

# Federation of Students' Council Minutes

SLC 1120/1121 (MPR), UNIVERSITY OF WATERLOO

*Speaker:* ELIZABETH O'SULLIVAN *Secretary:* SENECA VELLING

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## ATTENDANCE

The following members were present:

- Wu, Richard
- MacMillan, Kurt
- Richardson, Savannah
- Gerrits, Matthew
- Cadler, Ethan
- Tran, Tomson (AHSUM Representative)
- Codini, Jack
- German-Doucet, Jacque
- Mbandi, Joshua
- Mohan, Andrew
- Umuhoza, Elisa
- Altaf, Subhan (Muhammad)\*
- Chen, Junru\*
- Cheng, Linyi\*
- Eyre, Alexander
- Small, Jason\*
- Arnold, Katie (EngSoc B representative)\*
- Shimoda, Mariko (EngSoc A representative)
- Baik, Vincent\*
- ESS representative
- Akhtar, Bilal\*
- Hou, Yu CHen\*
- Hua, Deon\*
- Ourchane, Yussef\*
- Saleh, Rana
- Lee, Alex (MathSoc representative)
- Easton, Benjamin
- Kocko, Christopher
- Velling, Seneca
- O'Sullivan, Elizabeth
- Richard, Austin (SciSoc representative)
- SoPhs representative
- Cortes, Amandreo
- GBDA Society representative
- Campbell, Oliver

\* remote

The following members were absent:

- ASU representative
- Rahul Sirwani
- SJUSU representative
- Renison University College representative

\* excused

The following gallery were present and wished to recorded:

- Thevendard, Rachel
- Cohen, Edan
- El Khatib, Jana
- Zerrouky, Hana
- Gülsayin, Özge
- Tang, Simon

## PRELIMINARIES

### CALL TO ORDER

A quorum being present for the conduct of business, Elizabeth O’Sullivan called the meeting to order at 12:33 PM.

### APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

**Be it resolved that** Council approve the [September 16th, 2018 Meeting agenda](#), as presented.

Vice President Matthew Gerrits requested the following items on the *Consent Agenda* be moved to the General Orders:

- Approval of the *Freedom of Information Secrecy in Corporate Governance Policy*;
- Amendments to Policy 48, *Counter Discrimination*;
- Amendments to Procedure 10, §J(VIII), *Co-op Students’ Council*.

The Secretary of Council noted to the member that the items had been moved by the Speaker of Council as requested.

With no further opposition, the adopted the agenda.

### TERRITORIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Pursuant to Federation Policy 50, Indigenous Engagement and Inclusivity, the Federation of Students’ Council acknowledges:

The University of Waterloo is on the traditional territory of the Neutral, Anishnaabeg, and Haudenosaunee peoples. The University of Waterloo is situated on the Haldimand Tract, land promised to the Six Nations, which includes six miles on each side of the Grand River.

## CONSENT AGENDA

### APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Secretary Seneca Velling noted that the Councillor Jason Small pointed out some minor editorial changes in the minutes and he would be correcting those items.

**Be it resolved that** Council approves the minutes of the 8th of July 2018 Meeting, as presented.

*Secretary Seneca Velling and Speaker Elizabeth O'Sullivan.*

Without debate, the speaker brought the motion to a vote.

**Motion carries** unanimously.

**Be it resolved that** Council approves the minutes of the 26th of August 2018 Special Meeting, as presented.

*Secretary Seneca Velling and Speaker Elizabeth O'Sullivan.*

Without debate, the speaker brought the motion to a vote.

**Motion carries** unanimously.

**Be it resolved that** Council ratifies the results of electronic approval of the FY2018 General Operating Budget as presented in the Electronic Voting Records of the 18-19th of August 2018 Electronic Ballot.

**Be it further resolved that** Council approves the electronic voting record of the 18-19th of August 2018 Electronic Ballot.

*Secretary Seneca Velling and Speaker Elizabeth O'Sullivan.*

Vice President Matthew Gerrits thanked Council for approving the budget.

Without debate, the speaker brought the motion to a vote.

**Motion carries** unanimously.

### RATIFICATION OF FALL TERM SERVICE COORDINATORS

**Be it resolved that** Council ratifies the appointment of the Fall Term Service Coordinators, as presented.

*Vice President Savannah Richardson and Secretary Seneca Velling.*

Vice President Savannah Richardson noted the service coordinators had begun and their work was excellent thus far.

**Motion carries** unanimously.

## RATIFICATION OF INCLUSIVITY, DIVERSITY, AND EQUITY SERVICE NAME

**Be it resolved that** Council ratifies the Campus Life Advisory Committee's approved name for the service catering to racial inclusivity, equity, and diversity as Racial Advocacy for Inclusion, Solidarity, and Equity (RAISE).

*Vice President Savannah Richardson and Secretary Seneca Velling.*

The Vice President, Student Life noted that this name was brought forward after multiple consultation and engagement stages. The Campus Life Advisory Committee (CLAC) voted on the name after the service's implementation working group requested approval of the name RAISE. The Director of Equity for the University had asked to change "empowerment" to "equity", the working group supported this change. CLAC voted to support the name and the Vice President was requesting Council ratify the name selection.

Speaker of Council emphasized that Council had expressly empowered CLAC to determine these matters and in the future this item could be left off the agenda. However, Speaker Elizabeth O'Sullivan noted that finalized procedure packages and a full service implementation package from CLAC would eventually need to be ratified by the assembly.

**Motion carries** unanimously.

## EXECUTIVE REPORTS

### PRESIDENT (RICHARD WU)

The President reported that he has continued working with the Committee for Student Mental Health (CoSMH). The Committee is prioritizing recommendations given by the PAC-SMH last Winter term for implementation. This was conducted by a survey to prioritize which recommendations will be implemented first. CoSMH has been asking the University to make commitments on the Okanagan Charter, and to this end, a Town Hall meeting by the University will be held for adoption of the Charter and consultation right after the Federation's General Meeting.

President Richard Wu noted that regarding the University's Cannabis policy, Feds is working to ensure the policy is geared toward a Harm-Reduction approach.

With respect to Federal Advocacy efforts, through Undergraduates of Canadian Research Intensive Universities (UCRU), the organization has set priorities in advocacy.

The SLC-PAC expansion committee is working on Furniture; the President recently met with architect for the construction who confirmed for students that the construction is on track for a late Spring 2019 deadline to be achieved. President Richard Wu invited councillors to his office to discuss SLC furniture and other items pertaining to SLC-PAC expansion.

## **VICE PRESIDENT OF STUDENT LIFE (SAVANNAH RICHARDSON)**

The Vice President, Student Life referred to her report in the interests of brevity and asked Council for questions. Council posed no questions to the Vice President beyond that which was discussed in her report.

## **VICE PRESIDENT OF OPERATIONS & FINANCE (KURT MACMILLAN)**

The Vice President, Operations and Finance referred to his report. Councillor Deon Hua raised a question regarding the Information Technology Department's ordered cost-benefit-analysis returning to Council and the outcomes. Vice President Kurt MacMillan updated Council that the IT manager has prepared a report for Council next meeting; the organization will be moving to Skype-for-Business and will put multiple microphones in the room.

In the greatest case of absolute irony, IT issues persisted during this explanation and the Speaker of Council moved the body into recess until such time as the conference line's communication was re-established. Vice President Kurt MacMillan joked that clearly IT solutions were needed and was pleased to be providing them by the next regular meeting.

## **VICE PRESIDENT OF EDUCATION (MATTHEW GERRITS)**

The Vice President, Education referred to his report in the interests of brevity and asked Council for questions. Council posed no questions to the Vice President beyond that which was discussed in his report.

