13th Meeting of the 48th SRC

5:00 pm, Sunday, February 05, 2022

Via Zoom (Online)

**Attendance Record**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Position | Name | Present | Regrets | Absent |
| President | Tyler MaGee | X |  |  |
| Vice President Administration | Alex Nguyen | X |  |  |
| Vice President Education | Sydona Chandon | X |  |  |
| Vice President Student Life | Victoria Young | X |  |  |
| Off-Campus Representative | Carol Alvarez | X |  |  |
| Off-Campus Representative  | Gregory Robinson | X |  |  |
| Off-Campus Representative | Lindsey Graham | X |  |  |
| Harrington Hall Representative | Lauren Hayes | X |  |  |
| Social Inclusion Representative | Manvi Walter |  |  | X |
| Indigenous Representative | Stevie DeMerchant | X |  |  |
| International Student Representative | Sony Phung | X |  |  |
| Member at Large Representative | Julia Evans | X |  |  |
| Grad Class President | Tory Desroche |  | X |  |

**Staff Present:** Kryssonia Wedderburn (Chair), Minahil Fatima (Recording Secretary)

**AQ Representatives:** N/A

**Guests Present:** N/A

**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.

**Call to Order and Quorum Call**

Meeting was called to order by Kryssonia Wedderburn at 5:12 pm.

Quorum is met with 9 voting members present.

## **Approval of Agenda**

The agenda was presented to council.

It was moved by Victoria Y. to approve agenda.

Seconded by Tyler M.

The agenda was approved.

## **Approval of the Minutes from the 12th Meeting**

The minutes from last meeting were presented to council.

It was moved by Alex N. to approve minutes.

Seconded by Sydona C.

The minutes were approved.

## **Executive Reports**

**3.1 President’s Report – Tyler MaGee**

So, I hope everyone's had a good week. Mine has been and appears to be for the future, completely filled with COVID stuff. Which honestly really sucks. But anyway, so from our last meeting, I sent a bunch of follow ups to the university relaying everyone's kind of concerns and feedback that we had regarding the return to campus. The university has responded to me and they did make an offer to have Ryan Sullivan, who's the Director of Student Services, come to our next meeting on Sunday, to give a formalized answer to you and all of our students as we do have an AQ rep and these are open meeting students to give point answers to each of the concerns that we have brought up and to give you the broad overview of university operations. So, I think it's a really good opportunity to hear from them and give them the floor. So, we will have Ryan join us next Sunday which just shows that you raise your concerns, you have them heard and the university responds. So, on Tuesday, we had an NBSA meeting with the just the membership, the well, three remaining membership organizations now, we were just talking about some budgetary stuff and some changes that might be coming for next year. So, it was a very productive meeting. And I'm optimistic for the future of us as an organization. So, I'll leave it there for now until there's anything more formal to come out of it. But it was a very good first step into talking about how the NBSA will look next year. Then, later that day, actually, I had a, it was like, everything happens on email now. So, I swear, I just spend my entire time on the computer, but it was an email conversation back and forth. Regarding again, some COVID stuff, but it was COVID stuff looking at masking. So, the way that masking will work is that they're making recommendations to have I think they sent out a student notice telling everybody about this, but we were just it was a follow up inquiry just to see about potentially having masking at the help desk and through the SUB for SUB employees. I'm not sure what's going to come out of it. It was just a question that was posed by Student Services. And I basically just that I would take it and see where it can go because again, suppliers. So, stay tuned. Later that week on Thursday, we had a CASA Connect meeting and I did with with Matt, who's our contact with CASA again, another really good meeting and they did give a home office update for us, as many of you will probably recall from a few meetings ago, home office went through a huge reshuffling of positions. They had three of their home office staff received job offers and other opportunities, and they took them, so CASA went from having five in home office to having two. The broad concerns of the membership were about the efficacy of having two people running home office this close to advocacy week. But Matt has had informed us that of everything that the home office that was doing and it's actually they really stepped up. So huge win there from the home office staff at CASA. So, we're going into advocacy week, I'm sure Syd well be talking all about that. So, I won't go too far into it. But as far as the home office side goes, we're very confident in CASA’s ability to get this all done, which is big kudos to them. We also mentioned some of the changes that were proposed in the NBSA budget meeting that we had to CASA just keep them in the loop. We may or may not be exploring some different partnership ideas, just because if the NBSA’s fees go up, we may need to figure out a way of like where we're going through allot student money. So, by doing that we're exploring different membership opportunities with CASA that may not be a full membership, but still associate and different ways that we can still have that federal advocacy component while maintaining our provincial advocacy. So, they were very receptive of that. And they totally understand us too, and they are willing to have those conversations. So that's just goes to show how strong and lovely our advocacy partners are. And we really want to keep those communication avenues going. So, I think that's definitely a win for us this this week. Then on Friday, we had our weekly exec meeting. And that is it for me.

