

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Students' Union Okanagan of UBC, Local 12 British Columbia Federation of Students
Board of Directors Meeting, April 5th, 2023, UNC 106

Called to Order at 18:18

Directors Present

Vice-President External
Vice President Finance and Administration
Vice-President Internal
Director-at-Large
Director-at-Large
Graduate Studies Representative
Faculty of Applied Science Representative
Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences Representative
Faculty of Education Representative
Faculty of Health & Social Development Representative
Faculty of Management Representative
Faculty of Science Representative
Student Senate Caucus Representative (ex-officio)

Cade Desjarlais
Vrushank Kekre
Dhruv Bihani
Aryam Dwivedi
Megan Johnston
Kirthana Ganesh
Akshata Pathak
Twinkle Hora
Lindsay McGrail
Grace Halpin
Jes Mindi
Maziar Matin Panah
Salman Hafeez (Saami)

Directors Absent

President (meeting chair)
Vice-President Campus Life
Director-at-Large
Director-at-Large
Faculty of Creative & Critical Studies Representative
Board of Governors Representative (ex-officio)

Jakson Pashelka
Danial Asif
Spandan Ghevriya
Berat Celik
Hanna Donaldson
Tashia Kootenayoo

Staff Present

General Manager
Governance Coordinator
Well Manager

Jason Evans
Bri Fedoruk
Michael Ouellet

Guests

College of Graduate Studies Representative (*elect*)
Vice-President Campus Life (*elect*)
Vice-President Internal (*elect*)
RBC Off Campus Presenter
RBC Off Campus Presenter
President of the Prospective Needy Feelers and Associates Club
Member
Member
Member
Member
Member
Member
Member

Anjali Desai
Uday Gill
Shreyansh Mehendiratta
Lola Melchiar
Erin Delfs
Russell Mayne
Dani Pierson
Neela Rader
Xilo Rader
Ken Cairns
Tom Letcher-Nicholls
Joey Lee
Makenzie Wellerdt

1. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF TERRITORY

We would like to acknowledge that we are on the unceded, 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

23/04/05.01

Mindi/Matin Panah

Be it resolved that the agenda be adopted.

23/04/05.02

Desjarlais/Ganesh

Be it resolved the agenda be amended by moving the adoption of the letter of the VP External from New Business, to just after the Adoption of the Minutes from the Previous Meetings.

Amendment carried

23/04/05.03

Desjarlais/Bihani

Desjarlais moved to amend the agenda by adding another item under new business.

Amendment carried

23/04/05.04

Kekre/Mindi

Be it resolved that the agenda be amended by adding another item under New Business, called "Signing Authority."

Amendment carried

23/04/05.05

Bihani/Matin Panah

Moved to amend the agenda to include the policies and minutes from the Policy Committee previously circulated to the Board.

Amendment carried

Carried as amended

3. ADOPTION OF MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

23/04/05.06

Matin Panah/Dwivedi

Be it resolved that the minutes of the meeting held March 13th, 2023 be adopted.

Carried

4. NEW BUSINESS

4.1 Adoption of VP External's Letter

23/04/05.07

Desjarlais/Mindi

Be it resolved that the letter be adopted as attached.

Carried

4.2 Presidential Hiring Committee Appointment Extension

23/04/05.08

Desjarlais/Bihani

Be it resolved that Jakson Pashelka's appointment to the UBC Presidential Hiring Committee be extended until a successful candidate is selected.

Desjarlais motivated.

Carried

5. PRESENTATIONS

5.1 RBC Off Campus

Melchiar and Delfs presented to the Board of Directors, concerning RBC's involvement in the pipeline project.

Johnston replied that she wanted to be cognisant of the relationship with RBC and what the SUO could provide for students. She wanted to avoid harming students, or reducing the services they offer on campus.

Melchar and Delfs wanted the Students' Union to distance themselves from RBC to show they cared about indigenous rights and climate justice, so they were looking for a public statement.

Johnston wanted to know about options for investing elsewhere that is more equitable?

Melchar and Delfs replied that they had looked into this, and in the Okanagan, they were thinking of Coast Capital. They have already reached out to see if they would be able to provide the same services.

Hafeez wondered if the asks presented would impact current investments?

Melchar and Delfs were looking beyond the years that were currently contracted.

Ganesh replied that a public statement was a doable ask. It was not a bad ask to consider not continuing a lease with them, as she had originally opened an account with them because they were implicitly endorsed by the university and the Students' Union.

5.2 The Needy Feelers and Associates

Mayne presented for his prospective club to the Board.

The Board asked questions for clarity on the intentions of the prospective club, and the vision for it.

6. COMMITTEE BUSINESS

6.1 Executive Committee

23/04/05.09

Pashelka/Pathak

Be it resolved that the minutes of the emergency meeting held March 17th, 2023 be adopted.