# **REPORTS OF THE OFFICERS OF COUNCIL**

## **SPEAKER OF COUNCIL (ELIZABETH O'SULLIVAN)**

The Speaker noted there was no major update for the Students' Council, but that she was pleased to see the Task Force had delivered its recommendations and looked forward to the finalization of that work.

Speaker Elizabeth O'Sullivan referred to the Secretary regarding expulsion votes for truant Councillors, but noted that all Councillors up for such a vote were notified with warning and for the expulsion specifically.

## **SECRETARY OF COUNCIL (SENECA VELLING)**

Secretary Seneca Velling provided Council with an update on the **Council Attendance records** for all Councillors and notified the assembly that a few members had accrued sufficient absences to be expelled from Council if any Councillors wished to bring such a motion to the floor.

The Secretary of Council noted that the following members were eligible for removal due in accordance with Article 8, §8(2), of the bylaws and Procedure 9, Meetings of Students' Council:

- Jack Codini (Arts)
- President of ASU (Arts)
- President of Engineering Society A (Engineering)
- President of the Environment Students Society (Environment)
- Rahul Sirwani (Mathematics)

Secretary Seneca Velling read the record of attendance of the members in question. Speaker Elizabeth O'Sullivan requested Council not bring a motion to floor for consideration of the removal of any society representatives due to turn-over. In particular, Engineering Society (A & B) were unaware that both the on-term voting member and off-term non-voting member were expected to attend Council as representatives of the Engineering Caucus.

**Point of Information:** Councillor Jason Small asked whether the removal of Society representatives was the removal of the Society's chosen delegate to Council, or the removal of the Society, as an institution, from Council for the governing year. He further inquired whether a society could put on a replacement if the president was removed from Council. Secretary Seneca Velling replied that the expulsion only applied to the holder of the office (the delegate) not the Society itself, because the bylaws enumerated the membership of Council to include a representative from each Society. Therefore, the Society could indeed send another delegate.

### **Expulsion Proceedings:**

#### **Question of Expulsion of Councillor Jack Codini**

**Be it resolved that** Council expels Arts caucus Councillor Jack Codini from the assembly.

*Councillor Jason Small and Councillor Benjamin Easton.*

The Secretary of Council noted that if Councillor Jack Codini were removed the expulsion would be of immediate effect and the seat would be put up for by-election to fill the vacancy is the motion carried.

Secretary Seneca Velling spoke to the attendance record of Jack Codini. The Speaker of Council yielded the floor to Councillor Jack Codini to speak in his defense. The Councillor noted that he was elected a Councillor starting in May, when he was a co-op student in Ottawa and working on the weekends to do his co-op work. This was the reason he could not attend as there was direct conflict with his occupation. He promised Council he would be attending all meetings going forward and be far more engaged now that he has returned to campus.

Councillors wished to speak to Councillor Jack Codini's character and credentials. Councillor Alex Eyre noted that Councillor Jack Codini's work ethic was excellent and that this situation was clearly reflective of the co-op work environment and not his capability or effort. Councillor Alex Eyre continued that he trusted Councillor Jack Codini's attendance moving forward would be far better.

**Point of Information:** Councillor Benjamin Easton inquired if Council votes not to remove a member when could this be brought up again. The Secretary of Council consulted procedure and informed the assembly that each additional *unexcused* absence thereafter would trigger an expulsion vote in the future, but that otherwise the track of absences would reset.

The Speaker of Council ordered a vote by secret electronic ballot.

**Motion fails** with ten (10) in favour, nineteen (19) opposed, and two (2) abstentions. Councillor Jack Codini was **not** removed from Council.

### Question of Expulsion of Rahul Sirwani

**Be it resolved that** Council expels Arts caucus Rahul Sirwani from the assembly.  
*Councillor Deon Hua and Councillor Bilal Akhtar.*

Secretary Seneca Velling spoke to the attendance record of Rahul Sirwani. The Speaker of Council notified Council that Rahul Sirwani had been contacted but did not reply to a request to attend Council to speak in his defense.

Mathematics caucus Councillors expressed unequivocal support for removal of the member due to truancy and neglect of duty. Councillor Bilal Akhtar noted that Rahul Sirwani was not responding to emails or outreach by fellow Math Councillors.

The Speaker of Council ordered a vote by secret electronic ballot.

**Motion carries** with twenty-three (23) in favour, five (5) opposed, and four (4) abstentions. Rahul Sirwani was removed from Council with immediate effect.

Speaker Elizabeth O'Sullivan instructed the Secretary of Council and President to ensure a seat was made available for by-election on [vote.feds.ca](http://vote.feds.ca) within the next business day to allow for nominations.

## REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES, COMMISSIONS, AND SERVICES

### POLICIES & PROCEDURES COMMITTEE

Various members of the Policies and Procedures Committee (PPC) spoke in support of the committee-referred motions recommended for adoption. Secretary Seneca Velling explained that, as noted in the **memorandum** that was distributed to Council on August 2<sup>nd</sup>, the motions if adopted would change the Feds' policy approval process to allow for nonbinding advice of the Board of Directors on corporate policies. Further the memo elaborated on reclassifying an existing prescriptive policy into Council procedure, resulting in the proposed rescission of Policy 49, *Sustaining Safety*.

Vice President Matthew Gerrits inquired why this item was not being moved in the General Orders. Speaker Elizabeth O'Sullivan noted that motions arising directly out of a



report, including to adopt recommendations in the report, may be considered immediately after the report without having to wait until later in the meeting; if Council decides to adopt or accept a report, then it is endorsing the entire report and not just the recommendations.

**Be it resolved that** Council adopts the memorandum and associated recommendations of the Policies and Procedures Committee.

*Motion is privileged and brought to the floor.*

**Motion carries**

## SPRING 2018 END OF TERM SERVICE REPORTS

Savannah noted that a summary presentation of the reports was not issued in time for submission for the agenda, but may be presented with the October agenda.

## COUNCILLOR REPORTS

### MATHEMATICS CAUCUS

Mathematics Councillors spoke to new outreach methods with public office hours. Councillor Deon Hua and Councillor Bilal Akhtar spoke to the value of office hours over online or social media outreach. Councillor Bilal Akhtar noted that the timing of the office hours very important, and recommended other caucuses schedule such events when students are on campus and can see the Councillors. The Math caucus noted that "Geese advertisements" received some traction on social media and reddit, but timing and location of office hours was far more influential.

Councillor Yu Chen Hou spoke to the Math Caucus working on the UW Equity Office after extensive consultation with students for the implementation of more gender-neutral washrooms on campus, particularly in Mathematics buildings.

Councillors spoke to greater desire for Healthy Food options on campus for club and societies events. Councillors intended to converse with Federation staff on this in the future. Healthier and cheaper foods for students and clubs would be appropriate many agreed.

## SPECIAL ORDERS

### STUDENTCARE©PRESENTATION & LEGAL SERVICE

The Speaker of Council yielded the floor to an invited guest presentation from StudentCare© brought to Council by the Vice President, Operations and Finance at the request of the Secretary of Council.

Speakers Del Pereira (Director of Partnerships at StudentCare) and Azim Wazeer (Program Manager for StudentCare) presented to Council on the Legal Service (presentation is attached).



*Secretary's Note:* While not formally recorded in the minutes, Mr. Pereira, a former Feds VP Finance himself, led some sick roasts of Mr. Wazeer, a graduate of UBC.

StudentCare informed the assembly that they were a student start up 20 years and serve as a broker for student collective insurance plans. The corporation serves as a plan administrator and advisor (opt-out, communications, consultancy, data management), and as such they have a legal responsibility to work solely for the Federation not for the insurer).

The service would provide legal protections for Housing: rent issues, lease issues, safety; Employment: contract issues, harassment, wrongful termination; Academics: appeals, suspensions, and expulsion. The  $\approx 28$  per year per student fee would be assessed to provide the service, making it the cheapest insurance program for not only Feds, but also for legal insurance coverage relative to the private sector.