**3.2 Vice-President of Administration’s Report – Alex Nguyen**

For my report this week, I continue to receive applications for the AA bursary which makes a total of 41 application. The deadline is the 18th of February, so spread the word. And then the finance committee made recommendations to the SRC on a funding application for clubs and societies, which I will talk about later on. And for governance committee, we ratified a new society, the psychology society, so congratulations to Sony. And for the rest of the week, I answered questions about Campus Trust and had the exec meeting.

**3.3 Vice President of Education’s Report – Sydona Chandon**

Hi, everyone, I hope you're doing well and ready for a great week. For my report this week, on Monday, I sent emails. So, Monday was pretty much sending emails receiving emails. On Tuesday, I had a discussion with the NBSA as Tyler mentioned before, on their budget going forward and how things will look next year, which was really productive. On Tuesday, I also had a meeting with the Sustainability Committee, where we discussed making recommendations for David Kuhn’s committee on climate change. On Wednesday, I attended an advocacy meeting for CASA, where we discussed an upcoming campaign for mental health, which should take place after advocacy week. I will also be attending a training along with Ty for that all afternoon tomorrow. So, you'll see updates come in next week. On Thursday, I had a meeting for the cultural sensitivity training, which will be taking place sometime this month. Further details will be posted this upcoming week. I also had a CASA Connect meeting with Ty where we ask questions regarding home office and how they're adjusted with advocacy week fast approaching and they seem to be adjusting well as Ty mentioned in his report. And we're excited for all the good work that will be done during advocacy week. On a Friday I attended a STU Leads where I presented a poem on EDI. And I also listened to great presentations from several students on various topics falling under equity, diversity, and inclusion. There were also two winners of a grant to utilize in a project of their choice. I thought that was so exciting as this motivates students to be passionate about community outreach. So that was an exciting week.

**3.4 Vice President of Student Life’s Report – Victoria Young**

Hi, everyone, hope you had a good week. I'm sort of lighter week on my end. So, I'll just go through what I was up to. So, on Monday morning, I had a meeting with the Food Bank committee. And we just discussed how we can further like, get the food bank more up and running and have more people involved because there's probably going to be more action with the food bank with our in-person classes starting again. So, we're just getting ready for that. And then I further recommended a program that Suzanne White from Community Foods Mart program recommended to me for our campus food bank, which would have community food smart, basically giving us donations of food and fruits and vegetables and also some gift cards to offer to students that are in in need of that. So, I thought that was a really great opportunity for us to really enhance our food bank. So, I brought that up in the meeting and it's something we're going to approach so I'm just sort of connecting Vivian from the Food Bank and Suzanne from Community Food smart to try make that happen. And I'm really excited about that. Then also on Monday, I reached out to Lauren, our Harrington Hall rep just about the bathroom situation in Harrington. And just to check in about how things are going with the new COVID-19 restrictions and residents. I have heard a rumor that people weren't super impressed with the bathroom situation. But nonetheless, Lauren explained it very well to me, and we both agreed that it is completely reasonable. So, thank you for that. Then on Tuesday, I sent an email to be we are here for you campaign, which is a project that the sexual violence prevention committee has taken on. It's a project which takes in donations for individuals who have experienced sexual violence who arrive at the hospital, who can be given a package of donations of toiletries, and clothing and snacks and gift cards to help them with that transition out of a very traumatic experience. So, we're hoping to bring this to STU and collect donations for this at the help desk similar sort of a similar sort of situation as the when we were taking donations for the International Student warm up, we would have a big bucket outside the help desk and have donations for that. So that would be an initiative for sexual assault prevention, which we're really excited about. So, I just reached out to them to see if they have any recommendations for our campaign specific to the university situation. And because this is probably something new, they're probably used to donations from individuals, not big institutions. So just waiting on a response from them, but really excited about that as well. And then I answered a message through my VPSL Instagram about the health plan, and then just redirected them to Alex who knows best about campus trust. Then I also met with McKenzie Roy from the pre–Law Society, just about swag items and how to go about ordering that, they're interested in ordering some masks and some sweatshirts. So, I introduced them to our connection for swag items, Mariah from Mayday. Mayday is where we ordered our stuff from. So, I connected them. And hopefully she'll have as good an experience with Mayday as we have. Then on Wednesday, was a pretty busy day for me. But I mainly just answered some EB applications, sent them over to Tina and Tyler, discussed those and then on Thursday, I had a little bit of a chat with Valeria, our activities and events coordinator, just about Valentine's Day. And with us going back in person we just discussed how we can maybe have some sort of a pop up in person thing on campus and JDH while also having something online. So that way we can have something interactive for both students who are on campus on Valentine's Day and students who can connect with us online on Valentine's Day. Then I also checked in with Maddie, our help desk coordinator about the opening of our help desk this week and just about making that schedule. So that was also very exciting, really exciting to have the help desk up and up and running again. Then on Friday, of course, I had my exec meeting, and I responded to an email from Grant Adam from the city of Fredericton, about our subcommittee meeting, that is just Grant Adam and Brennan from UNBSU and myself about our good neighbor program for College Hill. So that's really exciting. And then this weekend, yesterday, I stopped by the help desk, just to see what's going on in there. I organized a few things, brought the prizes from the Mental Health Week giveaway to the help desk so that those prize winners can come and get them right when we open the help desk. Just organize the few things, it's a little bit messy in there. So, I just wanted to make sure it was good for our volunteers to be there this week. And then also I found some Amazon packages in there that were for people in Rigby, so I connected with Jason O'Hearn who's an RA and er sorted that out.

