



Students' Representative Council - Meeting Minutes  
January 15th, 2024  
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 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 Abdurraheem (voting) **P**  
First-year Representative, Emma Boles (voting) **P**

**Regrets**

Theology Senator, Katie Pezzutto (voting)  
Vice-President Student Life, Genna Beed (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**  
Deputy Chief Returning Officer, Ryan MacIntyre (non-voting) **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 Sadie McAlear

Seconded by Sam Taylor

Motion Approved

**BIRT** the agenda be amended to include the discussion of the residence hall association referendum question.

Moved by Sadie McAlear

Seconded by Sam Taylor

Motion Approved

**BIRT** the Nov 28th Meeting Minutes be approved as presented.

Moved by Emma Boles

Seconded by Isabelle Drouin

Motion Approved

### **4. Presentations**

#### a) CASA Copyright Campaign

Sadie gave a quick presentation about CASA. Sadie is chair of CASA. CASA does an advocacy week every year. She explained that members create work plans. She explained the role of the director of advocacy in CASA. CASA's national campaign this year is a copyright campaign. The goal of this is to protect the rights of post-secondary students to access affordable learning materials. It allows profs to get up to 10% of info from text for free to make life more affordable for students. CASA is concerned about ensuring that rights of students are protected. Publishers and some others would like to see this fair dealing section of Copyright act removed. CASA is working to protect this section to ensure students can access the learning materials protected by fair dealing section of Copyright act. Sadie will share info on this with members following meeting. CASA is currently trying to raise awareness about issue with Copyright Act, and asking students what they spend on textbooks. Sam and Emma mentioned potential locations on campus to set up to raise awareness, and ways to incentivize students to get involved in CASA's attempts to raise awareness about the price of textbooks.

### **5. Standing Items**

#### a) Committee Chairs

Review board met before the break.

#### b) President

Sadie reported that she is back to full time classes and mentioned that this is very challenging to balance school and work with ASU. Mentioned the work which she is doing for the ASU, and the various meetings she has each week. She does her best to stay up to date on issues impacting the student



committee. She mentioned that she submitted her draft of her plan for the future of the ASU to the executive. Mentioned upcoming general election.

c) Chair of Council

## **6. Unfinished Business**

## **7. New Business**

### **For Discussion**

a) Fixed Meeting Dates

Ben Mc suggested that we have fixed meeting dates to make schedule more organized. Ben will send out form to see what meeting time works best.

b) 2024 General Election Update

There will be an election. Date has not been set. Ben reminded those who want to run for re-election to speak to him in regard to this. Election committee has not met. Will provide update at next meeting.

c) Residence Hall Association Referendum Question

Met last semester about this with residence hall association. Ben Mc mentioned that we need to make decision about this.

Allie stepped out of meeting at 8:10 to avoid a conflict of interest since she is member of RHA.

Axel mentioned the potential good which RHA can do but expressed concerns about this and funding for the RHA. Axel asks what the referendum would do and expressed concerns about liability for ASU caused by this. He suggested that this issue be looked at in committee to better understand this issue. Isabelle mentioned that RHA referendum would probably have difficulty passing since the RHA is not well known. Emma backed up these comments. Isabelle mentioned that issues such as garbage cans which the RHA had mentioned are more of a school issue, not an issue which should have to be dealt with from the RHA. Both mentioned issues with lack of communication and student engagement. Axel said that this is not abnormal for new organizations but expressed concerns over broadness of mandate for RHA. He suggested that the ASU have broader control mechanisms in regard to the RHA if they are receiving funding. He suggested that we talk with Residence life in regard to issues with RHA.

Sadie mentioned issues with RHA. She said that it would be irresponsible to put RHA question on ballot. She commends work of those in organization and mentioned that it has potential but said that organization must be more well defined and organized. She also mentioned issues with communication with RHA in the past, and the challenges presented by this.

Axel added that RHA is important. We should be looking to help RHA, but it would be irresponsible to give put RHA question on ballot due to issues.



Sam asked if there is anything else requested for questions in referendum. Sadie mentioned that the food sharing group on campus would like to get funding for a one-year conditional term.

Axel raised potential concerns about food sharing group asking for money. Sam mentioned that food sharing group is club. This could be viewed as unfair by the other clubs. Sadie will discuss these issues with Alicia. Sadie explained that group is association not club so they can ask for direct funding. Axel affirmed that he is not opposed to this, he just wanted to confirm that this is done properly. This will be looked into more at the next meeting.

Allie came back into meeting at 8:35.

### **For Decision**

- a) Theology Senator Leave Request

Ben Mc read a leave request letter from the Theology Senator

**BIRT** the Students' Representative Council approve the Theology Senator's request for leave.

Moved by Sadie McAlear

Seconded by Axel Escholz

Motion Approved

### **8. In-Camera**

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

The meeting was adjourned at 8:39 PM AST.