



University of Alberta Students' Union

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

October 13th, 2022

4:00 P.M.

Location: SUB 6-06 OR Google Meet

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, Dènesų́liné (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)		Y
Ayanna Fata (SAL)		Y
Joannie Fogue		Y
Gloria Kannumkulabil (SAL)		Y
Malijha Moyan		Y

Julia Villosio		Y
Courtney Graham		N/A
Collette Cullen		Y
Tamara Belly	Shauna Stace	Y
Levi Wolfe		Y

MINUTES (ARRC-2022-02-M)

2022-02/1 INTRODUCTION

2022-02/1a Call to Order

AKINNEAH called the meeting to order at 4:06 P.M.

2022-02/1b Approval of Agenda

AKINNEAH/VILLOSO MOVE TO approve the agenda.

CARRIED

2022-02/1c Approval of Minutes

TABLED

2022-02/1d Chair's Business

AKINNEAH: Clarifies written comments for the minutes of the meeting. States that, because Cree is a descriptive language, room names will be very similar unless identifying features for each room are signalled out (i.e a room is red).

2022-02/2 QUESTION/DISCUSSION PERIOD

2022-02/3 COMMITTEE BUSINESS

2022-02/3a Formal Elder Guidelines and Protocol for Student's Union

AKINNEAH: Would like to change Section 6.2 of the Standing Orders. Would like to change Elder selection to occur during the current year of the committee.

COMMITTEE: Agrees.

STACE/WOLFE MOVE TO approve the amendment of Section 6.2 of the Standing Orders to state that the Elder selection for the committee occur during the current year of the committee.

CARRIED

2022-02/3b

ARRC Recommendations Break Down

AKINNEAH: Struggled with how vague the recommendations were. Would like the committee to go through the recommendations and nuance them.

Asks, for one of the recommendations, who should be contacted in order to ensure fair compensation to the ARRC Elder.

FOGUE: Points to the VP Operations and Finance as well as the Accounting Controller/Administration for this.

CARBAJAL VELEZ: Questions if the ARRC Recommendations need to be reviewed by Students' Council.

VILLOSO: States that ARRC Recommendations must be reviewed by the Executive Committee - they do not need to go to Students' Council.

CARBAJAL VELEZ: Suggests approving changes to ARRC Recommendations to apply to Students' Council rather than just the Executive Committee.

AKINNEAH: When courses are mandatory to educate Students' Council councillors, more data is available to be pulled (i.e who completed it and who got something out of it).

CARBAJAL VELEZ: Suggests enforcing a reflection portion at the end of the ARRC Recommendation review.

VILLOSO: Questions what the goal of this is: to educate all of Students' Council or just the Executive Committee. Further questions how councillors will be graded on their review of the ARRC Recommendations.

CARBAJAL VELEZ: Would like to encourage more cooperation between councillors and indigenous groups across campus.

MOYAN: The goal is to educate councillors about the ARRC Recommendations and encourage learning.

WOLFE: Suggests utilising a sharing circle.

AKINNEAH: Suggests inviting councillors to go visit Fort Edmonton Park with aboriginal student leaders/groups.

VILLOSO: Suggests that it is important to have a lot of engagement opportunities with indigenous groups across campus for councillors.

STACE: Suggests utilising MOOC to deliver the course to councillors.

FOGUE: Requests guidance in regards to basecamp education changes, where it has been identified that the SU should advocate for indigenous based education. Wonders if having an elder present either at the opening or wrapup of Basecamp would be an option or if a Blanket Exercise would be an acceptable option. Is happy to hear a variety of options from the committee for this recommendation though.

The only guidance provided from the document is the concept that any educational component provided at Basecamp should be led by an Indigenous person.

CULLEN: Suggests having an Elder present at the basecamp educational sessions.

AKINNEAH: Suggests reviewing terminology at Basecamp education sessions.

CULLEN: Agrees and suggests being sensitive of the range of terminology that can be used and how what is acceptable varies between indigenous peoples and indigenous groups.

AKINNEAH: Suggests addressing stereotypes and re-wording problematic language that is commonly presented around such things as residential schools.

MOYAN: Suggests including a brief history and timeline.

AKINNEAH: States that names were forced on indigenous people, which makes the issue highly sensitive.

FOGUE: Being very explicit about residential schools and their history is important.

CARBAJAL VELEZ: Talking about different cultures and finding their similarities is very important to achieving cross-cultural bonds. States that this is particularly important for international students, who have had less exposure to indigenous cultures.

VILLOSO: The recommendation that they are working on involves renaming SU conference rooms. Would like a separate committee set up to help determine the new names for these SU conference rooms.

CARBAJAL VELEZ: Questions if the committee should be composed mostly of students.

VILLOSO: Affirms that students should be front and centre to help rename rooms in SUB, as SUB is a primarily student based building.

CARBAJAL VELEZ: Suggests getting community members involved in the committee because university land is unseeded and not everyone who has something to say about this issue has had the privilege to attend university.

AKINNEAH: Suggests getting in touch with the Enoch Youth Council. Thinks that having both campus oriented and non-campus oriented perspectives is essential.

WOLFE: States that indigenous perspectives vary based on whether indigenous people were raised on reserves or within urban environments.

AKINNEAH: Would like a professor on the committee to represent both historical and political oriented perspectives. Wants to avoid mythologizing the names of the rooms.

VILLOSO: Questions who would be interested in being a part of the committee.

AKINNEAH: Confirms that they would be interested.

VILLOSO: Will figure out the logistics of the proposed committee.

MOYAN: Wants VILLOSO's help in ensuring adequate funding is distributed to the committee's Elder.

VILLOSO: Can work with Moyan to help determine Elder funding.

AKINNEAH: Will assist.

VILLOSO: Suggests talking to the FNMI specialist as well.

Standing Orders Review

TABLED

2022-02/3c

2022-02/4

Information Items

2022-02/4a

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

2022-02/5

ADJOURNMENT

AKINNEAH: Adjourned the meeting at 4:59 P.M.

2022-02/5a

Next Meeting: October 27th, 2022

