

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Students' Union Okanagan of UBC, Local 12 British Columbia Federation of Students
Board of Directors Meeting, April 24 at 6 pm, 2024, UNC 334

Directors Present

President (meeting chair)	Cade Desjarlais
Vice President Finance and Administration	Osho Gnanasivam
Vice-President External	Lakshay Karnwal
Director-at-Large	Twinkle Hora
Faculty of Health & Social Development Representative	Grace Halpin
Faculty of Creative & Critical Studies Representative	Hanna Donaldson
Faculty of Applied Science Representative	Rishan Pfaender (Zoom)
College of Graduate Studies Representative	Anjali Desai
Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences Representative	Georgia Mayhew
Faculty of Education Representative	Vacant

Directors Absent with Notice

Vice-President Internal	Shreyansh Mehendiratta
Director-at-Large	Aryan Arora
Faculty of Science Representative	Sunish Grover
Faculty of Management Representative	Rajat Arora
Board of Governors Representative (ex-officio)	Isabella Bravo
Student Senate Caucus Representative (ex-officio)	Salman Hafeez (Saami)

Directors Absent without Notice

Vice-President Campus Life	Uday Gill
Director-at-Large	Darsh Alamchandani
Director-at-Large	Japnit Singh Madaan

Staff Present

General Manager	Jason Evans
Governance Coordinator	Cecily Qiu

Guests

Incoming VP External	Abby Newman
Incoming VP Campus Life	Saaim Imran
Graduate Student	Yazdan Gordanpour

1. CALLED TO ORDER AT 6:24 P.M.

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

24/04/24.01

Mayhew/Halpin

Be it resolved that the agenda be adopted.

Desjarlais/Gnanasivam

Be it resolved that Motion#7 and Motion#8 be tabled until the next board meeting. Desjarlais explained that one of the motions was to make sure the policy for the AGM petition aligns with other policies, and the other one was about the student course union AGM quorum. He did not think they were in the position to approve those policy changes and suggested those be presented to the next board for adoption.

Amendment carried.

Desjarlais/Halpin

Be it resolved that the agenda item 8.1 Application Process and Criteria for the New Student Recreation Facility Fee Refund be removed.

Desjarlais stated that during the last by-election, they passed the referendum regarding the new student recreation facility fee. It was stated in the referendum question that the SUO board would create an opt-out process for students in financial needs. This process required collaboration with other UBC offices. He was trying to get information about what UBC does with other fee refund. He did not encourage the current board and the incoming board to create a new opt out process. The enrollment office had not provided any information yet. Gnanasivam asked if the process could be done before Desjarlais leaves the office. Desjarlais stated that he would schedule meetings with the incoming SUO president and Dale Mullings from AVP Student, and this process must be done during the summer as the university would collect the fee starting from the next academic year.

Amendment carried.

Desai/Mayhew

Be it resolved that the Graduate Student Representative Engagement Report be attached under the agenda item 7.1.

Amendment carried.

Carried as amended.

3. ADOPTION OF MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

24/04/24.02

Hora/Donaldson

Be it resolved that the minutes of the meeting held on April 8th, 2024 be adopted.
Carried.

4. PRESENTATION

4.1 Executive Summary Report – Oversight Committee

Halpin stated that executive monthly reports were submitted on time every month, and she gave a summary of the January Executive review. She presented the successes the Executives had achieved over the year and provided some recommendations for them and the incoming oversight committee. She mentioned that there were only minor complaints and one on-going investigation. The Executive Summary Report would be published on the SUO website.

5. COMMITTEE BUSINESS

5.1 Executive Committee

24/04/24.03

Donaldson/Karnwal

Be it resolved that the minutes of the meeting held on April 5th, 2024 be adopted.
Carried.

24/04/24.04

Donaldson/Karnwal

Be it resolved that the minutes of the meeting held on April 19th, 2024 be adopted.
Carried.

5.2 Finance Committee

24/04/24.05

Gnanasivam/Mayhew

Be it resolved that the minutes of the meeting held on March 27th, 2024 be adopted.
Carried.

