

# STUDENTS' COUNCIL

## August 9th, 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, Dënesułiné (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?

## VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS (SC-2022-08)

SPEAKER: Called the meeting to order at 6:21 P.M.

- 2022-08/I SPEAKERS BUSINESS
- 2022-08/1a Join Zoom Meeting https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85666007012

Meeting ID: 856 6600 7012

SPEAKER: Reminds the Council of decorum.

- 2022-08/2 <u>CONSENT AGENDA</u>
- 2022-08/2a Students' Council Votes and Proceedings (SC-2022-07) Tuesday, July 26th, 2022

See SC-2022-08.01

APPROVED

2022-08/2b **FLAMAN MOVES TO** amend the May 17th Votes & Proceedings item 2022-02/8d by replacing TABLED with CARRIED

See SC-2022-08.08

APPROVED

2022-08/2c **KAUR MOVES TO** appoint Bin Ge Yang to the Sustainability and Capital Fund Committee.

See SC-2022-08.09

APPROVED

2022-08/2d **KAUR MOVES TO** appoint Ayanna Fata, Susana Dokiburra, Gloria Kannumkulabil to the ARRC Committee.

See SC-2022-08.10

APPROVED

2022-08/2e **KAUR MOVES TO** appoint Brett Friesen to the Sustainability Committee.

See SC-2022-8.11

APPROVED

2022-08/2f **KAUR MOVESTO** appoint Cirila Bartley and Meghan Fausto to the Translation Committee.

See SC-2022-8.12

APPROVED

**ALI/ARSLAN MOVE TO** Special Order agenda item 3b before agenda item 3a. CARRIED 29/00/00

**FLAMAN/LEE MOVE TO** suspend section 7.1a and section 7.5 to allow presentations to move forward, withstanding the lack of submitted abstracts. CARRIED 29/00/00

### 2022-08/3 PRESENTATION

2022-08/3b **KAUR/VILLOSO MOVE TO** allow a presentation by Chris Hackett on the Academic Integrity Policy.

See SC-2022-8.14

CARRIED 29/00/00

ALI/KAUR MOVE TO extend the presentation by 10 minutes. CARRIED 30/00/00

2022-08/3a **ALI/REGMI MOVE TO** do a presentation about Councillor Ali's eligibility to serve on Council.

See SC-2022-8.13

CARRIED 29/00/00

ALI/REGMI MOVE TO recess for 15 minutes. CARRIED 28/00/00

ALI/SWITYK MOVE TO extend the presentation by 10 minutes. CARRIED 29/00/02

**ALI/DHAMIJA MOVE TO** extend the presentation by 10 minutes. FAILED 20/00/11

**SINGH/ARSLAN MOVE TO** Special Order items 9a and 9b immediately after presentations. CARRIED 31/00/00

2022-08/9a **WATTAMANIUK/ALI MOVE TO** discuss a potential investigation into alleged violations of private Academic Information.

See SC-2022-08.18

CARRIED 30/00/00

ALI/SING MOVE TO close debate. CARRIED 30/00/00

FLAMAN/VILLOSO MOVE TO suspend standing orders to not have the regularly scheduled recess. CARRIED 30/00/00

2022-08/9b **CARBAJAL VELEZ/FLAMAN MOVE FOR** the speaker of council to resubmit the DIE board application regarding eligibility to the DIE board by August 9th.

See SC-2022-08.19

Vote Counts are listed below:

MONTEIRO - Votes in favour KAUR - Abstains FOTANG - Votes in favour VILLOSO - Votes in favour FOGUE - Votes in favour DORSCHEID - Votes against **ABBASI** - Abstains ALI - Votes against AVILA - Votes in favour HAN - Votes in favour SWITYK - Abstains **REGMI** - Votes against **ARSLAN** - Abstains FLAMAN - Votes in favour **STEINBUSCH** - Abstains **BROOKS** - Abstains SINGH - Votes against USSERBAYEVA - Abstains LIU - Votes against WATTAMANIUK - Abstains OIO - Votes in favour SOTO - Votes against CARBAJAL VELEZ - Votes in favour DHAMIJA - Votes against **DHILLON** - Votes in favour LEE - Votes in favour THIND - Votes against VYAS - Votes against

