



Students' Representative Council - Meeting Minutes
November 5th, 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, Yash Gahlot (voting) **P**
Vice-President Student Life, Sterling Shannon (voting) **P**
Vice-President Academic and External Affairs, Sam Taylor (voting) **P**
Vice-President Events and Promotions, Zahide Çam (voting) **P**
Vice-President Finance and Operations, Archit Singh (voting) **P**
Arts Senator, Genna Beed (voting) **P**
Science Senator, Julia Shirokov (voting) **P**
Professional Studies Senator, Sophia Carpenter (voting) **P**
Councilor-at-large, Treyvon Nicolls (voting) **P**
Councilor-at-large, Emma Boles (voting) **P**
Community Relations Representative, Cyenna Link (voting) **P**
First-year Representative, Abiya Babu (voting) **P**

Absences

Sustainability Representative, Carmen Peng (voting)
Diversity and Inclusion Representative, Danielle Dullay (voting)
Deputy Chief Returning Officer, Charli Siler (non-voting)

Resources

Chair of Council, Ben McCulley (non-voting) **P**
Vice-Chair of Council, Gretchen Archibald (non-voting) **P**
Chief Returning Officer, Ahmad Raza (non-voting) **P**



Agenda

1. Call to Order

Meeting was called to order at 7:08 PM ADT.

2. Roll Call

3. Adoption of Agenda and Previous Minutes

BIRT the agenda be approved as presented.

Moved by Archit

Seconded by Cyenna

Motion Approved

BIRT the October 22nd Meeting Minutes be approved as presented.

Moved by Cyenna

Seconded by Sterling

Motion Approved

4. Presentations

5. Standing Items

a) Committee Chairs

Sterling spoke about the Student Life Committee which met about a week ago. They talked about approving all of the constitutions for clubs coming in. They also went over what they want the intention of the committee to be going forward. The 3 big things they are going to do are to work with the dino costume ideas, discussing the role the ASU wants to play in big weekend events, probably nothing massive but more of if they can hand out water and make sure people are safe, posting safe drinking tips, etc. Sterling said they plan to meet twice a month going forward as per by-laws.

b) President

Sam gave their last update as interim President. Sam spoke more about the research theme that Acadia is pushing for as per last meeting. Sam said the Board of Governors decided to have another meeting in December to discuss a few items. Anything that comes up between now and then in terms of student issues can be discussed with Sam moving forward. Sam will be assisting Yash in the orientation of the role of President. Sam mentioned looking at the strategic plan and the term satisfied in student engagement. Sam would like to bring up the strategic plan to be brought up at the AGM, as then it would be accountable by the student body. Sam also spoke about reviewing the by-laws, however that is a Governance committee issue.



Zahide asked if Sam heard anything about Acadia Investments. Sam said he hasn't heard anything about the investments but believes that the word of Acadia is trustworthy. Sam said their investments are not connected to student dollars at all. It is all donation money or funding from other sources going into investments. If there are things in there that are anti-student, we would be concerned about it. We can have conversations with ACRP to see if there are investments we should push to remove, but this would be really hard to change.

Zahide said they highlighted what they wanted to see change already and that there are a lot of military/missile production companies that are invested in, and Sam may hear back about it.

Genna asked where the info could be found, Zahide will send a link.

Sophia asked for an explanation of what the investments are.

Sam explained that investments are the university's way of putting money into things that will make the University money (like stocks at a corporate level). These investments are handled by an outside corporation and are not run by Acadia staff.

Ahmad mentioned that sometimes people bring up issues they have with courses/similar issues but do not know who to approach about this. Who would be the people to bring their issues up with?

Sam's recommendation is the SRC because they see each other 2 times a month. If a student does have a concern relating to a specific role, they may contact that person, but generally they can bring it up to any exec member.

Ahmad said that he would like to promote where to go, who to approach about their issues. International students especially are less likely to know who to go to about these problems. Board posting about this Sam said one of the main parts of the strategic plan is how to make students aware of this, and it is not going to be in place this year, it will be an on-going thing. Sam mentioned working with Sterling about setting up ASU tables around campus with a change of location that would be a place for any problem to be brought to the people at the table.

Sterling spoke more about the tables and said he's setting up the first one this Thursday that will be focused on vote efforts for the Provincial Elections. Sam asked if Sterling would contact reservations to ask if they can continue tables after that period. Sophia said she loved the table idea.

Sophia asked about the Governance committee and how that would work. Sam said that Governance is very policy focused and generally any broad issues are talked about between stakeholders in a broad term and is more a conversation. If anyone has issues or specific problems, they want to have a conversation about, they should go to exec members directly either via email or face to face.

c) Chair of Council

Ben said that none of his committees have met since last meeting. Ben has been meeting with the election team and has been meeting with Alicia bi-weekly to talk about what we want the election to look like.

Sam asked how Ben thinks the elections/hiring policies are going to look.

Ben mentioned a possible policy day that Governance would meet and just sit down for a day.



6. Unfinished Business

- a) Approval of the 2024 ASU Annual General Meeting Agenda

BIRT The Students' Representative Council approves the proposed agenda for the 2024 Annual General Meeting.

Moved by Treyvon

Seconded by Sam

Motion Approved

Sam said that he would love to have an item in the agenda for decision for the attendees per we have quorum approving the ASU strategic plan including presentation and question period.

Archit confirmed that all executives have to come up with a presentation for their plans.

Ben confirmed this and that it does not have to be a formal presentation.

Ben suggested Thursday the 21st, with doors opening at 5 or 5:30 and then the actual event start time of 6pm.

BIRT The ASU Strategic plan be added to the proposed agenda for the 2024 Annual General Meeting under "New Business".

Moved by Sam

Seconded by Cyenna

Motion Approved

7. New Business

For Decision

Ahmad gave a brief report on the elections and how they went. The person who won President position is Yash Gahlot, and the First-Year Representative is Abiya Babu according to the votes. The election was very close.

- a) Approval of the 2024 Fall By-Election Results

BIRT The Students' Representative Council approve the results of the 2024 By-Election.

Moved by Genna

Seconded by Sophia

Motion Approved

Yash and Abiya joined at 7:15pm



8. In-Camera

9. Adjournment and Next Meeting Date

The meeting was adjourned at 7:56 PM ADT.

Next Meeting Scheduled for: November 19th, 2024, at 7pm