Next steps: Council approval for referendum, then Board developing a contract with StudentCare for provision of the legal service, then holding a referendum. If the referendum supports adoption, implementing service by Spring to Fall 2019.

**Question & Answer Period with Council:** Councillor Benjamin Easton inquire about the documentation requirements for opting-out of the service. StudentCare responded that there were no special requirements for opting-out, such as a proof of coverage requirement, as there is no alternative to compare with. This would be akin to a dental plan. Further, the service is easily opt-out-able online.

Councillor Benjamin Easton asked the Executives, particularly the Vice President, Education, what the impact of this service will be on the academic policy support Feds provides (*ie.* with relation to the Centre for Academic Policy Support). Vice President Matthew Gerrits noted that Centre for Academic Policy Support (CAPS) would continue to support use-cases beyond court. StudentCare added that this service is best seen as augmenting or supplementing the existing Feds CAPS not to replace it.

Secretary Seneca Velling asked StudentCare to speak to implementation at other schools and why those schools limit the program to academic rights pertaining to expulsion. The Secretary expressed confusion as this seemed to contradict the presentation given that spoke to appeals support and suspension support. StudentCare noted that improvements have been made to the program since the expulsion only coverage, now other academic needs are covered (including non-academic punishment policy). Coverage evolves and will continue to improve noted StudentCare.

Councillor Linyi Cheng requested clarification as to what the cost would be. The cost will be \$28 dollars per year for 12 months of coverage. Relative to the private sector the nearest comparable cost to coverage level is \$108 per year in comparison.

Councillor Alex Eyre asked how often do students use this service at other schools where it had been implemented and if are we putting Feds at risk of suit due to the program. The Secretary of Council noted that the program would not permit suit of Feds, but StudentCare clarified it would allow suit against the University. With regards to use at other schools, StudentCare's representatives noted that while some students do opt-out of the coverage, claims use continues to grow. Use is not initially so large as the program has been expanding in what it covers, currently the program is far more expansive than when it was first rolled out and provides greater protection. It of course is not always used as students, hopefully, do not always require legal protection for sexual harassment or assault or needs. As more

cases occur, the program will evolve and expand.

The Science Society's representative, Austin Richard, inquired whether the hotline could be used in a speaker's native language. He noted this was particularly pertinent at Waterloo where there is a large portion of international students here. StudentCare informed the assembly the hotline uses both French and English by default but covers third party translational service for those who need it. Councillor Austin Richard followed up asking whether there was restriction on location/use of calling. StudentCare responded that students can access the hotline anywhere in North America.

The chair opened questions from the gallery. Member at-Large in attendance, Simon Tang, thanked the presenters and noted he had read some FAQs from plan underwriters used by StudentCare. The member inquired about the money awarded to opponents in cases. StudentCare noted that if students were counter-sued for damages or because they lost their initial suit or if you have court fees, that the plan would cover them. StudentCare noted that typically this requires that there is a reasonable prospect for success though. If there's no case the insurer will not recommend suit, but then StudentCare will provide a third party adjudicator to decide if case should proceed. If a student still wishes to have a case, then the Federation could decide if the case will move forward, as the plan is directly controlled by the Federation. StudentCare noted their brokerage policies with the Federation, in such a service arrangement, do not allow them to deny a student access if they demand it, unless the Federation permits the same. StudentCare believes this right for students and seeks to provide as much coverage as possible.

Secretary Seneca Velling spoke to the large number of international students on the Waterloo campus ( $\approx 22\%$ ) and if this coverage would include help with federal immigration law in cases involving visas, study permits, work permits for co-op, or general advice in the Customs and Immigration Canada filing process. StudentCare noted the service is looking to evolve in this direction, but is not immediately there yet. Immigration law is attractive, but it is something that StudentCare can, already, basically assist with via general counsel through use of the hotline. The hotline supports any area of the law.

Secretary Seneca Velling inquired if students could email leases to be reviewed without needing to meet in person with a lawyer. StudentCare assured the Council that this is possible and that first the student would call the hotline and set up contact and more detailed support over email as needed.

Councillor Bilal Akhtar inquired as to the timeline for the service, assuming referendum is conducted by the Fall term, what is the implementation period. Could this be implemented for effect within the next academic year. StudentCare confirmed that this service could be provided with that notice period, currently StudentCare is waiting on a Feds referendum. They would like to know before February/April for implementation by no later than next Fall, but the earlier the better.

The Speaker of Council and Secretary of Council thanked the guests from StudentCare for their time and taking questions from the assembly.

**Be it resolved that** the Speaker recesses the meeting five (5) minutes. *Motion is taken as privileged.*

**Call to Order:** the Speaker re-convened the meeting at 14:10.

**Be it resolved that** Council approves the attached motion pertaining to Legal Service requested by the Board of Directors.

*AHSUM President Tomson Tran and Secretary Seneca Velling.*

Vice President Matthew Gerrits moves an amendment:

**Be it resolved that** the second resolution is stricken.

*Vice President Matthew Gerrits and President Richard Wu.*

**Motion withdrawn.**

Councillor Alex Eyre asked if a referendum will be held on this. Many Councillors concurred that for such a fee increase a referendum was appropriate. The Chair of the Board, Seneca Velling, confirmed Board intended to call a referendum.

President Richard Wu moved to amend the first resolution to remove limits as presented.

**Be it resolved that** the reference to limits in the first resolution is stricken.

*President Richard Wu and Vice President Matthew Gerrits.*

The President noted that StudentCare explained no limits or caps on number of cases or total coverage per case existed any longer for the plan.

**Motion carries** by consensus.

Councillor Linyi Cheng spoke to the Legal Service, noting the fees are opt-out so this is only truly a  $\approx$  \$9 per term cost to students. The Councillor expressed the opinion that this is not a burden to students, it is the option to enable a referendum. He stressed that Council was not increasing the fees but rather voting to enable a referendum allowing the students to determine their own desire with respect to legal protection. The Councillor made reference to data in the legal survey results that spoke to student desire to have access to a legal service and ability to speak to legal counsel. Councillor Linyi Cheng then presented a series of photographs and social media posts regarding the living situations and other predatory practices by housing corporations.

Councillor Yu Chen Hou yielded his time to Member at-Large Simon Tang with permission of the Speaker. Member Tang spoke to the need for this service and what he is doing in terms of forming a tenants association for students. Member Tang spoke to the need for action in legal protection and tenant collective representation. Since Member Tang announced a tenancy association, he has had 70 students volunteer to facilitate in addressing these housing issues. He spoke to a such a tenancy association needing to be supplemented with student legal support and having a legal service would be essential to those ends. Some Councillors expressed interest in participating and supporting this tenancy association and requested the Secretary disseminate the contact information for the member following the meeting. Secretary Seneca Velling noted he would honour this request as soon as possible.

Councillor Bilal Akhtar noted that based on the Waterloo Reddit and some corporation's Google© reviews this mistreatment of students is a common theme and housing is a major issue. The Councillor noted that the Federation need to act with haste to demonstrate to students that it is in touch with their needs and actively working to help them.

The Councillor emphasized that this service offered a good opportunity to demonstrate commitment to student needs proactively.

Councillor Deon Hua spoke to the benefit for students to give students the chance to vote on a legal service.

**Motion carries** unanimously.

## **TASK FORCE FOR GM ENGAGEMENT AND COUNCIL OF DELEGATES REFORMS**

The Speaker of Council yielded to the Chair of the Board to present the finalized proposals and general update presentation from the Task Force, including bylaw amendment recommendations and procedural changes.

