

# STUDENTS' COUNCIL

### June 28th, 2022 6:00 P.M. Council Chambers/Zoom

The University of Alberta and the University of Alberta Students' Union occupy Indigenous land in amiskwacîswâskahikan (Beaver Hills House), on Treaty 6 territory. From time immemorial, the banks along the river valley have been known as the Pehonan, a meeting place for the nêhiyawak (Cree), the Niitsítapi (Blackfoot), Métis, Dënesųliné (Dene), Ojibway/Saulteaux/Anishinaabe, Haudenosaunee and others. The University, the Students' Union and much of the city are located on the unlawfully stolen land of the forcibly removed Papaschase Cree.

We acknowledge that sharing this land gives each of us the responsibility to research the historic contexts of Treaty 6, to reflect on our personal relationships to the land, the Nations we've named, and to our roles in upholding justice on this territory. Since they began, the Students' Union and the University have benefited from historic and ongoing dispossession of land and resources from Indigenous Peoples. As a result, it is our responsibility to seek the restitution of this land and its resources. Finally, we seek to do better by working to make our learning, research, and governance align with the histories, languages, teachings, and cultures of First Nations, Métis, and Inuit Peoples in the land presently occupied by the Canadian state.

We encourage critical reflection by asking the following question. In relation to the territory on which you are situated, what role do you play in strengthening the resistance and resurgence of Indigenous students within your communities?

#### LATE ADDITIONS (SC-2022-05)

2022-05/1	SPEAKERS BUSINESS
2022-05/Ia	Join Zoom Meeting https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85666007012
	Meeting ID: 856 6600 7012
2022-05/2	CONSENT AGENDA
2022-05/3	PRESENTATION
2022-05/4	EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT
2022-05/5	BOARD AND COMMITTEE REPORT
2022-05/6	OPEN FORUM
2022-05/7	QUESTION PERIOD

2022-05/8	BOARD AND COMMITTEE BUSINESS	
2022-05/9	GENERAL ORDERS	
2022-05/10	INFORMATION ITEMS	
2022-05/10f	Students' Council Submissions	
	See SC-2022-05.12	

# **UASU Students' Council Agenda Submission**

Council Meeting Date Tuesday, June 28, 2022

**Mover** FLAMAN

Motion moves to present a written report from the Chair of Bylaw

Committee

Email Iflaman1@ualberta.ca

Action Requested Information Items

File Upload

pdf E

BC Report 06-28-2022.pdf



Bylaw Committee

**Date:** 06/28/2022 **To:** Students' Council

Re: GRTF Recommendations and GovCamp 2022

## GRTF: Simplifying and Clarifying Governance Documents

As I mentioned at our last council meeting, after meeting with President Monteiro and General Manager Dumouchel two weeks ago and discussing two of the Governance Review Restructuring Task Force priorities - that is improving the functionality of governance and improving the transparency toward the student body - we agreed that our bylaws are cumbersome and often inflexible in situations when they don't necessarily have to be.

To that end, Bylaw Committee has embarked on what may end up being its largest undertaking in recent memory - a complete restructuring of our bylaws splitting them into more of a hierarchical structure. We will continue to have bylaws similar to how they are now albeit much more concise and hopefully easier to read that still maintain their rigidity and will define the "what and the why" while moving more of the procedural stuff into regulations or procedures that cover more of the "when and the how" of our governance structure.

While I'm confident our committee members will be able to keep up with this mammoth undertaking, I also would be grateful if anyone else may want to chip in as well. Our committee meetings are off-council Tuesdays at 17:00 MDT in SUB 6-06 if you would like to come in person, but they will also be accessible online via Zoom as well if you would like to participate that way.

## GovCamp 2022

On an unrelated (and long winded) note, I would like to express my utmost gratitude to everyone who put together and participated in GovCamp 2022 this year. While I was initially thinking of skipping it as I have already participated in several GovCamps in the past and wasn't sure how much I would actually take away from it, I decided at the last minute to sign up and I was definitely not disappointed. GovCamp this year was drastically different than anything we've previously done. Nav, Courtney and the folks at the Leadership Education and Development (LEAD) Centre have put in a lot of time and effort (and money too I'm sure) into this past weekend and it definitely shows. This has been by far the best and most productive GovCamp I've been a part of.

The first evening, we went on a behind-the-scenes tour of SUB led by Director of Business Operations Craig Turner accessing spaces that even I, having been on campus for many years now, have never been to such as the Horowitz Events Centre catering kitchen, the rear of the SUBPrint space where all the magic happens, and the eighth floor of SUB above Room at the Top which not only serves as storage, but also a bit of a museum and legacy of those who came before us as one councillor put it.



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Saturday afternoon, we got a chance to tour Campus Saint-Jean led by Madeleine Ingram, Coordonnatrice de La Centrale (Affaires étudiantes) au Campus Saint-Jean visiting spaces such as La Salle Historique du Campus Saint-Jean in Pavillon Lacerte, Résidence Saint-Jean and far more of Pavillon McMahon than I have on my previous six visits such as Bibliothèque Saint-Jean, the auditorium and the gymnasium. After receiving the unfortunate news that Café Bicyclette had flooded where we were to have dinner that evening, Bul Go Gi House was able to accommodate us on quite short notice.

On the last day, we had two artists from Rapid Fire Theatre come in and give a bit of an improv workshop which I hope I can take a few lessons from to apply in my role as a student representative. While still an ardent supporter of going scripted versus unscripted, I pledge to step out of my comfort zone and attempt to go off-script more throughout the year.

Workshops and seminars aside, it was the team bonding and casual chats that occurred during our off-time that I feel will have the most impact on the remainder of our year together. After returning to Lister Saturday afternoon after the CSJ tour, I was thoroughly schooled in Slaps by Councillors Soto and Ojo whilst spectating a pretty heated soccer game. After that, we all piled into three vehicles and headed to Drizzle Ice Cream just off Whyte (which was quite good). We got to give Councillor Regmi a surprise birthday, as former president Navneet Khinda did for me back in my first year as a councillor, coincidentally also during GovCamp.

Being able to get to know our fellow councillors on a more personal level and building up these friendships I feel will help ward off some of the animosity and conflict that tends to arise when our relationship is strictly professional and we only get together every two weeks or so. Animosity and conflict we've already seen early this year. As former SAMU Councillor Andrew Desaulniers once said:

"A Good councillor is not the loudest voice at the table, the one that raises the most questions, the one that holds another's feet to the fire. A good councillor is one that looks across the table and doesn't see adversaries but friends. Each one of us, despite whatever reason that led us to sit here at this table, is here to do good. Reach out to one another and form bonds. Work together for SAMU [*UASU*]. This organization has been around for a while and we have institutional experience and memory; make use of it. Be humble and strive to do better."

TL;DR: Thank you to everyone who helped put GovCamp 2022 together, and thank you to everyone who attended. If you ever get the chance to meet former Faculty of Law Councillor and Bylaw Committee member Sandy Brophy, ask him to tell you "The GovCamp Story."

See y'all this evening, Levi Flaman, Bylaw Committee Chair 2022-23