5.3 Policy Committee

24/04/24.06

Donaldson/Karnwal

Be it resolved that the minutes of the meeting held on April 10th, 2024 be adopted. Desjarlais stated that they had done the experiment of letting the policy committee meet at least six times a year, which he thought did not work well. He thought the number of the policy changes they presented was not consistent. He thought it was hard to hold the executive accountable if there were no recurring meetings. He recommended that the next board could change the frequency of policy committee meetings back to monthly meetings like other standing committees to make sure certain policies would be worked on and put forward to the board. Secondly, Desjarlais stated that this board adopted a motion to mandate the policy committee to present an indigenous representative implementation plan to the board by April 1, 2024 but it did not happen. Desjarlais expressed his deep disappointment by their failure to complete the task. It was not fine to send him a copy from another student union two weeks later. He hoped that the incoming VP Internal could continue working on it. Karnwal asked about the recommendation from Desjarlais regarding the minimum or maximum times of meetings. Desjarlais stated that in the past they received a lot of policy amendments, and the policy committee had to work on some unnecessary policy changes just to fill in their meeting time. In his mind, it would be fine to have a meeting to just approve the meeting minutes. In this way, at least they would touch in base regularly, have feedback from directors and students at large, and produce meeting minutes. Halpin added that the oversight committee had encouraged VP-Internal to interact with Indigenous students but had not received update yet. Mayhew asked if the policy committee had ever worked on the task. Gnanasivam and Qiu stated they had a couple of meetings discussing about the indigenous representative plans, and they were in favor of establishing a standing committee, but the document presented did not fit in the SUO committee structure. More work needed to be done.

Carried.

5.4 Campus Life Committee

24/04/24.07

Donaldson/Hora

Be it resolved that the minutes of the meeting held on April 5th, 2024 be adopted. Qiu stated that Campus Life Committee had not submitted their February committee meeting minutes yet.

Carried.

5.5 Campaigns Committee

24/04/24.08

Karnwal/Mayhew

Be it resolved that the minutes of the meeting held on April 16th, 2024 be adopted.

Carried.

5.6 Graduate Student Committee

24/04/24.09

Desai/Donaldson

Be it resolved that the minutes of the meeting held on March 8th, 2024 be adopted.
Carried.

24/04/24.10

Desai/Hora

Be it resolved that the minutes of the meeting held on April 12th, 2024 be adopted.
Carried.

24/04/24.11

Desai/Donaldson

Be it resolved that the March & April 2024 Honoraria for GSC Students at Large be disbursed as follows:

GSC March		
Sr. No	Name of SAL	Amount(\$)
1	Akshta Sharma	0
2	Ammar Riyadh	50
3	Dina Khrabshesh	50
4	Fatima Canales	50
5	Hammad Ahmad	50
6	Nibirh Jawad	0
7	Omang Baheti	50
8	Satabdi Das	50
9	Yazdanmehr Gordanpour	50
GSC April		
Sr. No	Name of SAL	Amount(\$)
1	Akshta Sharma	50
2	Ammar Riyadh	50
3	Dina Khrabshesh	0
4	Fatima Canales	0
5	Hammad Ahmad	50
6	Nibirh Jawad	50
7	Omang Baheti	50
8	Satabdi Das	50
9	Yazdanmehr Gordanpour	50

Carried.

5.7 Oversight Committee

24/04/24.12

Halpin/Donaldson

Be it resolved that the minutes of the meeting held on April 5th, 2024 be adopted.

Halpin stated that they received a complaint on VP-Internal regarding the indigenous representative plan. As it was close to the end of his term, the oversight committee decided not to take disciplinary process, but to encourage VP-Internal to send an apology letter to Indigenous students and set up meetings with IPS/IPC. They were still waiting for updates from him.

Carried.

24/04/24.13

Halpin/Mayhew

Be it resolved that the March Executive Reports be adopted as attached.

Desai pointed out VP Internal did not attend IGS AGM, which had been reported as an activity completed in his monthly report. She would kindly suggest he make necessary amendments. Desjarlais stated that he, Gnanasivam and Karnwal took the job very seriously, and he was beyond disappointment with the code of conduct of some directors. He stated that the SUO had achieved a lot this year and made some major wins; however, they need a better process for accountability, especially during March and April.

Carried.

24/04/24.14

Halpin/Mayhew

Be it resolved that the January Executive Review be adopted as attached.

Carried.

6. REPORT ON UNIVERSITY RELATIONS

6.1 Senate

6.2 Board of Governors

6.3 Other University Committees

7. NEW BUSINESS

7.1 Term 2 Faculty Representative Engagement Report

Attached:

- Rajat Arora_2 Engagement Reports from Faculty of Management Representative
- Sunish Grover_2 Engagement Reports from Faculty of Science Representative

- Hanna Donaldson_2 Engagement Reports from Faculty of Creative & Critical Studies Representative
- Georgia Mayhew_2 Engagement Reports from Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences Representative
- Grace Halpin_2 Engagement Reports from Faculty of Health & Social Development Representative
- Anjali Desai_1 Engagement Reports from Graduate Student Representative (attached to the Minutes)

Missing:

- 2 Engagement Reports from Faculty of Applied Science Representative - Rishan Pfaender

7.2 CRO Report

24/04/24.15

Hora/Donaldson

Be it resolved that the CRO Report for 2024 General Election be adopted as presented. (The report would be attached to the minutes.)