President Richard Wu and Vice President Savannah Richardson inquired as to whether the Chair needed to present the findings and recommendation or whether a vote could be conducted in the interests of increasing the pace of the meeting due to the length of the agenda. The Chair emphasized his belief that Councillors ought to make informed decisions and presentation and Q&A was due diligence. Councillor Joshua Mbandi noted that Councillors should have read the agenda package and so an abridged version of the presentation could be given. Science Society representative, Austin Richard, spoke to Council's responsibility to be thorough and stated Councillors not only should have read the documents but should reasonably be expected to listen to and hear eight months of governance review work conducted by the Task Force. Councillor Benjamin Easton expressed his belief that a full presentation was in order and requested the Chair to continue. Speaker Elizabeth O'Sullivan noted that Council held responsibility for their decision on this matter and expected an informed decision. The Speaker noted she would rule against any measure to abridge the presentation's allocated time. The Chair continued his presentation at the direction of the Speaker.

When the Chair concluded his presentation, the Task Force's referred motion was considered:

**Be it resolved that** Council approves-in-principle changes to the bylaws, as presented by the Task Force for General Meeting Engagement Council of Delegates Reforms, for recommended adoption by the Board of Directors;

**Be it further resolved that** Council approves the proposed procedure package with the proviso that the relevant procedures shall only come into effect if the bylaw changes heretofore approved-in-principle are duly ratified by a General Meeting of the Corporation;

**Be it further resolved that** Council authorizes the Policies Procedures Committee (PPC) to review and make minor editorial and compliance changes as needed to the approved procedure package;

**Be it further resolved that** the Policies Procedures Committee (PPC) shall review the existing procedures manual for compliance with and made edits where necessary for

said bylaw changes, provided that such changes once approved by PPC are ratified by a committee of the whole Council; and

**Be it further resolved that** the Secretary shall report back to Council the status of implementation of the approved procedure package and bylaws after the General Meeting of the Corporation has occurred.

*Secretary Seneca Velling and Councillor Benjamin Easton.*

The Chair having presented yielded the floor to questions and consideration.

Councillor Elisa Umuhoza inquired as to the division of responsibilities and powers of the Board and Council. The Chair elaborated on the role of Board as stewards of the organization and that as such were empowered by the bylaws and the Ontario *Corporations Act* to exercises all contractual, risk, legal, human resources, and general financial oversight for the organization. The Chair elaborated on the relationships and nature of the Board-Council relationship and the Council's responsibility to ultimately represent the will of the membership compared to Board's fiduciary responsibility to represent the best interests of the corporation as an entity.

AHSUM President Tomson Tran, the Secretary of the Corporation, thanked the Task Force for their work over the past eight months and noted the bylaw changes looked excellent. He strongly encouraged Council adopt them and thanked the Chair for his presentation. He further noted he looked forward to healthy debate on the recommended bylaw changes at the Board of Directors.

Vice President Matthew Gerrits strongly recommended against approval and noted his opposition was irreconcilable by amendment. The Vice President spoke to gross mandate creep by the Task Force to provide suggested changes to Fees, Removal of Directors, the powers of General Meeting, relations between Board and Council.

**Point of Information:** the Chair raised the point that the scope of the Task Force, as chartered by the Board at the order of the General Meeting, was point-of-fact to explore and empower Council as a Meeting of Delegates of the corporation imbued with some General Meeting powers and to explore correlated responsibilities between the GM and Council (including mechanisms for fee adjustment, selection and removal of Directors, and accountability of the Board).

Vice President Matthew Gerrits continued that he opposed the recommendation to Board to adopt these bylaws, emphasizing his belief that the Board of Directors was not bound by the orders of a General Meeting of the corporation as it was not explicitly stated in the *Corporations Act*.

**Point of Information:** the Chair raised the point that the Vice President, Education was incorrect in the powers of the General Meeting. The Chair noted that the General Meeting is alone supreme over the organization and that the Board is fully accountable to the General Meeting and would act to fulfill all requirements imposed by the General Meeting. The Chair noted that claiming otherwise was ridiculous as the only cases for which such a claim would hold true were if the General Meeting ordered the Board to expressly violate the law or the letters patent.

Various members of the Task Force spoke in support of the proposed bylaw changes and procedural improvements. Councillor Jason Small, Councillor Benjamin Easton, and Speaker Elizabeth O'Sullivan strongly supported the changes and spoke to their efforts over the last eight months in development of the bylaws and procedures. The Chair noted the excellent procedural work by Councillor Jason Small and thanked all the members for their commitment to the project and to accountable governance that serves the membership.

Councillor Austin Richard stated he believed the changes were reasonable and would support the work of the Task Force.

Councillor Jason Small noted that the procedures discussed in the presentation were attached and included a Conflict of Interest Declaration that would be mentioned momentarily.

Secretary Seneca Velling concluded debate reminding Council that the final bylaw changes approved by Council for recommendation to the Board would be debated in Board chambers and, if approved by the Board, would seek approval by the Fall Annual General Meeting (AGM) pursuant to orders of the Fall 2017 AGM.

**Motion carries** with twenty-four (24) in favour, five (5) opposed, and six (6) abstaining. The recommendation for adoption was provided to the Board.

### **Conflict of Interest Requirements for Councillors**

**Be it resolved that** all members of Council shall submit completed Conflict of Interest Forms (to be distributed electronically following this meeting) to the Secretary and Speaker no later than October 1st, 2018.

*Councillor Jason Small and Secretary Seneca Velling.*

Councillor Jason Small introduced the new Conflict of Interest form for future years and that this presented value to the membership to see how their councillors were influenced. Secretary Seneca Velling noted that constituents would be able to see all relations and ties of their Councillors and that would ensure greater accountability.

Vice President Savannah Richardson noted that all persons have conflicts of interest as representatives of constituents and that she believed the form was unnecessary.

Councillor Austin Richard requested Vice President Savannah Richardson to elaborate on her comment regarding inherent conflicts of interest as he did not understand it. The Councillor expressed support for constituents' right to know factors affecting their representatives voting at the Council.

Vice President Savannah Richardson retracted her point.

Councillor Elisa Umuhoza asked what constituted conflicts of interest. Secretary Seneca Velling noted this is typically referring to any situation in which an individual, as a representative of students, contrary to their obligation and absolute duty to act for the benefit of the students of their constituency, can exploit an internal or external relationship for personal benefit, typically pecuniary. For the purposes of Feds, the Secretary clarified that this can mean any membership/leadership roles in or service to external/internal



bodies which might affect a Councillors voting or provide them the opportunity to benefit personally using their position.

**Motion carries**

## GENERAL ORDERS

### RECOMMENDED FOR ADOPTION BY POLICIES AND PROCEDURES COMMITTEE

#### Proposed Freedom of Information & Secrecy in Corporate Governance Policy

**Be it resolved that** Council approves of the Freedom of Information & Secrecy in Corporate Governance Policy, as presented.

*Secretary Seneca Velling and Councillor Alex Eyre.*

Councillor Alex Eyre expressed support for the policy and noted it ensured Feds was more transparent. He highlighted that the policy had gone through Policies and Procedures Committee (PPC) and PPC recommended it for adoption as amended. He hoped Councillors would vote in favour of the measure.

President Richard Wu expressed disagreement with the motion because he was unsure as to its motivation, he believed there was substantial administrative burden imposed, and this was not something put into practice in other student unions through his environment scan.

Councillor Austin Richard spoke in support of the policy and noted PPC had considered these points, made amendments to address concerns pertaining to administrative burden, and still recommended it for adoption.

Secretary Seneca Velling spoke to the value of the policy and noted that motivations for this policy were discussed in Committee.

The Vice President, Education rebutted that this policy had not been presented, in accordance with new Council Procedure 9 adopted at this meeting, to Board for consideration and opinion.

Speaker Elizabeth O'Sullivan, under advisement from the parliamentarian, noted that the rules for the meeting were initiated on the version of Council Procedure 9 not as amended during the meeting, and unless Council choose to put those rules into force with immediate effect no such consultation was required for this item.

