



Students' Representative Council - Meeting Minutes  
April 24<sup>th</sup>, 2024  
Teams

In the Acadia Students' Union, we acknowledge that we are in Mi'kma'ki, the ancestral and unceded territory of the Mi'kmaq. We recognize that we are all treaty people and have commitments to each other and the land in which we live, learn, work, and play upon. As a Students' Union, we commit ourselves to continuous learning about how we can engage in meaningful action towards truth, reconciliation, and justice.

**Present**

President, Sadie McAlear (voting) **P**  
Vice-President Student Life, Genna Beed (voting) **P**  
Vice-President Academic and External Affairs, Ben Morris (voting) **P**  
Vice-President Events and Promotions, Sam Taylor (voting) **P**  
Vice-President Finance and Operations, Bradley Thibeau (voting) **P**  
Arts Senator, Isabel Drouin (voting) **P**  
Science Senator, Julia Shirokov (voting) **P**  
Graduate Studies Senator, Alexandria Delaney (voting) **P**  
Councilor-at-large, Axel Escholz (voting) **P**  
Councilor-at-large, Zainab Abdulraheem (voting) **P**  
First-year Representative, Emma Boles (voting) **P**

**Others in attendance**

Incoming Vice-President Finance and Operations, Archit Singh (non-voting)  
Incoming Community Relations Representative, Cyenna Link (non-voting)  
Athenaeum Editor-in-Chief, Ryan MacIntyre (non-voting)

**Resources**

Chair of Council, Ben McCulley (non-voting) **P**  
Vice-Chair of Council, Esther Uhlman (non-voting) **P**

**Agenda**

**1. Call to Order**

Meeting was called to order at 6:04 PM ADT.

**2. Roll Call**



### 3. Adoption of Agenda and Previous Minutes

**BIRT** the agenda be approved as presented.

Moved by Isabel

Seconded by Sadie

Motion Approved

**BIRT** the agenda be amended to include “Exec Compensation Recommendation, Budget Approval, and Athenaeum Constitution” under “for decision”.

Moved by Sadie

Seconded by Axel

Motion Approved

**BIRT** the April 3<sup>rd</sup> Meeting Minutes be approved as presented.

Moved by Genna

Seconded by Emma

Motion Approved

### 4. Presentations

#### a. Athenaeum Presentation

Ryan MacIntyre explained that the current constitution is from 2016 and is not properly formatted. Because of the issues with it, they wanted to create a new constitution to fix formatting errors and add a few things. The first edit clarifies policies on discrimination (racism, homophobia, etc.) The next edit allows for the removal of the editor and chief so safeguard against editor and chief issues.

#### b. Budget Presentation

Brad explained that he will share the main points. There are 5 substantial changes: closing Ziggy’s Pizza (lack of profit, and was competing with other ASU food establishments); 2.93% student fee increase (allows expansion of services for students, compensate for projected lower enrollment); new food cupboard position for a few hours per week; we have projected budget surplus (this will not be spent, kept as safeguard to prepare for any issues with renovations are taking place)

Sadie shared file with the financial information.

Sadie explained that the Axe is going to stay open next year. We have budgeted to have a full-time axe position for manager. Axe is one of ASU’s main services, but also causes financial loss to the ASU.



Sam Taylor asked if all the current working of axe will be put on role of new full-time AXE manager. Sadie said that this would be something for Alecia to decide since this falls under the general manager's portfolio. She mentioned may be getting co-op students to fill this role to give experience.

Sadie also mentioned the suggestion to increase honorariums for the executive board. This has not been updated for a while, and Sadie mentioned that she believes that work is underpaid. The executive members do get tuition discounts, but the staff are paid less than minimum wage for the hours which have been worked. She would like to see honorariums match minimum wage. Suggested increases are around 3,000 for president.

Brad clarified that the increase for VPs will be roughly 2,000\$ per term.

## **5. Standing Items**

### **a) Committee Chairs**

Sam Taylor said that events and promotions met, and approved people for awards.

Ben McCulley said that the governance committee met. Review board also met.

Brad said that the FAC met. They approved funding for events, without going over budget.

### **b) President**

Sadie has been focusing on completing her classes to graduate. The transitions are starting. She has been sitting on the search committee for vice provost academic. Sadie has met with 2 candidates who are running for this position. Sadie has been working with Alicia and focusing on transition for incoming members. Sadie acknowledged the work of our current council, and the work which everyone has been doing. Thank you for everyone for showing up. She really appreciates the work which everyone has done.