Carried

23/04/05.10

Pashelka/Dwivedi

Be it resolved that the minutes of the meeting held March 24th, 2023 be adopted.

Carried

6.2 Finance Committee

Kekre provided an update.

6.3 Policy Committee

23/04/05.11

Bihani/Dwivedi

Be it resolved that the minutes of the meeting held March 15th, 2023 be adopted.

Carried

23/04/05.12

Bihani/Pathak

Be it resolved that [Regulation VIII:18]:

"Pre-paid gift cards are ineligible for reimbursement unless the receipts are submitted with an Expense Reimbursement Form and a Pre-Paid Gift Card Purchasing Record Form."

Be stricken and replaced with the words:

"The combined value of pre-paid gift cards and prizes over two hundred (200) dollars, per event, are ineligible for reimbursement. If a Student Association wishes to spend more than two hundred (200) dollars on pre-paid gift cards or prizes, they must submit an expense request to the SUO, through the Membership Outreach Coordinator, prior to purchase, the SUO may approve or deny requests. Upon approval, Student Associations must submit a completed Expense Reimbursement Form and a Pre-Paid Gift Card/Price Item Purchasing Record Form."

Bihani motivated.

Dwivedi asked about specifics concerning gift card purchases.

Carried

23/04/05.13

Bihani/Ganesh

Be it resolved that [Regulation VIII:9(e)]:

"A petition of at least fifteen (15) Members in support of the proposed Student Association."

Shall be changed by striking the words, "fifteen (15)," and adding the words "thirty-two (32)" so that [Reg. VIII:9(e)] then reads:

A petition of at least thirty-two (32) Members in support of the proposed Student Association.

Bihani motivated.

Pathak asked about the number that was chosen.

Bihani explained the rationale, but welcomed an amendment if that was sought.

Carried

23/04/05.14

Bihani/Mindi

Be it resolved that [Regulation VIII:20(c)]:

"maintaining a membership of a minimum of fifteen (15) Members, excluding executives shall be changed by striking "fifteen (15)," and adding, "thirty-two (32)," so that [Reg. VIII:20(c)] then reads:

maintaining a membership of a minimum of thirty-two (32) Members, excluding executives;

Carried

23/04/05.15

Bihani/Mindi

Be it resolved that a new regulation be added after [Regulation VIII:17], to be renumbered as necessary, which reads as follows:

A capital purchase is defined as a purchase of a tangible asset (equipment or inventory). A Student Association may make a purchase of a tangible asset up to three hundred and fifty (350) dollars, per item, without requiring authorization from the Membership Outreach Coordinator, Vice-President Internal, or Vice-President Finance and Administration. A Student Association shall clarify their intent of purchase of a tangible item priced higher than three hundred and fifty (350) dollars on their Student Association term funding application to be considered for the authorization of purchase by the Membership Outreach Coordinator, Vice-President Internal, or Vice-President Finance and Administration with the Student Association required to provide a detailed written description of the item, need of the item for the Student Association, cost, storage plans, along with any other information requested by the Membership Outreach Coordinator, Vice-President Internal, or Vice-President Finance and Administration.

Bihani motivated, he and the Vice-President Finance had worked on this because it had been an ongoing issue with Student Association capital purchases. We did not currently have a policy allowing clubs and student associations to make capital purchases.

Evans replied that this was a policy that was new, and he was seeing it in a new light being presented at this meeting.

Motion tabled

23/04/05.16

Mindi/Dwivedi

Mindi moved to table the motion currently in question and the next motion for the next Policy Committee meeting for revision.

Carried

23/04/05.17

Bihani/Mindi

Be it resolved that [Regulation VIII:17]:

"The following Items are considered ineligible for purchase and reimbursement with SUO funding:

- a. capital purchases;"

be changed by striking the words, "a. capital purchases;" and renumbering the consecutive points as necessary.

Motion tabled

23/04/05.18

Bihani/Mindi

Be it resolved that [Regulation III:17(e)]:

"As a responsible owner, the Student Union, will regularly engage and collaborate with its active investment managers on matters related to environmental, social and governance (ESG) risks and opportunities. Specifically, the Student Union will:

- e. disclose and publish a detailed listing of its investments annually, and report on ESG matters in the Investment Committee's annual report."

Be changed by striking the words, "Investment Committee's," and replacing them with the words, "Finance Committee's," so that [Reg. III:17(e)] then reads as:

As a responsible owner, the Student Union, will regularly engage and collaborate with its active investment managers on matters related to environmental, social, and governance (ESG) risks and opportunities. Specifically, the Student Union will:

- e. disclose and publish a detailed listing of its investments annually, and report on ESG matters in the Finance Committee's annual report.

