**7th Meeting of the 49th SRC**

**Date: November 4th, 2022**

**Location: Virtual**

1. **Call to Order**

Ahmik Burneo, the Chair of the SRC called the meeting to order on November 4th, at 3:04pm.

1. **Land Acknowledgement**

St. Thomas University Students’ Union recognizes and respectfully acknowledges that it carries out its work on the traditional unceded territories of the Wolastoqiyik, and Mi’kmaq peoples. This territory is covered by the “Treaties of Peace and Friendship” which these nations first signed with the British Crown in 1726. The treaties did not deal with the surrender of territories, but in fact recognized Mi’kmaq and Wolastoqiyik titles and established the rules for what was to be an ongoing relationship between nations. STUSU members and staff pay respect to the elders, past and present, and descendants of this land.

1. **Roll call**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Position | Name | Present | Regrets | Absent |
| President | Alex Nguyen |  |  |  |
| Vice President Administration | Minahil Fatima |  |  |  |
| Vice President Education | Julia Evans |  |  |  |
| Vice President Student Life | Anahi Alvarez |  |  |  |
| Indigenous Representative | Stevie DeMerchant |  |  |  |
| International Student Representative | Khanh Hoang |  |  |  |
| At Large Representatives (2) | Lauren HayesChloe York |  |  |  |
| Off campus Representatives  | - |  |  |  |
| Sexuality & Gender Diversity Representative  | - |  |  |  |
| First Year Representative | - |  |  |  |
| Harrington Representative | - |  |  |  |
| Vanier Representative | Jakob Didychuk |  |  |  |
| Holy Cross Representative | - |  |  |  |
| Social Inclusion Representative | - |  |  |  |
| Grad Class President | Madison LeBlanc |  |  |  |

Quorum has been met/ with 7/9.

1. **Review of the Minutes.**

**[4.1.] BIRT** Agenda item 9.2 of the previous minutes be amended to state the committee as the “Presidential Advisory Committee on Environmental Issues**”**

**Moved by:** At-Large Representative York

**Seconded by:** VP Admin

**Motion:** Carries

1. **Review of Agenda**

**[5.1] BIRT** the Board adopt the agenda as presented.

**Moved by:** President

**Seconded by:** VP Admin

**Motion:** Carries

1. **Unfinished Business.**

No unfinished business.

1. **Executive Reports.**

*Executives provided verbal report followed by a written one.*

**7.1. President report - Alex Nguyen**

**Meetings**

SEC Weekly meeting

* The Executives continued to present reports and progress update on key events and action items we need to prepare for the upcoming weeks, as November is one of our key months for events.

Bi-Monthly NBSA/ PETL Check in

* I attended the meeting on behalf of the NBSA, and touched base on the Advocacy week planning, advocacy documents, and how PETL can support students and our advocacy work next semester.

Sustainability Committee

* I attended the Committee meeting and reviewed the NBSA policy on Divestment.

Meeting w/ Cassidy, LGBTQIA2S+ Wellness Coordinator

* I met w/ Cassidy to touch base on how they can support STUSU and our students.
* We discussed about pushing for the Chosen Name policy to be implemented at STU.
* I also received community resources from Cassidy and will have it on STUSU website.

NBSA Executive Bi-weekly meeting

* I attended my bi-weekly meeting w/ Sydona.

**Miscellaneous**

Office hours @JDH

* I had my weekly office hours, Monday from 10-12pm.

NBSA Advocacy Week

* I continued to send out invitations to join NBSA Advocacy to government and community stakeholders.
* I sent out confirmation emails to students to confirm their attendance for the Training (Nov. 13th).

International Education Week

* I got into contact w/ International Office for the planning of the International Education Week (Nov 14th – 18th) and provided information on ways STUSU can support the events.

**7.2. Vice President Administration report - Minahil Fatima**

**Meetings**

* This week, I did not have my weekly office hours.
* Weekly SEC Meeting.
* Finance Committee Meeting.
* Meeting with IT services to resolve issues with my email.
* Attended the More than Tuition campaign’s “Wall of Cost”.