The Chair of the Board noted that, if there was any such concern, this item had in fact been presented to the Board of Directors for consultation and consideration at the May meeting and invited Councillors to examine the public meeting records for evidence.

Secretary Seneca Velling stated that he would support rescission or further amendment of the policy if it did prove to present a considerable administrative burden upon the organization.



Councillor Deon Hua spoke to the lack of real administrative burden argument considering the Council already amended the policy to include a clause specifying that compliance with a request was not required where "the time required to determine if the Federation holds the requested information, combined with the time required to collect and deliver the requested information exceeds sixteen (16) business hours". Councillor Deon Hua further emphasized that, to the President's point regarding other student unions not exercising similar measures, that Feds is showcasing itself as a leader among student unions.

### **Motion carries**

### **Amendments to Policy 48, *Counter Discrimination***

**Be it resolved that** Council approves amendments to Policy 48, Counter Discrimination, as presented.

*Councillor Alex Eyre and Councillor Oliver Campbell.*

Councillor Alex Eyre spoke to the policy as amended by PPC. He noted that clubs, having expressed worries over this policy being enforced and being a violation of the Federation's freedom of expression policy, had brought this to the attention of Council. He stated that the policy also helped make it clear Feds as an organization works in the post-secondary advocacy sector and not in international relations.

Rana Saleh welcomed the amendments removing penalization of clubs for their political beliefs. She expressed support for allowing clubs to express their opinions on this issue however they wished. With that being said, the Councillor did not support the prohibition on ratification of student referendum on this issue as she believed it was a limitation of Councillor's free speech and on students' ability to have their views represented.

Councillor Joshua Mbandi concurred with Rana Saleh on the grounds that prohibiting the "entertaining of motions" (language from the policy as amended) on this topic is an infringement on free speech of Councillors and capacity of them to execute their duties to represent their constituents.

Councillor Alex Eyre noted that the Council could still discuss the motion by overruling the Speaker after they rule the item out of order. Councillor Alex Eyre delegated his time to Member at-Large Edan Cohen, with the consent of the Speaker.

**Point of Order:** the Secretary notified the Speaker that time had expired on the discussion.

**Be it resolved that** Council extends the designated debate period to allow 10 additional minutes of discussion.

*Rana Saleh and Secretary Seneca Velling.*

### **Motion carries**

Councillor Joshua Mbandi asked the Council if it was truly a given that Feds cannot engage in diplomacy or international relations. He emphasized that students have a right

to express themselves through their elected representatives. The Councillor noted that he thought students should have a right to take a stance if they so choose.

Rana Saleh yielded her time to Member at-Large Rachel Thevendard. Member Thevendard spoke to the Palestinian and Israeli foreign policy disputes and her views on the matter. The Speaker ruled this discussion out of order and guided Council back to debate on whether to permit the referendum ratification at Council. Member Thevendard stated that Council should respect the wishes of the undergraduate students and should be able to ratify a referendum if such a motion were to be considered.

The Speaker's list having been exhausted, the motion proceeded to a vote.

**Motion carries** with Councillor Alex Eyre, Councillor Oliver Campbell, Councillor Christopher Kocko, Councillor Jack Codini in favour; Councillor Joshua Mbandi and Rana Saleh opposed.

## PROCEDURAL AMENDMENTS TO CO-OP STUDENTS' COUNCIL (PROCEDURE 10)

**Be it resolved that** Council approves proposed amendments to Procedure 10, §J(VIII), Co-op Students' Council, as presented.

*Vice President Matthew Gerrits on behalf of Commissioner Plante and Secretary Seneca Velling.*

The Vice President, Education informed the assembly that these changes were minor editor amendments to update the membership-listing for the committee and to set the election for seats to be every governing year not every term, as well as a few other minor updates. This is primarily an update to procedure to reflect what is carried out in practice.

Secretary Seneca Velling called the question in the interests of expedience with the agenda.

### **Motion to Call the Question**

*Secretary Seneca Velling and AHSUM President Tomson Tran.*

**Motion carries** unanimously.

## IFC AND SLEF FINANCIAL TRANSPARENCY FOR THE MEMBERSHIP

**Be it resolved that** Council adopts the Resolution on SLEF and IFC Funds Transparency, as presented.

*Councillor Benjamin Easton and Secretary Seneca Velling.*

The entire Science Caucus spoke to this motion and the value it would present to the membership. Secretary Seneca Velling noted that Math Endowment Fund (MEF) already does this and the Faculty of Science Foundation was looking to do the same. Feds could reasonably do similar.

Mathematics Society President Alex Lee spoke in favour of this motion. He noted he worked on the MEF when this listing was rolled out and how including this information has helped with people being more aware of what MEF does and what it funds.

Vice President Savannah Richardson noted a few concerns pertaining to language regarding applicant disclosure and asked the motion to be tabled for discussion between the Science caucus and herself.

**Be it resolved that** Council tables consideration of the Resolution on SLEF and IFC Funds Transparency pending discussion between the Science caucus and Vice President of Student Life.

*Vice President Savannah Richardson and Vice President Matthew Gerrits.*

Secretary Seneca Velling inquired if the changes were easily reconcilable. Some discussion emerged. The Secretary agreed that this was better done outside of chambers. Secretary Seneca Velling, Speaker Elizabeth O'Sullivan, Councillor Christopher Kocko, and Councillor Benjamin Easton (the Science Caucus) stated they considered the motion to table friendly.

**Motion carries** unanimously. The resolution will be moved to Business Arising from the Minutes for the October 21st Meeting of Council.

**Item was tabled until the next regular meeting**

## IFC AND VOLUNTEER PROCEDURAL AMENDMENTS

**Be it resolved that** Council approves the procedural amendments to Procedure 10, *Committees of Students' Council*, and Procedure 24, *Volunteer Appreciation, Skill Development, and Team Building*, as presented.

*Vice President Savannah Richardson and Vice President Kurt MacMillan.*

Vice President Savannah Richardson introduced the package of changes to primarily move IFC to Vice President, Operations and Finance's portfolio and change remuneration for officers.

The Secretary requested the item be broken into parts.

**Motion to Divide the Question**

*Secretary Seneca Velling and Vice President Savannah Richardson.*

**Motion carries** unanimously.

**IFC Procedural Changes** Secretary Seneca Velling asked what happened to SPC and why it seemd to be eliminated from procedure. AHSUM President Tomson Tran asked for a report on this matter to be presented by the Executive to Council.

Speaker Elizabeth O'Sullivan moved to refers IFC items to PPC.

**Be it resolved that** Council refers the procedural amendments to Procedure 10, *Committees of Students' Council*, to the Policies and Procedures Committee.

*Speaker Elizabeth O'Sullivan and Secretary Seneca Velling.*

**Motion carries**

**Honourary Lifetime Membership Committee** Regarding Honourary Membership Committee, the Vice President, Student Life noted that the procedural change was designed to set a particular designated executive as in practice the President does not always chair this committee.

**Be it resolved that** Council amends the procedure to read "An Executive designated by Council".

*Secretary Seneca Velling and Speaker Elizabeth O'Sullivan.*

**Motion is considered friendly and adopted**

Vice President Savannah Richardson and Vice President Matthew Gerrits noted that the preferred designated Executive was Vice President, Education for this year.

**Be it resolved that** Council designates the Vice President, Education as the chair of the Honourary Lifetime Membership Committee for this year.

*Secretary Seneca Velling and Vice President Matthew Gerrits.*

**Motion carries**

Voting proceeded to the main motion pertaining to Honourary Lifetime Membership Committee.

**Be it resolved that** Council approves the procedural amendments the Honourary Lifetime Membership Committee in Procedure 10, *Committees of Students' Council*.

