



University of Alberta Students' Union

**COUNCIL  
ADMINISTRATION  
COMMITTEE**

**February 7th, 2022**

**4:45 P.M.**

**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, Dënesųłíné (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
Adrian Wattamaniuk (Chair)		Y
Fateh Arslan		Y
Levi Flaman		Y
Milan Regmi		Y
Pien Steinbusch		Y
Abdul Abbasi		Y
Abner Monteiro		Y
Aaryan Shetty		Y
Lionel Liu		Y
David Lee		Y
Racquel Araujo-Aikman		N/A

Christian Zukowski		N/A
Courtney Graham		N/A

**MINUTES (CAC-2022-17-M)**

**2022-17/1**

**INTRODUCTION**

**2022-17/1a**

**Call to Order**

WATTAMANIUK called the meeting for order at 4:51 P.M.

**2022-17/1b**

**Approval of Agenda**

**SHETTY/FLAMAN MOVE TO** approve the agenda with amendments.  
CARRIED

**2022-17/1c**

**Approval of Minutes**

CAC-2022-15-M

**FLAMAN/SHETTY MOVE TO** approve the minutes.  
CARRIED

**2022-17/1d**

**Chair's Business**

Canadian Tour of Council Planning

WATTAMANIUK: SHETTY will visit McGill Students' Council to attend a meeting and take minutes for the Council planning document.

Committee Standing Orders

Councillor Removal

WATTAMANIUK: Councillor AVILA did not meet attendance requirements for the Fall Semester and has been removed from the CAC Committee as a permanent member.

**2022-17/1e**

**Reports**

Report of the Social Media Sub-Committee

REGMI - Social Media Sub-Committee - Report

Report of the Council Mentorship Program

REGMI - Council Mentorship Program - Report

Report of the Speaker

ZUKOWSKI - Speaker - Report

2022-17/2

**QUESTION/DISCUSSION PERIOD**

2022-17/3

**COMMITTEE BUSINESS**

2022-17/3a

**REGMI/WATTAMANIUK move to nominate two (2) members of CAC to the Social Media Sub-Committee**

SHETTY - Self-Nominates (accepted)

SHETTY is appointed to the Social Media Sub-Committee via acclamation.

2022-17/3b

**Augustana Tour/Dinner**

*Planning Form*

WATTAMANIUK: The current plan for the Augustana visit is to not have a formal Council meeting, but rather a more casual outing at Augustana on a Saturday (either March 11th or March 18th). Would like to potentially plan a tour, a dinner outing and etc. Is working with ZUKOWSKI and OLFERT to plan this visit.

FLAMAN: Questions if there is any appetite to invite the Augustana Dean to present a the Students' Council visit to Augustana.

ZUKOWSKI: Notes that the planning form has an area where meetings can be requested or arrange, for those who would like to meet specific people at Augustana campus.

ABBASI: Suggests that the Dean of Augustana would love to come. Will also work to communicate with the ASA to confirm the date for the Augustana trip.

2022-17/3c

**Voting System at Council**

[Voting System Link](#)

[Options for Using E-Voting](#)

ZUKOWSKI: Demos a potential new voting system for Students' Council to the members of CAC. The voting system is called U of A Vote. Has discussed with Students' Union staff to inquire if all Students' Council motions would require the voting system or if main motions only would require the voting system (with procedural motions still taking place as they are currently). Before implementing the voting system, an amendment would be required for Students' Council Standing Orders in order to maintain compliance with Roberts' Rule of Orders. The amendment must define the parameters and usage of the e-voting system. The voting system can either have open or

secret votes. The voting system is developed by the U of A and can have its services and options expanded, upon request.

WATTAMANIUK: Is in support of implementing the U of A Vote system for major motions whilst continuing to use the current system for procedural motions. Suggests including the voting system in the Standing Order overhaul in order to be able to start using at the beginning of the next governance year.

FLAMAN: Agrees and states that the application is very user friendly.

GRAHAM: Notes that it would be difficult for the system to be used for procedural motions due to time concerns, but would work well for main motions.

WATTAMANIUK: Suggests the benefit of having the motion on the screen for Council members to view. Worries about the tediousness of amendments, if they should occur on main motions.

SHETTY: Questions if more than one motion can be uploaded at a time in the voting system.

ZUKOWSKI: Is not certain if multiple motions and/or votes could be loaded or run at the same time. Does not believe that this is currently possible.

## **2022-17/3d**

### **Abstentions at Council**

WATTAMANIUK: At the last Special CAC Meeting discussing Standing Orders, the question of abstentions in Council came up. The concern that was raised was, what happens if the majority of people abstain from a vote and a small minority vote in favour of the motion? Currently, abstentions don't count as votes, so a situation like this would result in a small minority passing a motion. It has been suggested by LIU that a threshold be maintained for how many abstentions are allowed. Another option is to base the number of allowable abstentions on how many voting members are currently present in the meeting. The last option is to keep everything as it currently is.

SHETTY: Is worried about how abstentions affect votes in Students' Council, but has no current opinion on which abstention method to utilise.

FLAMAN: Suggests that abstentions should only be used in very rare cases, which would lead to abstentions very rarely becoming problematic (as they would amount to no more than 2 or 3 per meeting). Defines an adequate abstention as only being necessary in very rare circumstances.

LIU: Would like to suggest that abstentions can only stand if the number of people voting in the affirmative is greater than the number of people who

are abstaining. Would also like to add a concession that the Executives would be able to make a decision as a collective for Students' Council if there is an extreme conflict of interest amongst Council members or if the business is extremely urgent to pass at that specific meeting of Students' Council.

ZUKOWSKI: Notes that a conflict of interest can never arise due to membership in a Faculty Association. Suggests including ISA and ISU in the clause defining Faculty Association membership as not grounds for a conflict of interest.

MONTEIRO: Notes that TABLING a motion is a way for Council to suspend a vote on an agenda item to another time as opposed to a collective abstention.

WATTAMANIUK: Believes the problem of abstention is being oversold. Is sceptical of the potential possibility of giving the Executives emergency decision making powers for abstention heavy votes. Will continue this conversation at the next Special CAC Standing Order meeting.

**2022-17/3e**

**Slack**

TABLED

**2022-17/4**

**ADJOURNMENT**

**2022-17/4a**

Next Meeting: February 21st, 4:45 PM

WATTAMANIUK adjourned the meeting at 5:47 P.M.