**Projects and Initiatives**

Campus Trust

* Again, a lot of emails regarding opting-out and coverage concerns.
* Sent a few emails to Crystal Baker to sort those out.

**Clubs & Societies**

* The Finance Committee met to discuss a funding application.
* Student United Way reached out to me about setting up an email account, so I worked with IT about coordinating that.

**Miscellaneous**

* I reached out again to our Vanier Representative to confirm whether he had any trouble with his email account and that everything was going smoothly.
* I contacted Tina about the budget update, which I will be presenting later.

**7.3. Vice President Education report - Julia Evans**

**Meetings**

**Sustainability Meeting**

* I chair the Sustainability Committee on STUSU. We are currently reviewing and researching provincial divestment policy.

**NBSA Affordability Meeting**

* I chair the Affordability Committee for NBSA. In preparation for Advocacy Week, we finalized the last affordability policy.

**CASA National Advocacy Committee**

* I am a member of the NAC Committee. Here, we continued our planning of the national advocacy campaign and planned for advocacy week.

**SEC Meeting**

* We had our weekly executive meeting. We are looking forward to the upcoming retreat!

**Projects and Initiatives**

 **‘More Than Tuition’ Advocacy Campaign**

* We had a successful in-person advocacy demonstration throughout the week, where students recorded their “Costs” of on Wall of Costs display. Thank you to all who volunteered. This started important conversations on the multitude of advocacy concerns!

(This campaign name and mission garnered attention across the Maritimes and we are now working with our provincial partner, the NBSA, Students Nova Scotia and UPEI on a Maritime Wide More than Tuition Campaign. All of the participating institutions will be conducting this campaign the first week of November, and we will have our in-person Wall of Costs in JDH to demonstrate “Tuition PLUS” and showcase all of the student expenses and the discrepancies between costs and available aid. This will amplify affordability concerns to government and demonstrate the need for financial aid to be modernized to reflect the real cost of education in 2022.)

**Recruit and Preparation for Advocacy Week(s)**

* Encourage and promote volunteers for Advocacy Week: November 14th-18th

**Miscellaneous**

**Office Hour:**

* I will be having my Office Hour every Tuesday from 1-2pm in the JDH Help Desk. Come visit!

**President:** So, everyone is aware, I did not take down our display from the “Wall of Cost” yet, so it will be up next week until I take it down.

**7.4. Vice President Student Life report - Anahi Alvarez**

**Meetings**

**Activities and Events Committee**

* I joined the Activities and Events committee meeting on Wednesday to talk about the winter formal. I also started finalizing some of the logistics of the winter formal.

**Mental Health/ Jack.org Committee**

* I met with the members of this committee and talked about the goal of the committee, and started planning future activities. We discussed the mental health fair that will be held soon in the first week of December.

**Sexual Assault Prevention Committee**

* I met with the members of this committee and gave the members information about the committee and started planning events.

**Ridhi Sharma**

* I have been in touch with Ridhi to talk about the business fair and making sure that we have everything, and it is happening on November 17th. If you have any time from 3-5, please feel free to attend.

**SEC Meeting**

* We had our executive meeting on Wednesday, and I gave all the executives an update of my week

**Projects and Initiatives**

* Finalized the contact with the mental health organizations in Fredericton.
* Continue planning the winter formal.
* Start planning the mental health fair.

**Miscellaneous**

* **I** had my office hours at the Help Desk from 3:00-4:00pm (on Thursday).
* I attended the trick or eat event and it was a great event.
* I received the Community food smart orders.
* I have my shift for the More than Tuition campaign’s “Wall of Cost”.
1. **Employee Updates.**

No employee report available.