*Vice President Savannah Richardson and Vice President Matthew Gerrits.*

**Motion carries****Amendments to Procedure 24, *Volunteer Appreciation, Skill Development, and Team Building***

Changes honoraria to \$500 per term instead of \$350 currently listed based on General Meeting increases approved in 2016. Additionally the Vice President, Student Life included the Honoraria metrics currently used in the procedure.

Secretary Seneca Velling expressed concerns that including metrics for something that exists only as an acknowledgement or reward may give the false perception that such money is remuneration and not honoraria. Vice President Matthew Gerrits responded regarding efficacy of funding and being responsible with student money as the primary concern.

AHSUM President Tomson Tran asked what where funding for Secretaries in the organization had gone. Similarly, Secretary Seneca Velling expressed concerns for Category three (3) discounts for Councillors and Directors.

Speaker Elizabeth O'Sullivan moved to refer the item to committee.

**Be it resolved that** Council refers the procedural amendments to Procedure 24, *Volunteer Appreciation, Skill Development, and Team Building*, to the Policies and Procedures Committee.

*Speaker Elizabeth O'Sullivan and Secretary Seneca Velling.*

**Motion carries**

## ELECTRONIC APPROVAL PROCESS

**Be it resolved that** Council adopts the Resolution on Electronic Approval Process, as presented.

*Councillor Linyi Cheng and Councillor Benjamin Easton.*

Councillor Linyi Cheng introduced the motion and the spirit being to allow discussion on items, particularly budgets.

Secretary Seneca Velling noted there were changes to PPC procedure amendments in the resolution. Councillor Jason Small also noted that Council could have meetings after exams concluded rather than having budget meetings during exams; Councillor Jason Small said that there could be a regular August meeting after the end of exams instead of needing a special budget meeting. The Councillor believed that there should have been a meeting even if that meant having one scheduled after exams were over. Councillor Deon Hua discussed not holding budget votes during exam period and that the online vote was inappropriate of Council.

Vice President Matthew Gerrits noted this year was an aberration and the budget process was disrupted from the University side due to missing figures on student enrollment for *Budget Appropriations Committee*.

Secretary Seneca Velling apologized that the budget process this year was unclear for some Councillors, but reassured Council it was being actively improved.

Without further debate the motion carried.

**Motion carries** with Secretary Seneca Velling in favour and Vice President Matthew Gerrits abstaining.

## INVITATION OF NEWS GROUPS TO COUNCIL

**Be it resolved that** Council adopts the Resolution on Inviting News Groups to Cover Students' Council Meetings, as presented.

*Councillor Linyi Cheng and Secretary Seneca Velling.*

Councillor Linyi Cheng stated that a lot of students know about Feds Council but not what the institution does. His resolution was to require the Speaker or Secretary to send out invites to media groups on our campus to invite them to cover Council meetings.

Vice President Matthew Gerrits spoke in opposition resolution stating that it would be simpler to add such groups to the Council mailinglist and asking the relevant Committees or Executives to speak to these press. Vice President Savannah Richardson continued

that it is on the individual caucus to reach out to the news groups and gave an example of MathNEWS being informed via Math Councillors.

Secretary Seneca Velling noted that he already invites press and sends them agenda in advance. The Secretary proposed an amendment that would reconcile the resolution with procedural orders of Council for the Secretary.

**Be it resolved that** Council strikes "in consultation" from the first resolution and adds "with notice given to".

*Secretary Seneca Velling and Vice President Savannah Richardson.*

**Motion is considered friendly and adopted**

Councillor Linyi Cheng requested the resolution be referred to PPC to be put into force for ratification by Council.

**Be it resolved that** Council refers the resolution to Policies and Procedures Committee to be put into force;

**Be it further resolved that** the resolution shall be ratified by Council at the next regular meeting.

*Councillor Linyi Cheng and Secretary Seneca Velling.*

**Motion carries** with abstention from Secretary Seneca Velling.

## NEW POLICIES, AMENDMENTS, AND RESCISSION

### Committee Transparency Policy

**Be it resolved that** Council gives leave to introduce for first reading of a Committee Transparency Policy; and

**Be it further resolved that** Council refers the policy and records of first reading to the Policies Procedures Committee.

*Councillor Bilal Akhtar and Councillor Deon Hua.*

Councillor Deon Hua spoke to this procedure as a motion to increase transparency for our committees. Vice President Savannah Richardson asked for clarification if the committees referred to were of Council or the Board. Councillor Bilal Akhtar noted that it was both bodies' committees would be subject to the policy. Vice President Savannah Richardson asked for change in time-line as most Committees meet regularly and required publication of agendas and minutes might further burden administrative overhead.

Secretary Seneca Velling spoke to request to use the mail list generally and asked for reference to individual mailing lists for each committee maintained by the organization to not be used.

Vice President Matthew Gerrits moved to reduce committee attendance publication requirements listed in the policy.

**Be it resolved that** Council strikes "BIFRT attendance of each Committee be published on the Federation website, on one page" and "BIFRT the Secretary of each governing body be responsible for ensuring that attendance is updated on the Federation website in a timely matter."

*Vice President Matthew Gerrits and Secretary Seneca Velling.*

**Motion is considered friendly and adopted**

President Richard Wu stated that speaking from a principled side, it makes sense to have this transparency, but on the back end, website changes take time and this policy might add substantial burden to staff.

Vice President Matthew Gerrits and Secretary Seneca Velling noted that Policies and Procedures Committee is considering this item and that some aspects of this policy are already included in the executive reports (for committees executives chair).

**Motion carries** the policy is referred to PPC.

### **Attendance Transparency Policy**

**Be it resolved that** Council gives leave to introduce for first reading of an Attendance Transparency Policy; and

**Be it further resolved that** Council refers the policy and records of first reading to the Policies Procedures Committee.

*Councillor Deon Hua and Councillor Bilal Akhtar.*

Councillor Bilal Akhtar asked that Council meetings and Board meetings include attendance online. This policy asks for the Secretary of Council and Board to tally up attendance and post it online.

**Be it resolved that** "Secretary of Board" be stricken and replaced with "Secretary of the Corporation".

**Motion is considered friendly and adopted**

Vice President Matthew Gerrits spoke to administrative burden with this policy requirement. Secretary Seneca Velling requested Speaker Elizabeth O'Sullivan bring up the Council Attendance log he had created and used to check expulsion qualifications. He emphasized the tool was already available and just needed to be linked from the website.

**Motion carries**

### **Rescission of Counter Discrimination Policy**

**Be it resolved that** Council rescinds Policy 48, *Counter Discrimination 1 and 2*.

*Rana Saleh and Councillor Elisa Umuhoza.*

The Speaker imposed a one (1) minute per councilor with two (2x) speaking time limit on Councillors. *Adopted by consensus.*



Rana Saleh noted that students can adopt the motion, hold the referendum, and bring it up at a GM, but cannot let their student council ratify this. Rana Saleh yielded time to Member at-Large Rachel Thevenard who spoke to Council as a small group of students on Council making a decision on free expression. And this policy prohibits students getting heard.

Councillor Jack Codini stated that it was not Feds' place as a student union to wade into matters of international diplomacy. Councillor Jack Codini noted that the purpose of the policy is to make student life better not to fight international injustice. He asks the Council focus on other issues.

The Speaker recognized a Member of the gallery who asked if the clubs were still being harmed by this policy. The Secretary clarified that the new policy did not limit the free expression of clubs and enshrined protections of their rights to hold political beliefs.

Councillor Austin Richard noted that the Freedom of Expression policy was well written and protected our clubs and societies. He supported this Counter Discrimination policy as amended by PPC.

Rana Saleh noted that it is within Council's powers to ratify the referendum and asked Council why they should not ratify them if students express a wish. The Councillor thought forcing a GM to be called for ratification was excessive.