### **c) Chair of Council**

Ben explained that there are no new developments. This has been a great council. Everyone will remain in their positions until May 1<sup>st</sup>.

## **6. Unfinished Business**

## **7. New Business**

### **For Discussion**

#### **a)**

### **For Decision**



a) Hiring Approvals

**BIRT** the Students' Representative Council approve the hiring of Danielle Dullay as the 2024-2025 SRC Diversity and Inclusion Representative and the hiring of Ben McCulley as the 2024-2025 SRC Chair.

Moved by Sadie  
Seconded by Sam  
Motion Approved

Ben McCulley left the room for this time at 7:04 since he is current chair. Ben returned at 7:17.

The council discussed the role of EDI since we have not had an EDI in the past few years.

b) 2024-2025 Board of Governors Appointments

**BIRT** the Students' Representative Council tables the Board of Governors appointments with the recommendation that the Executive Board revisits this item over the summer.

Moved by Sadie  
Seconded by Allie  
Motion Approved.

Sadie explained that the Board of Governors is one of the 2 highly functioning committees. This handles decision making outside the role of Academics. This changes with the leadership at university. This is a great committee to get great experience, but you must have great ability to keep things confidential.

Ben McCulley explained that 2 ASU members are supposed to sit on the Board of Governors. Sadie mentioned that the by-law which suggests that a student for the upcoming year must be appointed now does not make sense, since new council members have not yet gained their positions.

c) Governance Committee Strategic Plan

**BIRT** the Students' Representative Council adopts the 2024-2027 Governance Strategic Plan.  
Moved by Sadie



Seconded by Isabel  
Motion Approved.

Sadie explained that the strategic plan was discussed at the previous meeting. She outlines the major sections of the plan. This is 3-year guiding document. The plan and progress are to be reviewed at the end of each year. She then explained that pillars of the plan.

d) Exec Compensation Recommendation

**BIRT** the Students' Representative Council approves the increase of the honorarium for the President of the ASU from \$19,500 to \$22,644 beginning in May 2024.

Moved by Zainab  
Seconded by Isabel  
Motion Approved

**BIRT** the Students' Representative Council approves the increase of the honorarium for the Vice-President Academic and External, Student Life, Finance and Operations, and Events and Promotions from \$15,716 to \$18,444 beginning in May 2024.

Moved by Sam  
Seconded by Bradley  
Motion Approved

e) Budget Approval

**BIRT** the Students' Representative Council approve the 2024-2025 operating budget as presented.

Moved by Bradley  
Seconded by Genna  
Motion Approved

f) Athenaeum Constitution

Axel thanked Ryan for presenting this and acknowledged the importance of work to fix the Ath constitution. Axel mentioned that there are a few issues with vagueness. He also mentioned the second edit which allows for a confidence vote to remove editor in chief. Axel explained that systems already exist to deal with this. He mentioned that a more in-depth review of the constitution should be completed in collaboration with the SRC. Axel mentioned that the editor in chief should be kept in check by the review board. Sadie asked if there is a mechanism in place to removed editor in chief in the constitution? Ryan explained that this can happen, but this would empower the regular staff and make the process more open. Axel mentioned that it is great that we can use this discussion to move forward for the ATH.



**BIRT** the Students' Representative Council approve the discrimination amendment but rejects the Editor-in-Chief impeachment amendment to the Athenaeum constitution on the basis that the Athenaeum and ASU governance committee will review the Athenaeum constitution in the following year.

Moved by Axel

Seconded by Emma

Motion Approved

## **8. In-Camera**

- a) Vacant President Position

**BIRT** the Students' Representative Council move in-camera.

Moved by Genna

Seconded by Sadie

Motion Approved

**In camera: 7:50pm**

**BIRT** the Students' Representative Council move out of camera.

Moved by Sadie

Seconded by Ben Taylor

Motion Approved

**Out of camera: 7:59**

**BIRT** the Students' Representative Council approve Sam Taylor as the interim President of the Acadia Students' Union until the 2024 Fall By-Election is completed.

Moved by Sadie

Seconded by Emma

Motion Approved

Sam abstained from this vote due to a conflict of interest.

## **9. Adjournment and Next Meeting Date**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:02 PM ADT.

Next Meeting Scheduled for: This is the final meeting for this school year