

Bylaw Committee

Date: Friday October 13th, 2023.

Time: 2:00pm Online: 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?

Attendance

Name	Attendance	Proxy or Written Submission
	Voting Members	
Jillian Aisenstat (Chair)	Y	
Damon Atwood	Y	
Levi Flaman	Y	
Precious Majekodunmi	N	
Stephen Raitz	Y	
Non-V	Voting Members & Guest	s
Name	Position or Affiliation	
Marc Dumouchel	N/A	
Courtney Graham	N/A	
Aseel Atia	N/A	



Minutes (Bylaw-2023-10)

2023-10/1 INTRODUCTION

2023-10/1a Call to Order

AISENSTAT calls the meeting to order at 2:05pm.

• Land Acknowledgement

Attendance

2023-10/1b Approval of Agenda

COMMITTEE MOVES TO approve the agenda with amendments

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

2023-10/1c Approval of Minutes

COMMITTEE MOVES TO approve **BC-2023-09-M**

TABLED

2023-10/1d Chair's Business

• Implemented changes!

2023-10/2 QUESTION/DISCUSSION PERIOD

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2023-10/2a Next steps on In Camera review of bylaw - First Principles Draft

RAITZ: Does not want to move forward with the drafted First Principle rationale, which covers previous discussion. Asks if it is within the scope of the Bylaw Committee to amend Standing Orders.

GRAHAM: Responds that Committees can amend their individual standing orders. However, the general committee Standing Orders would be amended by CAC.

RAITZ: Suggests amending the General Committee Standing Orders and Students' Council Standing Orders. Notes that this would possibly require the amendment to be introduced to CAC.

Highlights that this is not a change required to be implemented through bylaw based upon review. Instead, there can be a change of practice by listing the related topics in meetings in order to reduce the workload.

GRAHAM: Notes that CAC would need to approve these changes. However, the Bylaw Committee can implement these changes by putting them on the CAC agenda and presenting them to CAC to seek approval of the amendments.

RAITZ: Asks FLAMAN and DUMOUCHEL if they believe it is doable to change in-camera practices to explain the rationale without changes through Bylaw.

FLAMAN: Does not believe there to be anything that would prohibit these changes to be implemented operationally.

GRAHAM: They and the Speaker do receive and judge the rationale of in-camera requests. They do not release the requests in the Order Papers due to sensitive information. Notes that the rationale can possibly be placed onto the Order Papers, without releasing sensitive information.

RAITZ: Believes that Students' Council ultimately requires that information in order to make a decision to go in-camera as well as prioritize transparency. Does not believe this to be a Bylaw or Standing Order change but that this can be adopted operationally instead.

GRAHAM: Notes that this is doable from an administrative standpoint.

Open discussion about restructuring bylaws into Article 2

2023-10/2b

AISENSTAT: Inquires to the committee about their preferred approaches to restructuring Article 2. Seeks insight from FLAMAN regarding their previous method on restructuring Article 3 in order to guide future efforts.

FLAMAN: Explains that they previously solicited members to choose the sections that most interested them in the restructuring of Article 3.

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AISENSTAT: Asks FLAMAN about rationale behind the transfer of items into regulation instead of bylaw.

FLAMAN: Responds that there had been complaints that bylaws presented barriers due to the onerous process required to change them.

AISENSTAT: Asks the committee whether this particular option for restructuring Article 2 would be in their best interest.

ATWOOD: Recommends to the committee the formation of a Google Document which would include bylaws within Article 2 and invites the committee to comment whether a bylaw is to be a regulation.

RAITZ: Notes that the committee can begin working on Article 2 and exclude items that require further work.

AISENSTAT: Highlights that bylaws that would be placed in Article 2 have been reviewed for editing but need to be organized. Asks the committee if Bylaw 500 should be excluded from Article 2 until it is amended.

RAITZ: Suggests excluding Bylaw 500 in the meantime but to continue working on Article 2.

AISENSTAT: Notes that First Principles are required to begin the restructuring process. Suggests to the committee that the next steps should be for each member to highlight whether they believe something should be a bylaw or a regulation, then to subsequently proceed in drafting a set of First Principles to share with Students' Council.

2023-10/3 <u>OLD BUSINESS</u>

2023-10/3a • None

2023-10/3 <u>NEW BUSINESS</u>

2023-10/3a •

2023-10/4 WRAP-UP

2023-10/4a Action Items / To-Do List

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2023-10/4b Next Scheduled Meeting

• Friday, October 27th, 2-3pm.

2023-10/5 Adjournment

• AISENSTAT adjourned the meeting at 2:43pm.



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