CARRIED with amendments (see below) 11/08/09

**FLAMAN/CARBAJAL VELEZ MOVE TO** amend agenda item 9b to read August 9th instead of July 28th. CARRIED 30/00/00

**WATTAMANIUK/CARBAJALVELEZ MOVE** TO call to question. CARRIED 27/03/00, SINGH, KAUR and ALI abstain

FLAMAN/WATTAMANIUK MOVE TO extend the meeting until 10:00 P.M. CARRIED 21/00/10

### 2022-08/4 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT

FOGUE - VP Student Life - Report VILLOSO - VP Operations and Finance - Report KAUR - VP Academic - Report FOTANG - VP External - Report MONTEIRO - President - Report

#### 2022-08/5 BOARD AND COMMITTEE REPORT

DHILLON - Audit Committee - Report FLAMAN - Bylaw Committee - Report WATTAMANIUK - Council Administration Committee - Report MONTEIRO - Executive Committee - Report VILLOSO - Finance Committee - Report ALI - Nominating Committee - Report FOTANG - Policy Committee - Report DORSCHEID - Board of Governors Representative - Report REGMI - Social Media Sub-Committee - Report

## 2022-08/6 OPEN FORUM

He (*The Gateway*): Questions the Bylaw Chair, Levi Flaman, if during the restructuring process of bylaw, will Council commit to introducing new sections of bylaw which define councillor eligibility and the processes to remove an ineligible councillor from Council.

FLAMAN: Confirms that there will be language introduced to clarify the process of determining councillor eligibility but cannot speak for the committee if processes to remove an ineligible councillor from Council will be introduced, as that is ultimately up to the approval of Council. In years past, bylaw for this issue has been discussed but never officially introduced. Personally believes that students choose their representatives and, therefore, students should have the ability to remove their councillors. Will talk about the process of removing councillors and whether or not Council should hold that power moving forward, but cannot commit to any certain course of action at this time.

He (*The Gateway*): UASU Executives have been concerned about the level of consultation between the Alberta Government in regards to the recent <sup>1</sup>/<sub>3</sub> cut in funding for Full-Time Student Grants. Questions what tangible steps the UASU is taking to ensure that the Government of Alberta undergoes adequate consultation in the future?

FOTANG: UASU Executives are definitely dissatisfied with the lack of consultation that preceded the <sup>1</sup>/<sub>3</sub> cut to Student Grant Funding. The Executives have been working with their counterparts to address a consultation framework, not only for the provincial government, but also with universities. Working on this framework will provide structure for future consultations. The Executives have also been working with the GSA to raise frustrations to the provincial government in order to ensure that student voices are heard.

HE (*The Gateway*): Inquires as to the action taken with CAUS to protest what has been going on with provincial full-time student grants.

MONTEIRO: Himself and VP Fotang have been talking with all of their Alberta counterparts while attending CASA. They have also had a conversation with the chair of CAUS, who are still coordinating potential actions, such as letter writing campaigns to the provincial government. Efforts are still being coordinated, but will bring an update in regards to this matter, at a future Council meeting.

FOTANG: With any kind of action, it needs to be strategic and developed with intent in order to have an impact. The goal is to draw attention to students and ensure that their concerns are heard directly by the provincial government.

#### 2022-08/7 QUESTION PERIOD

FLAMAN: Questions VP Operations and Finance, Julia Villoso, about the recent switch of healthcare providers at the Students Union. Observes that it has been stated that, by switching providers, the Students' Union will be able to save students more money. Questions if the benefits for students will be affected with these cost saving measures?

VILLOSO: States that the benefits for students will remain the exact same.

REGMI: International students who are currently abroad may face issues returning to school in the Fall. Questions the UASU Executives what accommodations, if any, are being made to ensure that international students, who are currently abroad and may face issues returning to school, will be able return for the start of the semester on September 1st.

MONTEIRO: States that this is the first time that the UASU Executives are hearing about this issue. However, encourages REGMI to reach out to students, if they are currently having problems, to put them in contact with the Executives and ensures that the Executives will do everything they can to help. The Executives will also work with the ISA in order to ensure that international student needs are properly met.

WATTAMANIUK: Makes a statement that a form, expressing interest in the Council Mentorship Program, will go out tomorrow. Any questions can be directed to WATTAMANIUK or REGMI.

DHILLON: Raises the concern that meal orders for Students Council, which have been marked as nut free, have continued to contain nuts and cause allergic reactions, particularly for Bog Representative Dorscheid. Inquires to the Executives about what can be done in this situation.

MONTEIRO: Agrees that the concern raised by DHILLON is a very serious concern. Will personally look into the matter, while also reaching out to the SU General Manager, Marc Dumouchel, in order to ensure that catering issues do not occur in the future. Will provide the Council with more of an update at the next Students' Council. REGMI: Questions VP External, Christian Fotang, about whether CASA has received any news about what the Federal Government plans to do about temporary work permits for international students who are awaiting permanent residencies or permanent work permits while government systems are backed up.

