

Minutes - UNBSU Council Meeting

UNB Student Union 2022/2023

February 26th, 2023; in-person meeting



Present:

- Kordell
- Rose
- Halle May
- Amanda
- Isabella
- Warren
- Emily
- Keri (virtual)
- Molly (virtual)
- Ally
- Sarah (virtual)
- Jorja
- Bradley (virtual)
- Sean
- Jordan (virtual)
- Abby
- Zach (virtual)
- Brittany (virtual)
- Sangeet
- Minh
- Amy (virtual)
- Kate (virtual)
- Gaia (virtual)
- Heer (virtual)
- Kisenge (virtual)

Not Present:

- Alexa
- Kartik
- Patrick

Regrets:

- Annie
- Ryan

Also present: Josh (Council Chairperson), Kallie (Council Secretary), Drashtant (CRO)

1. **Call to Order**

- Council chairperson, Josh, calls the meeting to order at 7:02 PM AST.

1.1. Roll Call

- Council chairperson, Josh, performs roll call.

2. **Approval of Agenda**

- Chair - The agenda was sent out to everyone via email. Are there any questions? Are there any amendments that need to be made?
- Drashtant - I would like to add to the agenda the addition of Brittany Grey to the Code of Conduct Committee.
 - Motion: Be it resolved that the addition of Brittany Grey to the Code of Conduct Committee be added to the agenda as item 5.1.
 - Mover: Drashtant
 - Seconder: Sean
 - Notes: No discussion
 - The vote passes. Motion carries.
- Chair - Are there any other amendments?
 - Motion: Be it resolved that the agenda for February 26, 2023 be approved with the aforementioned amendment.
 - Mover: Chair assumed
 - Seconder: Kordell
 - Notes: No discussion
 - The vote was taken using unanimous consent. Motion carries.

3. **Chair's Remarks**

3.1. Territorial Acknowledgement

- Chair - I just want to acknowledge that UNB stands on the unsundered and unceded ancestral homelands of the Wolastoqey peoples.

3.2. General Remarks

- Chair - Just a general reminder about councillor transition reports. All information has been sent in an email on the 19th.
- Chair - Thank you to those who came to the skybox event. Big thank you to the associated alumni for donating their box to us. I was saddened to see that there were very few councillors there despite a request for the event.
- Chair - Reminder about councillor check-ins. Isabella and I are no longer scheduling them ourselves as we were required to have these completed early in the semester pursuant to the bylaws. We have taken all measures to ensure the booking was available; however, plenty of you did not arrange a meeting. This is involved in your honoraria so if you want to do this check-in the onus is on you to arrange a time with us at this point.

4. **Approval of Previous Minutes**

- Chair - As always, the previous minutes were hyperlinked in the agenda, Are there any questions?

- Motion: Be it resolved that the minutes from the previous council meeting are approved.
- Mover: Chair assumed
- Secunder: Sean
- Notes: No discussion
- The vote was taken using unanimous consent. Motion carries.

5. Substantive Business

5.1. Add Brittany Grey to Code of Conduct Committee

- Drashtant - I understand that there are only two councilor positions per committee. We currently have more councilors in committee positions, so because of that I have asked to add Brittany to the Code of Conduct Committee.
 - Motion: Be it resolved that Brittany Grey be added to the Code of Conduct Committee.
 - Mover: Drashtant
 - Secunder: Sean
 - Notes: No discussion
 - The vote passes. Motion carries.
- Chair - We will need to ratify the committee list once it has been updated.

5.2. Policy Committee Update -

~ **Executive Position Description**

~ **Council Procedure Policy**

~ **Saferide Policy**

- Kordell - As I do with each proposed change, I will go through each policy individually and the rationale behind each change. The first change is with respect to the President's job description including the supervision of the council chairperson. The supervision of the council chairperson and council secretary were removed from the Vice President Finance and Operations position. It makes more sense for the President to supervise the council chairperson. The council secretary is not included because it makes more sense for the council chairperson to supervise that position because they collaborate more directly than with any of the executives. The second change is, and I should note that if there are any questions feel free to interrupt me. The second change is to include serving as a voting member on all of the Union committees. This has already been established but is being added to the description. The second position is Vice President Student Wellness. The biggest change is overseeing the Breaking Stereotypes campaign. They have always normally worked with the Vice President Academic, so we are changing the description to reflect that. There are no changes being made to the Vice President Academic job description. The change to Vice President Finance and Operations is the removal of enforcing the unions HR policy within clubs and societies . This was removed because of our HR policy which

doesn't allow the opportunity to apply this to the clubs and societies. It is a better way to explain the role of VP Finance and Operations to the clubs and societies to better reflect the job description. Normally, the Red Awards Chair is supervised collaboratively between the VP Finance and Operations and the VP Communications. This will be added to the job description because it makes more sense for it to be overseen by both. It is its own event, but there are budget issues since there is no set budget. Funds are secured through sponsorships and it is the role of the VP Finance and Operations to secure those sponsorship packages and the role of VP Communications to open the conversation regarding that. Changes to the VP Events and Services role include the removal of the Student Legal Information Center. This service is redundant now that UNB Law is working with the UNB Legal Clinic. That is now where we redirect students because there is more legal representation there than what we are able to provide. It doesn't make much sense for both services to run and that expense could be spent elsewhere. We ran a food hamper box program last year which got out of hand, so we will be removing that from the job description as well, but we are hoping a similar service will replace this. For the VP Communications description, the bi-weekly newsletter is one thing that they oversee. We want to ensure that they are not only managing the catalogue, but also expanding and developing it as well. Supervising of the Red Awards Chair along with VP Finance and Operations will also be added. The VP Research and Policy description will have how to effectively lobby research and policy added to the job description, noting their role to being one delegate to CASA and the External Advocacy Committees. We want to continue MLA Mondays and MP Tuesdays and all of those great events, which is why we are adding this to the description. That is all the changes to this policy, does anyone have any questions?

