and comments regarding the COVID rules. And many of those was having guests in the room and being able to hang out in the hallways or having a study space. So, what ended up happening after the town hall meeting on November 5, I received an email saying that we will be allowed to have one guest in a room at a time. That didn't have to be just one student. But specifically, for your bubble. It could be anyone as long as it was just one student at a time. And they also set up a study hall downstairs, which is limited, and you have to sign in. And we had a house council meeting last week to discuss Christmas activities, what we should do and how to do it online. And that's it for Rigby and for the indigenous. side we had a meeting to discuss how we should vote and when we should vote. And we had a vote for in this STUSU Indigenous Rep and senate facilitation vote on this Thursday, November 17. And we are waiting on the results right now. And I think we should have our Indigenous Rep for STUSU by tomorrow. That's it.

Sarah: That's really exciting about the Indigenous Rep and the student on the Senate Committee on Reconciliation, I hope to hear from Trenton tomorrow. It's very exciting stuff. And also, about Rigby, those are some really great changes. I know that the residence policies at other universities are just like one student, and it has to be the same student. So it's really great to see that, like more students can kind of hang out with each other and mingle and that definitely helps with the mental health aspect of living in residence this year and the study hall as well. So that's really, really great to see that.

6.6 Grad Class Representative (Alaina M.)

Hey, everybody, it's also been a lighter week on the grad class side of things. But that being said, still plenty going on in motion. Over the course of the past week, I've been doing a lot of check ins with the businesses that support our graduate's different services, like photos, and T-rings, things like that. I'm pleased to share that not only did Sarah have a great experience when she went and she shared with us last week, other students are also having similar experiences. And those business partners are really pleased with how those relationships are working out. So, it's really good to see and I am really glad that we've had those conversations, and that they're making connections in the way that fits our public health situation to the best of their abilities. That being said, they're also very aware of what's currently going on in the room to make changes to services and how they offer them as is appropriate, just with kind of our fluctuation of cases in the area as a whole. I did receive that email from Kyle regarding a gift card that was specifically for photos. And through those conversations with some of our partners, I'm ultimately going to decline it, but I will send you an email with more details on that Kyle, just trying to be really respectful of the partnerships that we've had in place for a long time, in the fact that they've made a lot of accommodations in some ways that limits what services they have and the exclusive contracts they've had with us. But making sure that as many students can be represented in photo processes and getting T-rings as possible. And just kind of on the STUSU of things. I'm really excited to talk about Andie's website that they're putting together. And I've got some opinions to share. So that's exciting. And in the coming weeks, I'll be putting out some new fun



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infographics to populate the grad class Instagram and remind everyone of how they can do ring fittings, the different options up there are for that and where they can send their photos or have their photos taken.

7. New Business

7.1 Mental Health Forum Review

Andie: All right. So, as you all know, I've been working really hard on this little forum. I just wanted to say that, why post three questions in the forum. So, you guys could review and maybe get back to me with your opinions or criticism? Whatever it may be. So, does anybody have any opinions, comments, questions about any of the stuff that I sent out for the review?

Kathleen: I was looking at the forum. And my question just is, when you're creating a new topic in the forum, and it requires your name, which I saw that you said you could put as anonymous, but also why does it require your mailing address and a website? I just not very good with technology. So, I just had that general question.

Andie: Yeah, so if you notice that the website portion, it's not an asterisk, it doesn't require for you to actually put it because it doesn't have the so called the asterisk. But it does require your email because let's say one of the moderators needed to change your response because you wrote something kind of inappropriate or triggering. So, you would get an email saying that your response has been edited or has been deleted all together.

Kathleen: I just wanted to say thank you for the clarification. It makes a lot more sense now.

Alaina: I have a question just kind of off of Kathleen's question, is how would the process of like going through an editing or deleting a post would actually work because I know it can kind of be a slippery slope with making sure that you're expressing ideas as they are put forward, but also recognizing the need to filter it a bit. Will you be having anyone kind of oversee the decisions that you make and edit? Or how does that process as a whole?

Andie: So yeah, I was hoping somebody would ask this, because that's really important. So, I think whoever decides to be a moderator. So, Kyle and I, right now, will be meeting on Wednesday. And I'm going to bring this up to him to see like, what is triggering, what is okay to put. And I was thinking that with two moderators, it should be enough that we are able to check the forum, at least twice a day, to see, to filter out some comments or anything that's concerning. But that's not finalized yet. So, I'll maybe explain that in more depth next Sunday. Yeah.