1. **Representative Reports.**
	1. **Indigenous Representative Report**
* On Monday, I had a student Reconciliation Committee meeting, and went over the current STUSU policies, and what can be improved in the future. We also planned our arts fair, and we have many confirmations for tables so far. Also had a meeting with Chair of the National Indigenous Advocacy Committee to discuss what will be happening during advocacy week, and policy work as well. Attended More than Tuition Campaign week, and the “Wall of Cost”. Today, I also attended an Indigenous moose-hide activity through UNB and STU, and it was an opportunity to learn more about the traditional roots of this practice.
	1. **International Student Report**
* Last week the international office reached out to me regarding international student education week. They sent a timeline for international student education week, which will be November 14th-18th. Originally, I wanted to plan for an international student roundtable but could not due to time constraints. We also want quality panelists, and this is why it would be better to leave this idea for now. I will send out the timeline for the international student education week, in case anyone is interested in volunteering. Also, STUISA have the Food-Fest activity coming up, in case anyone is interested in volunteering for this event.

**VP Student Life:** Are you planning on doing a roundtable next semester?

**President:** We will delay until next year, so we ensure that we can get quality panelists and that the event is properly planned. I would rather delay this event to ensure that it is being planned properly, rather than rushing it.

**VP Education:** Just to clarify, it will be next semester instead of next school year?

**President:** Yes, it will be next semester in the spring.

* 1. **At-Large Representative Report**
* This week, I volunteered for More than Tuition Campaign’s “Wall of Cost” and it was great to see students participating. This week, we also discussed provincial policy and new initiatives on the Sustainability and Environmental Awareness Committee.

**President:** Thank you to all the representatives who attended. It was great to see so much engagement, and if anyone has anything they would like to share for feedback regarding this campaign, please do not hesitate to reach out.

1. **New Business.**
	1. **Budget Update for October – Minahil (VP Admin)**

**VP Admin:** As a reminder, Theatre St. Thomas’s budget has been moved to the conference line, as it is now de-ratified. So, the conference line was topped up due to the TST funds being diverted to that conference line. In terms of academic assistance. There were two applications for academic assistance approved, however that will be reflected in next month’s budget update. As well, the welcome week deposits for kits did not go through until November 1st, so that will be reflected in the next budget update.

**President:** The conference line was initially reduced from last year, due to uncertainty surrounding hybrid models for the conferences. However, as the conferences will be in-person and travel is back to normal, the costs were increased. Because of this, we topped up the conference line. So, Stevie will be representing NIYAC, and Julia will be representing STU. CASA has also provided us with $1500 for the travel costs, which greatly Seeing as we are the smallest school of the universities that attend, with the smallest budget line as well, this is a great accomplishment for us to be represented. For VP Admin, you can make a motion to remove the TST line entirely from the operating budget, now that it is de-ratified.

VP Admin: Yes, that will be for the next budget meeting, so the operational budget will not have that line anymore. I wanted to ensure that the changes were reflected for this meeting. Now that we have it reflected in the minutes, we will make those changes for next month’s budget update.

**VP Education:** We are very excited to have this financial aid from CASA, as this now means that Stevie will also be able to attend the conference in Ottawa as a representative of NIYAC, and myself as a STU representative. We are very excited to have this financial aid, so ensure that our voices are being heard.

**VP Student Life:** Are the sponsors for the STU agendas not in the budget line?

**VP Admin:** The next budget update for those welcome week costs will be properly finalized next month, however please contact Tina and CC me in this email.

1. **Questions, Announcements & Notices**

**President:** I will share about the SRC retreat agenda, and how the day will look. The strategic documents part of the day will be very important, and I encourage everyone to read our past strategic documents in order to get a more productive outcome for Monday. We also invite all the employees to attend as well. There will be a NBSA and CASA presentation which will be very vital, and we asking in-depth questions on the organization and their role. I will send everyone materials as well.

**VP Admin:** Over the STUSU Overview and Services part of the SRC Retreat agenda, it says VPSL and VPED, when that should be VP Admin instead. Thank you to the people who sent their bios and pictures. For everyone who has not yet done that, please sent that at your earliest convenience.

1. **Adjournment.**

**[12.1.] BIRT** the meeting of the SRC adjourned at 3:46pm.

**Moved by: VP Admin**

**Seconded by: VP Student Life**

**Motion: Carries**

**Submission:**

The minutes were respectfully submitted to the Vice-President of Administration on November 10th, 2022.

**Grace Steeves**

Recording Secretary

STUSU Student Representative Council