FOTANG: Questions if REGMI is referring to the Post-Graduate Work Program.

REGMI: Confirms in the positive.

FOTANG: CASA has been advocating for changes to the express entry program, which is one of the most common routes that international students utilize for permanent residency. CASA is advocating for volunteer experiences to count as points towards the express entry program.

DHILLON: States that they are personally disappointed with the way that members of Council portray what happens at Council, particularly through social media. Certain UASU staff members have received online death threats based on council proceedings, as they are portrayed by social media posting. Further states that there needs to be a higher level of respect amongst Council and that more thought should be put into any and all social media posts made by a council member.

FLAMAN: Agrees with DHILLON's previous statement. Everyone is free to do what they want to do, with the caveat that the Code of Conduct always holds council members responsible and can be enforced on social media posts.

KAUR: Reminds Council that all council members should be respected and no council member should be shamed for the way that they vote within the Council Chambers.

WATTAMANIUK: Reminds Council that being a member of Council, with the exception of the Executives, is a volunteer position. Most people join Students' Council because they sincerely want to advocate for students. The moment that Students' Council resorts to personal attacks, or even death threats, which leads to a decline in mental health, Council begins to lose its purpose. Personal attacks only lead to the ineffectiveness of Council, which is a disservice to Council and a disservice to the students which Council serves. Asks council members to remember the oath of Students' Council.

REGMI: Agrees with both VP KAUR and Councillor WATTAMANIUK. Has personally felt very coerced at Students' Council and is concerned about the current Students' Council culture. Reminds Council to work together and represent students in the best way possible.

#### 2022-08/8 BOARD AND COMMITTEE BUSINESS

## 2022-08/8a FLAMAN/MONTEIRO, upon the recommendation of Bylaw Committee, MOVE TO:

Approve Bill 1: Simplifying and Clarifying Governance Documents in first reading based on the following first principles:

I. UASU bylaws can be long, confusing, difficult to read, redundant or even contradictory with themselves.

2. UASU bylaws can be too inflexible in situations with extenuating circumstances that may warrant an exception.

3. UASU bylaws shall be restructured and reorganised in such a way that simplifies or clarifies the governing documents making them shorter, more accessible and easier to read.

4. UASU bylaws shall be reorganised in such a way to eliminate redundant and contradictory legislation.

5. UASU bylaws shall be reorganised into a multi-tiered structure that separates the principles from procedure.

6. UASU bylaws shall be restructured in such a way to provide methods for allowing exceptions to procedural rules where such exceptions are used sparingly and can be demonstrably justified.

See SC-2022-08.15

CARRIED 27/00/00

2022-08/8b **VILLOSO/SINGH MOVE TO** appoint one member of Students' Council to the International Students' Association Council.

See SC-2022-08.16

CARRIED 26/00/00

FLAMAN nominates CARBAJAL VELEZ (accepted) VILLOSO nominates AVILA (declined) REGMI nominates KHAN (cannot accept) DHILLON nominates DORSCHEID (declined) ARSLAN nominates DHILLON (accepted) SINGH nominates KAUR (declined) REGMI nominates ARSLAN (cannot accept) DHILLON is appointed to the ISA Council via secret ballot.

2022-08/8c VILLOSO/REGMI MOVETO release \$51,375 from the Sustainability and Capital Fund for: The initial design of a potential north entrance, including associated lounges, and of the main circulation corridors on the main floor; and Schematic design work for a renovation to the Food Court area.

See SC-2022-08.17

CARRIED 24/00/00

- 2022-08/9 <u>GENERAL ORDERS</u>
- 2022-08/9c **REGMI/WATTAMANIUK MOVE TO** discuss recent cuts to the Alberta Student Grant for Full Time Students

See SC-2022.08.20

TABLED

## WATTAMANIUK/VILLOSO MOVE TO adjourn CARRIED 26/00/00

- 2022-08/10 INFORMATION ITEMS
- 2022-08/10a Students' Council Votes and Proceedings (SC-2022-07)

See SC-2022-08.01

2022-08/10b Executive Committee Reports

See SC-2022-08.02-06

2022-08/10c BoG Representative Report

See SC-2022-08.07

2022-08/10d Students' Council Submissions

See SC-2022-08.08-21

2022-08/10e Students' Council - Attendance

See SC-2022-08.22

2022-08/10f Students' Council Submissions

See SC-2022-08.23-24

SPEAKER: Adjourns the meeting at 9:53 P.M.