Sarah: I wanted to go more towards the end to let everyone have a chance to speak. But I got a chance to go over this briefly. And I just have some things, not like recommended changes, and then feedback. But I think that the layout is really great. I like that it's right at the top, you have all the options, it's clear as day, easy to navigate. So, I think in terms of like, user friendliness, it's really great. I admittedly, didn't get a chance to go in and like actually make a post and look at that, but it seems like other folks did, which is great. And I promise you, I will make a test post, I saw your email, it's in my to do list. So I will do that ASAP but for the privacy policy, you answered my question to Kathleen, but I think it would be worthwhile to write it in there is why you're keeping emails or like, because you know what I mean, and normally, people will say, your contact will be destroyed, or whatever, they'll say what you do with that information, and it makes complete sense as to why you would hold on to an email. So, I would just recommend writing that in that privacy policy there. So, people understand like, okay my email is being kept for a purpose, and I understand this purpose. And then also, just for the sake of like, keeping people's privacy, I would recommend that for you to keep the number of moderators down just because, or to a small amount of people just because it limits the amount of people having all this information about individuals and you know, sharing their stories, and it's very sensitive topics. So and, and that's, I think, the same rationale that STUSU has with the



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Emergency Bursary Committee, where there's only myself, Kyle and our General Manager that know and see the applications, we're not even permitted to share them with Megan or Matt. And I think that makes people feel more comfortable when they put stuff forward. But also, with that being said, I really liked how you put on the side who gets that information and the contact information because, for me, if I were to share something that was really personal, like the nature of this topic is like, that gives me a lot of reassurance to know, okay, like, this is exactly who is getting this information, their contact information is right there. Like I can put a face to the name sort of thing and feel more comfortable knowing like, it's not just going into the metaphorical abyss and you don't even know who has access to that information. So, if you do go forward with putting Kyle as a moderator, I would definitely recommend putting like his name alongside yours and then I think the resources are great. And the only thing that I would say is with what's going on with the UNB Health Center right now. I don't know when you plan on launching this, but depending on what the situation looks like, maybe just writing like a little asterisk, like you said before saying like, I don't know, judging based on like, as of right now, there's not currently a practicing psychiatrist or you know, something to just be candid so that students aren't being like, why am I not hearing back like, why is this so complicated? Because the situation is quite complicated now to be completely honest, so it's better to be candid with students than to not. And with the trigger warnings, I think like you said, If you plan on having like people go through and like, check the posts to see like, what's appropriate and what's not, which I think is awesome, to maybe just have like, a blanket trigger warning at the top of the forum and say, like, discussion post below might mention, and then like, as you see posts come through, like add things to that. Because that way, I feel like it's a lot easier for you folks then to, like, include a trigger warning on like, every forum or whatever. And then it's like, right there when you click on the main page, it's like trigger warning right in front of you got all your topics. So yeah, but other than that, it looks spectacular, great work. That was really just nitpicky feedback. And I really liked the fact that you put that document together, and you provided questions with us to answer because that also makes these conversations 10 times more productive and easier, and it gets exactly what you're looking for in terms of feedback. So excellent job all around.

Andie: To kind of go off of that, the UNB Health Center? Do you know, if the psychiatrist operates under the UNB Health Center or do they operate under counseling services? At the CC Jones building?

Sarah: That's a good question. I know for sure that, through the health center, doctors make referrals to that or did make referrals to that psychiatrist. So, I'm not sure if it's under both counseling services and health center, but I can tell you for sure that it was under the health clinic like at CC Jones. So, if anyone else has more insight on that, I welcome you to bring it forward.

Kyle: Yeah, I was just gonna say that I do think it is both as well, just because I do know that he was working part time at Fredericton Addiction and Mental Health. So, I think it was through both services.

Andie: Okay, perfect. So, thank you so much, Sarah for all those insights and criticisms, those are very well needed. I really liked the limiting moderators. I think that's an amazing idea. And that will definitely be put in there. And also, the blanket trigger warning, definitely. And yeah tonight I'm putting Kyle as a as a moderator on that website.

