

# EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Students' Union Okanagan of UBC, Local 12 British Columbia Federation of Students  
Executive Committee Meeting, September 25th, 2023, UNC133C

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## Directors Present

President (meeting chair)

Vice-President External

Vice President Finance and Administration

Vice-President Internal

Vice-President Campus Life

Cade Desjarlais

Lakshay Karnwal

Osho Gnanasivam

Shreyansh Mehendiratta

Uday Gill

## Directors Absent

## Staff Present

General Manager

Jason Evans

## **1. CALL TO ORDER 3:34PM**

### **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF TERRITORY**

We would like to acknowledge that we are on the traditional, ancestral territory of the Okanagan Nation. We would like to recognize that learning happened in this place long before this institution was established. It is important to understand the privilege we hold to be living, working, and learning on Syilx territory.

## **2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA AND REVIEW OF MEMBERSHIP**

23/09/25.01

Gill/Gnanasivam

Be it resolved that the agenda be adopted as amended.

23/09/25.02

Gnanasivam/Mehendiratta

Be it resolved that the agenda be amended to include "Swim Club Membership Fees" under New Business and "Well Tab and Discount" under Discussion.

Amendment carried.

Carried as amended.

## **3. ADOPTION OF MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS**

23/09/25.03

Karnwal/Gill

Be it resolved that the minutes from the meeting held on September 11<sup>th</sup>, 2023 be adopted.

Carried.

## **4. NEW BUSINESS**

### **4.1 Swim Club Membership Fees**

Gnanasivam brought forward the fee from the Swim Club as their membership fee exceeds what is permitted in SUO Regulations. Gnanasivam sought the motion that:

23/09/25.04

Be it resolved that the Swim Club fee be approved for collection at \$40 for recreational swimmers and \$60 for competitive swimmers.

Karnwal asked if Gnanasivam had spoken with the club to ensure that these fees would be suitable for the club. Gnanasivam responded yes.

Carried.

## **5. DISCUSSION**

### **5.1 Reimbursement Procedure – Osho Gnanasivam**

Gnanasivam updated the Executive committee about the processes needed for reimbursements given that the Finance Manager is on leave. There would be an extended delay in reimbursements.

Further, Gnanasivam highlighted that there was no budgeted lines for reimbursement for executives meeting with external partners for coffee and/or lunch.

Desjarlais and Evans suggested it is an important and non-expensive support the Executives can use for networking. Desjarlais shared how he used his budget line last year to cover coffee for students, UBC, and lobbying meetings.

Evans and Gnanasivam suggested each Executive budget \$300 (three-hundred dollars) from their respective lines.

The Executive team agreed.

### **5.2 StudentCare Trip - Shreyansh Mehendiratta**

Mehendiratta informed the committee that StudentCare has invited some of the Executive team and staff to attend their headquarters in Montreal as part of the ongoing audit.

Karnwal and Desjarlais indicated they would be unable to attend, but Gill and Gnanasivam volunteered to do so. Evans also stated he was available.

### **5.3 Office Hours - Cade Desjarlais**

Desjarlais asked the Executive Committee to give their weekly office hour times to the Oversight Committee by the end of the week. Desjarlais explained what these office hours are used for.

### **5.4 Well Tab and Discount**

Gnanasivam brought this item to the attention of the Executive to address the long held tradition of the Well Student Tab being used by Executives yet not being budgeted for.

In his view, these items should be budgeted for and have an explicit purpose, especially given the rules outlining the restrictions on expenses on alcohol for student associations.

Desjarlais and Evans provided some context as to what the tab has been used for and that this was discussed on last year's executive and approved at the Board level.

Gill stated that it was a benefit for the executives to help engage students, bring people into Well Events, and promote the Well. Mehendiratta agreed.

Gnanasivam felt that this was not an appropriate use of students' money and felt it is ripe for abuse. The Committee struggled to push back on this view.

Desjarlais believed this was a benefit for the Executives and one that could be used

to attract people to events, however, agreed that if it is to be budgeted for, there should be explicit rules.

Evans provided background for how Desjarlais brought these same issues to the committee last year yet Desjarlais admitted there was not enough done to curb possible misuse and admitted that this is and has been a problem.

Karnwal inquired how this tab is tracked and Desjarlais and Gnanasivam replied stating it is done so with a running total in the Well. Karnwal said he appreciated the tab, but sees where Gnanasivam is coming from.

Desjarlais pushed that this conversation has already been had.

Gnanasivam highlighted the difficult nature in separating this benefit from a distinct personal benefit, Gill agreed.

The Executive committee decided to pause the tab in the Well for the Executives and instructed Evans to develop policy surrounding this tab, taking into account that the policy revolve around Well Events and specific campus engagement. The current tabs will be absorbed where deemed appropriate and the policy will be brought forward to the Board of Directors for direct approval.

Next, Gnanasivam brought forward his questions surrounding the discounts Executives and Staff receive on food at the Well.

Desjarlais explained how the discount works, saying there was inconsistency and an apparent power dynamic between Well staff and those seeking this discount.

Gill had seen this benefit used by Board member who were not entitled to this yet did state that it was an important resource for Executives working long days on campus for events.

Gnanasivam partially agreed but challenged the discount on the grounds of the current loss budgeted already for the Well. Evans agreed, paused the discount for the summer, and instructed the discount be changed to 20% for those not in the kitchen and 50% for all staff working in the kitchen on shift.

Desjarlais felt that it was fair that Executives got this discount, but also agreed it was too much.

Evans shared that Well food tickets could be used to show appreciation to volunteers and Board members on an as need basis.

Karnwal also agreed that while this benefit was nice, it was inconsistent.

Gnanasivam said there needs to be clearer guidelines. The Executive agreed.

Desjarlais sought a motion:

23/09/25.05

Be it resolved that Well discounts be paused for everyone outside of staff at the SUO and Well Kitchen staff until the Executive present a recommendation to the Board.

Ganansivam inquired why they need a motion for this but not the Well tabs.

Desjarlais said that this was slightly different because it was an explicit direction to staff rather than the internal Executive team.

Carried.

## **6. INFORMATION**

### **6.1 Volunteering for \$5 Smart Meals campaign – Lakshay Karnwal**

Karnwal gave an update on the \$5 Smart meals campaign and the help he would need to table. He will be inviting the Board to help.

Desjarlais shared he could not volunteer Wednesday as he would be at the Board of Governors meeting, but was excited to see the campaign launch.

## **7. IN CAMERA**

## **8. ADJOURNMENT AT 4:52PM**