Desjarlais stated that the CRO report was delayed due to her wrist injury. He gave some time for members to read the report. Meeting recessed at 7:08 p.m. and reconvened at 7:17 p.m. Desjarlais stated that the CRO report was incomplete as it was missing an appendix of complaints and resolutions, which information was critical for the election report. However, there was a need to adopt the report as they need to send the bank the change of signing authorities with the approval of election results. Based on the advice from Evans, he proposed they adopt the CRO report and request the appendix be circulated and approved by the board later, but he stated that this was not his preference. Gnanasivam asked about the consequence of not adopting the CRO report. Desjarlais explained that it would affect the change of signing authorities, as they need to ratify the incoming board before changing the signing authorities. Desjarlais then suggested that they table the CRO report and approve the complete one via email outside the board meeting. For the following motion regarding the change of signing authorities, he could amend it by adding "pending approval of the CRO report" after the motion.

Evans advised that they ratify the report with a clause that requires the CRO to submit an appendix with complaints and resolutions. The appendix could be reviewed and approved by the next board. This report had provided the results, recommendations, and an overview from the CRO, which were the most essential parts of the report and could be ratified by the current board. Gnanasivam stated that the complaints and resolutions indicated the fairness of the election. Desjarlais would like to request the board of directors to remain in position until April 30, so

they could approve a complete report via emails. Evans expressed his concerns about collecting the complete report on time. Karnwal asked about the possibility for the CRO to complete the report by the end of this month. Evans stated that the CRO had presented a doctor's note indicating she should not work during this time; and the SUO has the obligation to expect it. Mayhew suggested approving the election results as she thought it would be inappropriate to request the CRO to work against the Doctor's note. Gnanasivam stated the election results should not be separated from the report and he thought electoral committee should make more efforts. Karnwal agreed with Gnanasivam, but he was concerned about the impact on the change of signing authorities. Evan stated that the power to produce the report was invested in the CRO, and none of the electoral committee member could do it. Mayhew stated that she would like to see an efficient start for the next board rather than a delay.

Desjarlais/Halpin

Be it resolved that the CRO Report for 2024 General Election be tabled for approval.
Carried.

Desjarlais/Donaldson

Be it resolved that 2024 General Election results as presented in the CRO report be adopted.
Carried.

7.3 Signing Authorities

24/04/24.16

Hora/Donaldson

Be it resolved that Osho Gnanasivam, Cade Desjarlais and Uday Gill 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, 2024.
Carried.

24/04/24.17

Mayhew/Donaldson

Be it further resolved that Aryan Arora, Danial Asif and Saaim Imran 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, 2024.
Carried.

7.4 SUO Graduate Student Bursary

Desjarlais sent an email on April 19 to the board of directors requesting their approval of the SUO Graduate Student Bursary with the following motion:

Whereas UBC has committed to matching funds from the SUO for the creation of a Graduate Student Endowment up to \$50,000,

Be it resolved the Board of Directors approve the contract for the creation of a Graduate Student Endowment for \$35,000 as recommended by the Executive Committee bringing the total endowment to \$70,000.

By April 23, eight (8) directors responded by email stating they are in favor of the contract. The eight directors are Hora, Donaldson, Mayhew, Karnwal, Gnanasivam, A. Arora, Desai, and Halpin. Their emails were attached. Motion passed outside the board meeting.

Desjarlais stated that the reason he requested approval through email was he needed to work alongside the UBC's timeline, so they could create this bursary before April 30. The money was from their budget line, and he was very excited that the board provided support to graduate students. The bursary was established in perpetuity.

8. INFORMATION

8.1 BC3 MOU (attached)

Desjarlais stated that he had been working on this project for almost two years. This contract was to establish a lobby coalition with AMS under the UBC, the University of Victoria Student Society and the Simon Fraser Student Society. It would create a more catered approach to provincial and federal lobbying for those major student societies in BC and create a more direct contact with politicians and elected officials.

24/04/24.18

Donaldson/Karnwal

Be it resolved that the board adopt the BC3 MOU as attached.

Gnanasivam asked if this would be under VP External's portfolio. Desjarlais confirmed that the VP External would be the representative, and there would be room for additional staff. The representatives would schedule meetings to maintain the connection with those big student societies.

Carried.

9. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 7:38 p.m.