Megan: I have one, question/comment, I guess, you mentioned about like editing or deleting forum posts that are inappropriate. I was wondering if it'd be worthwhile to potentially put at the top of the forum, that you guys do have that discretion to delete or edit, because I know students who want to express themselves, if they do have their words altered or deleted entirely, that could be uncomfortable for them. So maybe potentially describing what the purpose of the forum is for, who gets to do like discussing the moderators potentially, and discussing that it's at your discretion, what can be accepted, and what is accepted, would be extremely beneficial. Also, second, I was wondering, this is about the platform itself. But I was wondering if there's a reason that when you click forum, it opens a new tab, whereas every other thing that you click continues within the same tab. I know that something



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really small, but as I was looking through it, I had 50 tabs open by accident because of this issue. And it's really nothing but I was just wondering,

Andie: I didn't check that actually. But it's a good thing that you bring it up so I can maybe see what's up with the website, because obviously, it's really easy to fix. But yeah, thank you all. I'll change that. So, it's annoying that it's opening up like so many tabs. Yeah.

Alaina: I just have two comments on the resources that you listed. It's a really good and strong comprehensive list. An edit that I just would like you to consider is when specifically referring to the emergency room. It only appears in an abbreviation of ER and that's just not something that is shorthand knowledge to everyone that that's what the resource is. So, either just addressing it in the title and then using the shortened version, just to make it clear what you're talking about, I think would be helpful. And additionally, of course, recognizing that most people are in Fredericton, and that the resources that are accessible to our students are in Fredericton is important but for our international students, specifically, the program that we're operating under for essentially all of our mental health supports, if you're not in the Fredericton area, is a program under the guard.me plan, which is called keep me safe. And it's really cool, because they have a bunch of essentially everything we cover in our resources of like online counseling with people who are certified, in that you can specifically access resources and whatever your preferred language is. So, I highly recommend just like adding that and I can send you a quick link just to their website for more information on that. But our campus connection to it is really Carrie from the International Student office if you wanted to look into that more.

Andie: Okay, awesome. So, I think maybe this is like a question for maybe you and Matt. Do you know, if the guard.me plan is through the insurance?

Matt: The guard.me is for international students, they also have campus trust, unless they opt out of the dental plan, you're not allowed to offer the health plan. But it is based on the university. It's not the Students Union that runs guard.me but it's the university. And it covers a wide range of things, I can bring up a list. But it's a lot of like emergency related things, stuff like that.

Alaina: It works as a supplementary insurance program. So especially if you're going to be traveling home, you need to be covered during that time. And for those types of situations. When you come to Canada, and you need a plan under the university, you can sign up for both STU's plan and guard.me. Within your first year, you're not eligible for Medicare in the province of New Brunswick, until you've been here for a certain amount of days, which is usually like that first semester. So, you do have to have guard.me during that time. So for all of our students who are currently not in Fredericton, and especially for first years, who have never been here, that is the specific plan that would be more relevant to them than say our student health plan.

Andie: Thank you for your input. Thank you, Matt, for answering that question as well. So, if I have any questions, I'll email you. So, you can just kind of help me with that.

Alaina: Yeah, absolutely. And frankly, we can loop in Carrie and STUIA in there. They're all great and happy to help.

Jonah: Looking in maybe St. Mary's First Nations? So, I know they'd be willing to help Indigenous students.

Andie: Sorry, St. Mary's Health Center, that's a center for indigenous people?



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Jonah: It's run by them. But majority of time, from personal experience, when you go to an Indigenous Health Center, there's a huge chance that you're they're gonna help you out there. Like, physically, mentally, anything that they have.

Andie: Okay, perfect. So, I will research them and put them as a possible resource, because I do think I am missing indigenous focused mental health care system there. And yes, I do need that. Yeah, thank you so much.

Jonah: And if I hear anything else, I will shoot you an email.

Andie: Yes. Yes. Thank you. And I think what's important with this Mental Health Forum and the resources page is that because this will be an all year type of thing, I can keep adding to the resources page as they keep popping up. Or students may have their input like, Hey, did you ever think about this organization? So, we can I can definitely keep adding to the resources page? No problem.

Sarah: I'm sure you probably saw me in the chat, but just put in the link to STU's page and where they've got their little blurbs on keep me safe for international students, and then also the list on the STU's website of all the indigenous student services, which includes MiG Mohan and Wendy, which is another supplementary thing to add to what Jonah said.

Andie: Thank you so much! This is such valuable input and criticism and feedback. And thank you so, so much.

7.2 At-Large Representative Portfolio

Sarah: So, these last two agenda items, we're gonna be done here probably in like, less than 10 minutes, which is exciting. But so, as I mentioned last meeting, and just to kind of make it official, I guess, for good bookkeeping, I'd like to just move a motion to approve Victoria's proposed portfolio of sustainability. Last time, when we brought it up last week, I didn't hear any objections to it, but this also is a democracy here. So, everyone is welcome to provide their feedback, but I guess I will put the motion on the floor here. And then we can discuss after.