## **4. Employee Updates**

No employee reports available.

## **5. Representative Reports**

**5.1 Off-Campus Representatives (Carol A./Gregory R./ Lindsey G.)**

Carol: Hi, everyone. So, we are planning over giveaway activity. And this week, we are just gonna look for those small businesses that are going to be part of the giveaway. That's it for us.

**5.2 International Student Representative (Sony P.)**

Hi, everyone. This week was not so eventful for me. I reached out to the international office and the recipient for International Leadership Award and scheduled a day next week to present the award and start promoting the award. The office has not replied to me yet. Perhaps they’re also busy transitioning to in person. Also, STUISA has not contacted me yet regarding the multicultural fair so I’m gonna contact them again soon.

**5.3 Harrington Hall Representative (Lauren H.)**

So, this week, as Victoria said, we were just chatting with the bathrooms. And although the rule is a little frustrating it is for the best to protect people living the building against the spread of COVID-19. And then we as a House committee, we sent in like, the event request form for just like sending out Valentine's to every resident here and we got the Valentine's today. So, that’s all for me.

**5.4 At-Large Representative (Julia E.)**

Hello, everybody. I hope you had a good weekend. I don't have much to update you on from last week. Syd and I are still working out the details and planning the roundtable. We have a meeting scheduled for Monday. So yeah, I'll come back with more details about that. And then I also just wanted to mention that we had another book club meeting for the reconciliation committee, and it was a really awesome meeting. So, I really encourage any of you who maybe can't commit to it all the time to just stop in a meeting because it's a really great atmosphere and you'll definitely learn a lot but yeah, next week I'll have more details to share with you guys for the remote learning roundtable but otherwise, that's it for me.

## **6. New Business**

**6.1 Clubs and Societies Funding Application: Global Brigades**

Alex: Okay, so as mentioned it, I'm gonna bring forward the funding applications for Global Brigades to our council for final approval since the application is above 500. Before I proceed, if anyone is a member of Global Brigades, I do recommend that you avoid voting to avoid conflict of interest. So, looking at the application, the requested amount is $750, and the committee recommends $700 because the policy states that no more than 20% of society's funding shall be allocated for one particular club. And based on the funding record that we have, the amount they request is kind of close to that limit. And since the limit also depends on the number of clubs and the amount we have left. We believe that 700 is a suitable amount, especially when GB also has funds incoming from the Winter Formal Coat Check.

**Motion has been moved by the Vice President Administration to have the funding application for Global Brigades for the amount of $700 be approved.**

**Seconded by Tyler M.**

**That motion has been approved by 8 present voting members of council with one abstention.**

**7. Questions, Announcements & Notices**

Alex: Just want to put this out there that the deadline for the affirmative action bursary application is February 18th.

## **8. Adjournment**

Motion for adjournment was moved by Alex N.

Seconded by ­­Tyler M.

Motion for adjournment was carried.

Adjournment at 5:44 pm.

**Submission:**

The minutes were respectfully submitted to the Vice-President of Administration on February 7th, 2022.

Minahil Fatima

su\_secretary@stu.ca

Recording Secretary

STUSU Student Representative Council