



Students' Representative Council - Meeting Minutes  
November 6<sup>th</sup>, 2023, 7:30pm AST  
Beveridge Forum

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**  
Arts Senator, Isabel Drouin (voting) **P**  
Science Senator, Julia Shirokov (voting) **P**  
Councilor-at-large, Axel Escholz (voting) **P**

**Regrets**

Deputy Chief Returning Officer, Ryan MacIntyre (non-voting)

**Resources**

Chair of Council, Ben McCulley (non-voting) **P**  
Vice-Chair of Council, Esther Uhlman (non-voting) **P**  
Chief Returning Officer, Ruth Amoo (non-voting) **P**

**Guests**

Shannyn Parfitt, RHA President **P**  
Silver Marshall, RHA Vice-President **P**

**Agenda**

**1. Call to Order**

Meeting was called to order at 7:34 PM AST.

**2. Roll Call**

**3. Adoption of Agenda and Previous Minutes**



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

Moved by Axel Escholz

Seconded by Sam Taylor

Motion Approved

**BIRT** the October 11<sup>th</sup> meeting minutes be approved as presented.

Moved by Sam Taylor

Seconded by Axel Escholz

Motion Approved

#### **4. Presentations**

##### **a) Residence Hall Association – President**

Shannon gave a presentation about the proposed referendum question asking on campus students to give 6 dollars annual fee paid in fall semesters to fund projects including garbage cans, better contracts for washers and dryers on campus, and some events such as prom. Mentioned that they have an off-campus rep to handle off campus issues such as plowing of snow.

##### **b) Election Update – CRO**

**BIRT** the Students' Representative Council move in-camera with the inclusion of the Chief Returning Officer Ruth Amoo.

Moved by Genna Beed

Seconded by Ben Morris

Motion Approved

**BIRT** The Students' Representative Council move out of in-camera.

Moved by Sadie

Seconded by Sam Taylor

Motion Approved

#### **5. Standing Items**

##### **a) Committee Chairs**

The Chair mentioned that the election committee met.

##### **b) President**

Sadie mentioned that we will be having provincial advocacy groups in Halifax and then Ottawa. Sadie mentioned Executive meeting and discussion of strategies for ASU. Sadie met with Alicia with approval



of Executive on Tuesday to formulate strategies on better strategies both externally and internally for the ASU. She will present this to the Exec and then bring it to council. Hopefully to approve a plan for the ASU for the upcoming years. Genna mentioned that she had a meeting with the coordinator of Acadia Pride. Genna will help get the executive of Pride up and running. Sam mentioned that he has been working on Frost week. This includes discussion on engagement of students on campus and events planning a potential disco event, maybe fireworks, and trying to get clubs involved. Ben Morris mentioned that he will be participating in both federal and provincial advocacy week. He is trying to prepare for this.

- a) Chair of Council

## **6. Unfinished Business**

## **7. New Business**

### **For Discussion**

- a) ASU Annual General Meeting (Required prior to Nov 30<sup>th</sup>)

Ben mentioned that meeting is needed before November 30. Said that we should promote that since we need 100 students to attend the meeting to reach quorum. Council discussed strategies to encourage students to attend meeting. Axel asked if committee could be made to make plan to promote event. Sam said that this would fall in events planning department. Ben mentioned that there are some required items for agenda including a question period. Council agrees that we will hold our AGM on November 30<sup>th</sup> at the Axe. Agenda to be approved later.

### **For Decision**

- c) Residence Hall Association Referendum Question

Axel asked about the way that the RHA is currently funded. Shannon mentioned that the RHA currently has no funding. She would like to have funding come to RHA through the ASU if the motion is approved. If the funding is coming through the ASU should the amount given to the RHA be decided by the ASU? Sadie mentioned that this would leave some risk for the ASU if the money were coming through the ASU. Communication with students is important, and the student's response should be considered. Sadie also mentioned that the RHA is doing great work, and we definitely want to support them, but we should discuss this further. Sam mentioned that the RHA's work looks great but asked how the RHA plans to use the money collected for the causes mentioned. Shannon mentioned that gathering information is very important to decide the most efficient way to implement ideas, and the budget appropriately. Axel said this is a great project and that he commends them for their work, but he expressed concerns about the liability of the ASU being obligated to give a set amount to the RHA. He mentioned that we want to see the RHA get the funding it needs but mentioned the difficulty of passing referendums. Axel said that



potentially there is a better way to ensure the RHA gets the funding it needs. Mentioned concerns about lack of mandate for RHA. Mentioned perhaps incorporating the RHA as an IA. This would give RHA funding but give checks and balances for the RHA. Genna mentioned that the RHA is a club/association so their use of funds can be monitored. Shannon mentioned that motions must go through RHA, and use of funds must go through Chad and Alicia and the co-signer. Sam mentioned that our discussion should be narrowed to use of funding surrounding motion and asked about budgeting for proposed projects. Shannon said that she currently does not have the numbers since her member who has these figures is in Japan, but she can get these numbers. Isabelle asked if RHA is an advocacy or events group. Shannyn said RHA is currently mostly advocacy, but they have hosted some events. They have gotten around funding issues by partnering with other groups. Sadie asked what led to the choice of 6 dollars. Shannon mentioned that she wanted a flat number and 6 dollars seemed reasonable. Sadie mentioned that other avenues could be used if funding from 6-dollar fee was not sufficient. Axel stated that this is probably an extended conversation that we should have, and we do want to see the RHA succeed. Axel mentioned that the referendum is set in stone if passed. He said that the question remains how this work would if the referendum does pass. Sadie mentioned that this is something that council can discuss at a later date. Sadie thanked the RHA members for coming and presenting and said that council will discuss the matter further.

**BIRT** the Students' Representative Council tables the RHA Referendum Question to be further discussed by Council for consideration in the 2024 General Election

Moved Sadie McAlear  
Seconded Axel Escholz  
Motion Approved

**8. In-Camera**

**9. Adjournment**

The Chair adjourned after hearing no further business.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:51 PM AST.