Jonah: So, what is it exactly?

Sarah: So basically, in previous years, because the role of At-Large is so broad, that usually the representatives will pick a portfolio to focus on. So basically, that's just a fancy way of saying a specific like topic that they want to focus on. So, I met with Victoria last week or two weeks ago, to kind of discuss, like what she was interested in. And I'm sorry, Victoria, I'm speaking on your behalf here but basically, she said that sustainability was of interest to her. And this is something that the representatives did two years ago. So, I told her that that's definitely feasible. So we mentioned it in last week's SRC meeting, just kind of in passing, and it's not like it doesn't say anywhere that we have to approve the portfolio per se, but I just wanted to kind of approve it, make it official, like I said, just for good bookkeeping, and, and to make sure we're all being concise here. So yeah, so I hope that answers your question. So, I guess I will put a motion on the floor here to approve sustainability as the At-Large portfolio for the 2020-2021 academic year. I'll just say now, like I mentioned, this is a democracy here so everyone is welcome to put in their feedback if they'd like or make recommendations to Victoria, on what they would like to see her focus on within sustainability. And also Victoria, if you want to I know you spoke a bit about last meeting in this meeting as well what you've been looking into in terms of what you want to do for the year, but if you want to just elaborate on that here or just give any I don't know, additional comments, you're also more than welcome to.

Motion has been moved by Madam President to approve the At-Large Representative's Portfolio on Sustainability for the 2020-2021 academic year.



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Seconded by Kyle M.

That motion has been approved by all present 9 voting members of council.

7.3 Councillor Honorarium

Sarah: So, as mentioned last meeting, when Matt was doing the budget report, and this is a surprise to you, Jonah, maybe if you didn't read the minutes, but you get an honorarium at the end of the year, you get money from STUSU. I mentioned, last meeting, this is just a token of appreciation from the executives and our general manager to all our counselors for all the hard work you do over the course of the year. So usually, it is 80% of meetings attended qualifies you to get this honorarium. But as we discussed last meeting, or kind of touched on a little bit last meeting, because of COVID and how much more difficult this year is on everyone, the executives decided to revisit the criteria for the honorarium. And so we discussed it in our last exact meeting and we discussed some other options and what we kind of landed on that we think is the most reasonable, but still kind of serves the purpose of a little bit of encouragement to kind of attend meetings and be engaged, but also serves as a token of appreciation is changing it from 80% of meetings to 50%. So, we will have, give, or take 21 meetings over the course of the year. So, half of 21 is 10 and a half, which I'll round down to 10. So that means if you attend 10 meetings, that qualifies you for the honorarium. We have had so far, about eight meetings, give or take. So, if you have attended every meeting so far, you've got two more to go. And you are set. So, I guess before I move the motion here, I'd welcome everyone's feedback on that. And if you think that's reasonable and also, I will say that, not that I don't think anyone would do this, but just because we are considering lowering the percentage of meetings that need to be attended, we still expect everyone to come engaged to all of our meetings and to make as many meetings as you can, just because you've hit that 50% doesn't mean you can clock out for the year and you're off the clock, and you're done. So, we are still expecting that engagement from everyone, just as you have been done all year. You've all been very engaged in answering or asking questions, answering questions, doing your work so far. So, yet we still expect that caliber of work that you've been doing thus far, even though we're reducing the percentage. So yes, I would welcome everyone's feedback.

Andie: So, I just think that's a great idea, because I think students have a lot of mental health issues and I just wanted to commend you for making that decision.

Sarah: Thank you, Andie. The executive I guess will speak on behalf of us, but we definitely appreciate your kind words, and we want to work with you and not against you. I'd like to move a motion to amend the requirements for the end of your counselor honorarium to 50% attend meeting attendance.

Motion has been moved by Madam President to amend the requirements for the Councillor Honorarium to 50% of meetings for the 2020-2021.

Seconded by Kathleen J.

That motion has been approved by all present 9 voting members of council.

8. Questions, Announcements & Notices

No questions, announcements & notices.

9. Adjournment

Motion for adjournment was moved by Kathleen J.

Seconded by Jonah S.

Motion for adjournment was carried.

Adjournment at 7:23 pm.



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Submission:

The minutes were respectfully submitted to the Vice-President of Administration on November 23rd, 2020.

Minahil Fatima
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Recording Secretary
STUSU Student Representative Council