Councillor Elisa Umuhoza emphasized that students live in a democracy and that Council was able to be divided on this matter and that was powerful and represented the strength of our institutions to even hold this debate. She moved to strike "...or entertain motions" from the last resolution.

**Be it resolved that** "...or entertain motions..." be struck from the last resolution in the policy.

*Councillor Elisa Umuhoza and Rana Saleh.*

**Motion is considered friendly and adopted** by the Chairperson of PPC, President Richard Wu.

This amendment is incorporated into the Policy, as amended previously, by consensus.

Councillor Alex Eyre spoke to this body not delving into international politics. Councillor Joshua Mbandi noted that with so many international students on campus, the Council was bound to have discussion and wish to try to address some issues where able in their home countries, thus it was reasonable to allow the organization to take a stance on this matter.

**Motion fails** with Rana Saleh, Councillor Joshua Mbandi, , Councillor Bilal Akhtar in favour; Councillor Oliver Campbell, Councillor Alex Eyre, Councillor Christopher Kocko, Councillor Jack Codini opposed; President Richard Wu abstained.

## VARIOUS MOTIONS PERTAINING TO BUDGET & APPROPRIATIONS

**Marketing, Communications, & Information Technology Budgets Returned to the Public General Operating Budget:**

**Be it resolved that** Council adopts the Resolution to Return the Information Technology (IT) and Marketing & Communications Departmental Budgets Part of the Public General Operating Budget, as presented.

*Councillor Deon Hua and Councillor Joshua Mbandi.*

Councillor Deon Hua spoke to the budget resolution and noted that this was structured as a recommendation to the Board by students, requesting the Board allow budgets to be overseen by *Budget Appropriations Committee*.

Vice President Kurt MacMillan spoke to his concerns with returning the IT budget to the Public General Operating Budget; he noted that the Board made this decision already on the basis that often IT needs for the organization required dedicated funding which cannot be guaranteed if cuts wish to be made by Council. He said if it was brought back to Board it could be considered, but that he would be recommending against returning the IT budget.

Vice President Savannah Richardson noted that this is only recommendation to Board and as such the Board has no requirements to agree, only to consider it. Councillor Joshua Mbandi responded to the Vice President, Student Life's statement criticizing matters being singularly "Board matters" and overly confidential. He noted that overuse of confidentiality claim by Officers and the Executive was not conducive to Council's duty to fulfill its responsibility of keeping the organization accountability to the membership and drafting policy requirements for the organization.

Councillor Deon Hua reminded the assembly it his motion was only recommendation to the Board and he looked forward to Directors exercising care for the shareholders/members of the corporation in their decision.

**Motion carries**

#### **Budget Process Resolution:**

**Be it resolved that** Council adopts the Resolution on Budget Processes, as presented.

**Motion was Withdrawn from Consideration by Council** by Councillor Joshua Mbandi and Councillor Deon Hua at the recommendation of Secretary Seneca Velling who noted substantial overlap with Councillor Linyi Cheng's resolution regarding electronic approval and the budget.

#### **Funding of Director of Commercial Operations in Future Years:**

**Whereas** expenses related to the Director of Commercial Operations were funded out of student dues in the 2018-2019 Federation budget;

**Whereas** the Budget and Appropriations Committee said that such expenditures must be covered from student dues as a fee increase approved by members in the Winter 2015 General Meeting was, in part, earmarked for the purpose of creating this position;

**Whereas** Student fees should not be subsidizing Commercial Operations;

**Whereas** the Director of Commercial Operations' priorities are focused on the Federation's Commercial Operations;

**Whereas** paying for the Director of Commercial Operations' office and salary out of the General Operating Budget is an indirect subsidy of Commercial Operations;

**Whereas** Students' Council has ultimate oversight of and power to determine student priorities in the expenditure of members' fees pursuant to Article 8 §7(2) of the bylaws;

**Be it resolved that** Council deems that, contrary to any past General Meeting motion, the salary and expenses related to the position of the Director of Commercial Operations should be funded from the Commercial Services budget and not from any student dues or fees.

**Be it further resolved that** Council urges the Board of Directors to make the necessary changes to shift the aforementioned expenditures towards the Commercial Services budget no later than the end of the current fiscal year.

*Councillor Jason Small and Councillor Deon Hua.*

Councillor Jason Small introduced his motion to Council and explained the need for funds derived from Commercial Operations to be paid out of the equivalent cost centre instead of being funded by Student Fees. He noted that this would only take binding effect on the Board and Council for the next Fiscal Year's budgeting cycle, but that he was also urging the Board to make the necessary changes to fund this position (salary and office) out of a commercial operations cost centres.

Vice President Kurt MacMillan informed the assembly that this has been funded because the General Meeting earmarked this portion of the budget for the office and position. He spoke to commercial services being a service to the members and having subsidized, therefore reduced, costs. He said if services were operated as such then the office should continued to be funded by the Council out of member dues as students inherently benefited.

Speaker Elizabeth O'Sullivan noted that this recommendation was in the original draft Budget Appropriations Committee's report to Council, but that it had been removed by the Vice President, Operations and Finance before that report was sent out to Councillors and Directors without informing or seeking approval from the committee's members.

Vice President Matthew Gerrits spoke to this job providing price affordability for students. He asked Council if the mandate for commercial operations was *a desire to be making money* or *a need to help and support students*. The Vice President questioned Council's powers to remove the earmarked amount set by the General Meeting.

Secretary Seneca Velling informed the assembly and advised the Speaker that the Council did have such powers as to reverse the General Meeting decisions from 2014/15 on this specific matter as the new bylaws, adopted in Fall 2017 by the General Meeting specifically empowered Council to determine the priority of expenditure and use of student fees as well as to prepare the organization's budget.

Councillor Deon Hua responded to Vice President Matthew Gerrits's concerns that it was his belief the commercial operations should not be funded by student fees, past or present, as the service was intrinsically an arrangement in which a user is charged a fee to use the service; therefore the "service" was not used by all students, but by those who choose to use it. The Councillor also noted that while the funding for this office was out of student fees, even the auditor listed it under is listed under the commercial operations budget.

Vice President Matthew Gerrits said the commercial operations director was a driving force behind developing the Federation's affordability philosophy.

Councillor Joshua Mbandi expressed the belief that commercial operations need not necessarily be operated as a service before being a business. He expressed support that being a service does not require the operations to exist with such a huge loss. Councillor Joshua Mbandi supports the motion to remove funding for Director of Commercial Operations out of use of Student Fees. He noted the while services don't have to make money that being as much does not prohibit them from making money.

Secretary Seneca Velling spoke about the need to balance losses in consideration with this motion. He noted that later on the agenda was a discussion regarding analysis of the auditor's report which discussed losses. The Secretary stated that Council should consider the impact of moving this funding in terms of a large increase to the losses in the commercial operations cost centre during a sensitive time, financially speaking. While cautioning Council, he expressed support for the motion taking effect in the next fiscal year and noted this gave some time for the Board to prepare.

Vice President Kurt MacMillan requested clarification if the language meant the decision was binding on the Board or a recommendation. Secretary Seneca Velling noted that his interpretation of the language as submitted, and the spirit behind the motion, as a binding change for future Fiscal Years but only a recommendation for amendment to the budget for this Fiscal Year. Councillor Jason Small confirmed this interpretation was correct.

**Motion carries**

### **Commercial Operations Losses**

**Be it resolved that** the Speaker gives leave to introduce a presentation of Commercial Operations Losses prepared by the Mathematics Caucus (See attached 2018-09-16 Feds Commercial Operations Profit-Loss Analysis presentation).

**Item was tabled until the next regular meeting** by a vote of Council.

### **Forensic Audit of the Bombshelter Pub**

**Be it resolved that** Council adopts the Resolution Regarding a Full Financial Audit of the Bombshelter Pub, as presented.