Carried

23/04/05.19

Bihani/Ganesh

Be it resolved that [Regulation III:26]:

"Quarterly - The investment manager shall provide the committee with detailed information about asset allocation, investment performance, future strategies, and other matters of interest."

Be changed by adding the word "Finance" before the word "Committee," so [Reg. III:26] then reads as:

Quarterly - The investment manager shall provide the Finance Committee with detailed information about asset allocation, investment performance, future strategies, and other matters of interest.

Carried

23/04/05.20

Bihani/Matin Panah

Be it resolved that [Regulation III:28]:

"The committee shall meet at least annually with the investment manager to review the

results of the investment portfolio to determine whether the performance benchmarks have been met. At this meeting, the committee will decide if they would like to reappoint the investment manager for the following year."

Be changed by adding the word "Finance" before all mentions of the word "committee," and further changed by adding the word "once" between the words "least" and "annually," so [Reg. III:28] then reads as:

The Finance Committee shall meet at least once annually with the investment manager to review the results of the investment portfolio to determine whether the performance benchmarks have been met. At this meeting, the Finance Committee will decide if they would like to reappoint the investment manager for the following year.

Carried

23/04/05.21

Bihani/Pathak

Be it resolved that [Regulation IV] be changed by adding a new regulation, to be renumbered as needed, and to be read as such:

The Executive Committee shall complete a Human Resources training and Labour Relations training within three (3) months of assuming office. Further, the President must complete ongoing training, pursuant to Bylaw X:1(h), once in September, and January respectively. This training must be organized by the General Manager of the SUO.

Carried

6.4 Campus Life Committee

23/04/05.22

Mindi/Dwivedi

Be it resolved that the minutes of the meeting held February 6th, 2023 be adopted.

Carried

23/04/05.23

Ganesh/Mindi

Be it resolved that the minutes of the meeting held March 3rd, 2023 be adopted.

Carried

23/04/05.24

Ganesh/Mindi

Be it resolved that the minutes of the meeting held March 17th, be adopted.

Carried

Mindi updated from the Campus Life Committee, and urged all Board members to attend and volunteer at Recess.

6.5 Campaigns Committee

23/04/05.25

Mindi/Hora

Be it resolved that the minutes of the meeting held March 27th, 2023, and the notes from the meeting with the Minister of Post-Secondary Education be adopted as attached.

Carried

6.6 Graduate Student Committee

23/04/05.26

Ganesh/Dwivedi

Be it resolved that the minutes of the meeting held March 16th, 2023 be adopted.

Carried

Ganesh provided an update.

6.7 Oversight Committee

McGrail provided an update.

7. REPORT ON UNIVERSITY RELATIONS

7.1 Senate

Hafeez provided an update. The last Senate meeting the DVC commented about fundraising, he wondered how much would be for student needs, she would be getting back to him and he would be updating the Board with her answer. The Senate also made changes to PhD requirements. In the old rules, doctoral students must be on campus, meaning that if there were things keeping them off of campus, they were unable to continue their studies or their research.

[Donaldson entered at 19:55]

Ganesh wanted to know about the fundraising.

Hafeez replied that there was a specific office called the Development Office.

[Pathak left at 19:55]

7.2 Board of Governors

7.3 Other University Committees

8. NEW BUSINESS

8.1 Signing Authority

23/04/05.27

Kekre/Mindi

Be it resolved that Vrushank Kekre, Jakson Pashelka, and Danial Asif be removed as signing authorities on all bank accounts held by the Students' Union of UBC Okanagan, namely the Valley First Credit Union, the Royal Bank of Canada, and RBC Dominion Securities as of May 1, 2023, and,

Be it further resolved that Osho Gnanasivam, Cade Desjarlais, and Uday Gill be granted signing authority on all bank accounts held by the Students' Union of UBC Okanagan, namely the Valley First Credit Union, the Royal Bank of Canada, and RBC Dominion Securities as of May 1, 2023.

Carried

8.2 Vacancies on the Board

23/04/05.28

Mindi/Dwivedi

Be it resolved the Board of Directors place a call for applicants for vacant positions of the SUO Board of Directors.

Carried

23/04/05.29

Ganesh/Mindi

Ganesh moved to direct the currently serving Directors of the vacant faculty positions to assist in placing a call for filling these vacancies.

Carried

8.3 Club Ratification

23/04/05.30

Bihani/Dwivedi

Be it resolved that the Needy Feelers and Associates Club be ratified.

Bihani motivated in favour.

Dwivedi felt the timing of the ratification would be an issue for renewal.

Bihani explained the timeline.

Ganesh and McGrail abstained.

Carried

9. IN-CAMERA SESSION

23/04/05.31

Mindi/Dwivedi

Be it resolved the meeting be moved in-camera.

Carried

[20:06]

10. ADJOURNMENT

Adjourned at 20:20

