



University of Alberta Students' Union

**ABORIGINAL  
RELATIONS AND  
RECONCILIATION  
(ARRC) COMMITTEE**

**October 12th, 2022**

**4:00 P.M.**

**Location: SUB 0-48 (Kihw Room) OR 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, Dènesųłíné (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	PROXY	PRESENT
Abdul Abbasi		N
Chantel Akinneah, Chair		Y
Rebeca Avila		N
Daniela Carbajal Velez		Y
Susana Dokiburra (SAL)		N
Ayanna Fata (SAL)		Y
Joannie Fogue		Y
Gloria Kannumkulabil (SAL)		Y
Malijha Moyan		Y

Julia Villosa		Y
Collette Cullen		Y
Tamara Belly		Y
Tanisha Sahu		N/A

**MINUTES (ARRC-2022-01-M)**

**2022-01/1**

**INTRODUCTION**

**2022-01/1a**

**Call to Order**

AKINNEAH: CALLED the meeting to order at 4:08 PM

**2022-01/1b**

**Approval of Agenda**

TABLED

**2022-01/1c**

**Approval of Minutes**

TABLED

**2022-01/1d**

**Chair's Business**

AKINNEAH: Went through ARRC's meeting minutes from last year and found that CAC was responsible for hosting the blanket exercise. Plans to reach out to WATTAMANIUK when it's closer to February/March for this particular action item.

**2022-01/2**

**QUESTION/DISCUSSION PERIOD**

**2022-01/3**

**COMMITTEE BUSINESS**

**2022-01/3a**

**[ARRC Strategic Plan](#)**

AKINNEAH: Goes over the strategic plan that states the goals and principles, for the committee to follow this year.

Talks about how there might be a potential position created further down the line, such as VP Indigenous Relations, as an elected position on the SU's Executive Committee.

States that one long term advocacy goal is to make the Indigenous Canada course mandatory for SU members.

VILLOSO: Questions what she meant by "SU members", because all undergraduate students fall into the category of SU Members.

AKINNEAH: Clarifies all, but primarily SU councillors.

Adds that for the formal elder guidelines, it is supposed to be done at the end of the last term roughly. ARRC is responsible for selecting their elder

according to the Elder Protocol in the Standing Orders

**2022-01/3b**

**Indigenous Student Success Survey (2021) Report March 2022**

AKINNEAH: States that while working on the recommendations and tasks, two documents must be prioritized - the Indigenous Student Success Survey (2021) Report & Braiding Past and the Present and Future: University of Alberta Indigenous Strategic Plan.

**2022-01/3c**

**Recommendations Review**

AKINNEAH: Suggest that the committee take up one advocacy goal per term or per year, depending on how big said advocacy goal is. Asks committee members to put their names on the ones they want to work on and fill out the details of the tentative timeline, references and resources on the Recommendation Spreadsheet.

VILLOSO: Wants to work on the following recommendations -

- The SU shall name a portion of rooms in SUB to acknowledge the ancestral space on which it sits.
- The SU shall increase the prevalence of Indigenous art within its collection and create a mural in SUB.

AKINNEAH: Points out that Cree linguistics follow the trend of describing the purpose of the meeting rooms, meaning that all meeting rooms in SUB may receive similar names.

VILLOSO: Suggests to instead rename the main areas in SUB, like the living area, or have the board rooms named as such.

FOGUE: Wants to work on the following recommendations -

- The UASU shall advocate for the creation of a dedicated Indigenous student gathering space at Campus Saint-Jean.
- The SU shall advocate for the inclusion of a session on Indigenous Peoples at New Student Orientation, Eastern Ascent, and Basecamp.

MOYAN: Wants to work on the recommendation -

- The SU shall ensure adequate funding for elders and Oskapewsak (Elder helper).

AKINNEAH: Adds herself, VILLOSO and NIAC recommendations to the above recommendation MOYAN will work on.

CARBAJAL VELEZ: Will work on the recommendation -

- The UASU shall encourage members of the Executive Committee to receive training on Indigenous Peoples in Canada.

CARBAJAL VELEZ: Points out that for the elders, it will depend on which nation the committee gets from. Depending on the budget from the

honorary as all elders will have their own preferences. Some might prefer tobacco or even blankets.

**2022-01/4**

**Information Items**

**2022-01/4a**

[Indigenous Student Success Survey \(2021\) Report March 2022](#)

**2022-01/4b**

[Braiding Past, Present and Future: University of Alberta Indigenous Strategic Plan](#)

**2022-01/5**

**ADJOURNMENT**

**2022-01/5a**

Next Meeting: October 13th, 2022 @ 4:00 P.M.

AKINNEAH: ADJOURNED the meeting at 4:59 PM