*Councillor Joshua Mbandi and Councillor Deon Hua.*

Councillor Joshua Mbandi spoke to the motion and referenced the now tabled commercial operations losses in Councillor Deon Hua and Councillor Bilal Akhtar's presentation. He spoke to his support for bomber as a service and option to students, but at over \$900,000 in losses this is something that needs to be explored for continuation. He did not wish to see Feds waste more money on this nor see the situation get further out of hand. The Councillor noted he would support amendment to make the motion a recommendation to Board.

The Chair of the Board, Seneca Velling, spoke to this motion being a good one to consider at Board and that he thanked the Councillors for their care and diligence. The Chairperson noted that if Council did pass the motion without amendment to be a recommendation, which was permissible, it would be considered *ultra vires* (ie. beyond the powers of Council). He spoke to agenda items on the confidential agenda, noting specifically that in Board Procedure 2, §7(2), he was authorized to discuss the items themselves but not the discussion of the Board. The Chair assured the Council this situation had been the basis of much thought and decision by the Board and any recommendation from Council would be treated with the seriousness it deserves.

Secretary Seneca Velling moved to amend the motion to be a recommendation:

**Be it resolved that** all references to requirement be stricken and replaced with recommendation.

*Secretary Seneca Velling and Vice President Kurt MacMillan.*

**Motion is considered friendly and adopted** by Councillor Joshua Mbandi and Councillor Deon Hua.

Vice President Matthew Gerrits noted that we cannot necessarily release findings because of competition with other local bars, pubs, and restaurants that would undermine the businesses strategy.

Councillor Deon Hua spoke to the Bomber slide of his tabled presentation. The Mathematics councillor emphasized the losses are not sustainable, but he would like to see a report from the Board to Council and the membership on this as students have a right to know their student money and the corporation's savings are propping up the Bomber.

Vice President Matthew Gerrits mentioned that to comply with CRA guidelines, auditors have recommended having capital expenditures in the past (which has led to running deficits) which might contribute to this story.

The speaker's list being exhausted, the question proceeded to the floor.

### **Motion carries**

**Point of Order:** Vice President Savannah Richardson called for the Speaker of Council to call quorum before continuing with the agenda. The Secretary of Council tallied all Councillors in person and over telecommunications, and informed the Speaker that quorum was maintained. A quorum being present for the conduct of business, the agenda proceeded.

### ***Pro Tempore* Campus Life Advisory Committee Membership**

**Be it resolved that** Council appoints *Councillor Jacque German-Doucet* to the Campus Life Advisory Committee as a *pro tempore* member.

*Councillor Jacque German-Doucet and Secretary Seneca Velling.*

Councillor Jacque German-Doucet spoke to wanting to be on Campus Life Advisory Committee (CLAC) because he is passionate about services and student life issues. Councillor Joshua Mbandi recommends Council vote in favour of Councillor Jacque German-Doucet for this position, and spoke to the Councillor's credentials and work ethic. Vice President Savannah Richardson noted that she welcomes more members of CLAC and welcomes the insight, but she noted we expanded the membership and new councillors and at-large members were voted in.

Vice President Matthew Gerrits noted that any member can attend committee meetings and that he supports equality to other available candidates begin given the chance for such a position if Council were opening such a seat. Secretary Seneca Velling spoke to Councillor Jacque German-Doucet's inability to connect at the first meeting while he was calling in from France due to Telecommunications issues in May. The Secretary also noted that some Council committees operated in confidentiality for some matters meaning that the councillor would not be permitted to attend the Campus Life Advisory Committee meeting necessarily.

Councillor Elisa Umuhoza spoke in favour of Councillor Jacque German-Doucet's character and he would be an indispensable member. Councillor Deon Hua noted that he would be voting for Councillor Jacque German-Doucet for the position as he believes he is a great benefit for the committee and shows a lot of support for student life and Feds services. also spoke in support of the nomination in terms of advocacy on campus. The Councillor emphasized that Councillor Jacque German-Doucet had been disenfranchised by telecommunication issues and that had not been give reasonable opportunity to participate.

**Motion carries** with Secretary Seneca Velling and Vice President Matthew Gerrits in favour, Councillor Jason Small noted his abstention.

## SERVICES COST-SHARING INFORMATION

### Services being transfered to the University

**Be it resolved that** Council adopts the Resolution for Information on Services Under Consideration for Transfer to the University, as presented.

*Councillor Yu Chen Hou and Councillor Deon Hua.*

**Item was tabled until the next regular meeting** by vote of Council.

### Additional cost-sharing arrangements for Co-op Connection

**Be it resolved that** Council adopts the Resolution to Request the Services Manager to Investigate Increased CEE Funding for Coop Connection, as presented.

*Councillor Yu Chen Hou and Councillor Deon Hua.*

**Item was tabled until the next regular meeting** by vote of Council.



## COMMUNICATION OF THE STANDARDIZED LEASE

**Whereas** a new standardized lease was recently introduced in Ontario and has been mandatory for all lease signings since April 30, 2018,

**Whereas** large housing companies in Waterloo have taken advantage lack of awareness of tenant rights among the student body to trounce tenant rights in the past,

**Whereas** awareness of legal rights is an important first step to start and sustain a conversation about tenant rights in the area;

**Be it resolved that** Council tasks the Vice President, Education or a Commissioner under his portfolio to make a post about the mandatory standardized lease and the benefits it provides, and share it on social media channels;

**Be it further resolved that** Council tasks the Vice President, Education to lobby Off Campus Housing to advertise the standardized lease to students;

**Be it further resolved that** the Federation advertise the standardized lease on its platforms, such as the Off Campus Community.

*Councillor Bilal Akhtar and Councillor Deon Hua.*

Councillor Bilal Akhtar spoke to the discussion on social media and that students are not aware of the options available to them. Vice President Matthew Gerrits spoke in support of the motion. The Vice President, Education wished it noted that many off campus housing businesses seem to have adopted the standard lease already.

**Motion carries** with Councillor Benjamin Easton abstaining as he is also the Municipal Affairs Commissioner.

## NEW BUSINESS

### EXECUTIVE POINT PERSONS

Vice President Matthew Gerrits thanked Councillors for standing for the length of the nearly six (6) hour meeting. He also announced to Council that in the future the Executives would be assigning Councillors to Executive point persons for any agenda items submitted. He clarified this was so Councillors could come and discuss with an Executive.

*Secretary's Note:* the Speaker of Council and Officers of the Council encourage Councillors to reach out to the Office of the Speaker for any questions pertaining to submission of motions, items in the purview and powers of Council, the appropriate committee for consultation or other support. Officers are here to support Councillors and try to do this to the best of their ability. Please never hesitate to reach out via [speaker@feds.ca](mailto:speaker@feds.ca) or other means. Please do consider sending your items to the appropriate committees for review prior to submission for the Council agenda, save for policies which are referred to the appropriate committees and the Policies and Procedures Committee after first reading.



## UNIVERSITY STRATEGIC PLAN CONSULTATION

The Vice President, Education encouraged Councillors to sign up for the University's Strategic Plan Consultation session for some on the ground advocacy. The University of Waterloo is keen to hear from Students' Council members.

## ADJOURNMENT

**Be it resolved that** Council adjourn until the next meeting.

*Speaker Elizabeth O'Sullivan and Secretary Seneca Velling.*

Speaker Elizabeth O'Sullivan thanked Councillors for their time and dedication governance and welcomed the conclusion of the meeting.

With no new business the meeting was called to adjourn at 18:16.

**Motion carries** unanimously.

*Secretary's Note:* the next scheduled meeting of Council shall occur on 21 October 2018 at 12:30 PM in the SLC Multipurpose Room (1120/1121).

Draft