- Gaia - I want to express some hesitancy around the removal of the option for students to seek legal council. I feel hesitant to pass the Union roles to the university. Are you able to comment on that?
- Kordell - It is a community legal clinic. Any student can access it whether the university is partnering with them or not. It is offered as an on-campus service. There are times when it is beneficial for students to have legal representation through the Union, but we pay \$4000 to have a lawyer on retainer, as well as pay two coordinators to operate the service. The number of students they have represented is so low that we pay \$4000 per student which equates to \$2000 per hour. It is not good financially to continue the service through the Union, but it doesn't mean that the service should not be offered, just that the way the service is operating now is not beneficial.
- Chair - Are there any more questions about this policy?
- Kordell - The next policy is about council procedure. Section 4.134 of the policy refers to granting speaking rights to non-councilors. People who are not

granted the right to speak at council can only do so when they are granted the floor. We included a motion to have it approved through the resolution of council just so we can have the opportunity to question why the individual is being lent the floor, as well as have the opportunity to deny them the right to speak. Anyone on council can say that there is no need to have an individual speak if they do not have speaking rights. The current policy is saying that it is required that they can present to us, so this change gives us more control over who can speak at council.

- Chair - Does anyone have any questions?
- Kordell - Lastly, regarding the SafeRide policy under section two, the definition changed which refers to the location of the Sobey's run to be specific to the Regent Street location. It is supposed to be this location anyways because there is no longer a location on Smythe Street. The section three change is the same, reflecting the location to be solely Regent Street. Also, for the past two years, safeRide has been operating to include a fourth stop at the Currie Center, but this was never included as an official stop in the policy. This change is to reflect giving the option to change stop locations. There has been an issue with the language being vague, so we will try to clean it up. None of us on the Policy Committee had any issues with these changes being approved tonight. A lot of the amendments to this policy are just reflecting the changes to the executive job descriptions. We are also removing the reference from VP Communication to update the SafeRide website with no notice of the cancellation of the service. We do enough social media outreach, so it can say on the website that if students are not sure if the service is running then they can check social media. Expecting an update on the website every time is difficult for VP Communications to do. Section five of the policy has the biggest changes. It adds a note that international drivers licenses will not be accepted. This rule is required through our insurance provider. SafeRide drivers need to have a New Brunswick license. Regarding section 5.2, we ran into an issue earlier this year when the requirements for how long you have been able to drive changed. Before, it stated that you had to be an undergraduate student to be a SafeRide driver. The priority will be given to undergrad students, but if there are not enough qualified applicants then hiring will be opened up to any graduate students as well. The benefit of the drivers having more driving experience is that the cost of the insurance is lower and it gives us the flexibility to ensure that the service can operate. The only change to section 5.3 is changing the required two years of driving experience to three years. We cannot access international driving experience information, so it is only limited to Canada and the US. Those are all the changes to this policy.
- Chair - Are there any questions?

- Emily - As an out of province student, would they need to change their license to a New Brunswick license?
- Kordell - They would need an NB Class 5 license or an out of province equivalent.
- Chair - Does anyone else have any other questions?
 - Motion: Be it resolved that the policies be adopted as presented by the UNBSU Policy Committee in place of the current version of their respective policies.
 - Mover: Kordell
 - Seconder: Kartik
 - Notes: No further discussion
 - The vote passes. Motion carries.

5.2. UNB Budget Discussion

- Kordell - As I mentioned a while back, UNB has been working on a proposed budget for the 2023-2024 year and they are proposing a 4.5% fee and tuition increase, which is quite significant. It is a few hundred dollars extra, depending on the program. We have been pushing the university to do student consultation groups to discuss this increase. There are quite a few components to this issue because not only is the cost of education increasing, but the cost of living continues to increase and there has been a lack of increase to federal and provincial student loans. CASA has also mentioned that there will probably be a cut to student federal loans. This is quite a difficult situation for students. I have a meeting tomorrow night to chat with senior administration about the budget, where I will raise my concerns. I just wanted to get feedback from you folks about what you want to be advocated in this meeting and get any ideas on how I should go into this discussion. They are not projecting an equal increase to student services. Their response was that they will find inefficiencies somewhere and make improvements somewhere. Are folks comfortable with advocating for the 4.5% increase? I am just curious how folks would like me to approach this conversation.
- Chair - Does anyone have any comments, concerns, or feedback for Kordell?
- Gaia - Can you give us a quick summary of what you are asking council?
- Kordell - I want to know what folks want to see from the Union advocacy regarding the budget. I want to note that a lower tuition increase means a lower increase to program and student services. I am curious what balance the university would like to strike.
- Gaia - I think as things currently stand, it is more important for students to get things that improve their quality of life and lower the cost of living. A lot of students do not have a family doctor that exists on campus. 31,000 people lost access to a family doctor. On one hand, better funding for health services would be something students may be willing to pay more for in tuition. I would rather push for better services than lowering the increase.

- Amanda - A couple of years ago the percentage of tuition increase also increased. What were the reasons for that?
- Kordell - Last year UNB did a 4.5% increase. Their reasoning was they compared their tuition rates to ten other schools and found that UNB was cheaper than the average and they felt that tuition needed to be increased. UNB will go through another tuition reset either next year or the year after. A tuition reset would mean more significant tuition hikes like 8 to 10 percent. Generally, UNB argues that they are trying to maintain their tuition rights.
- Sean - I feel that we also need to speak as a union on this.
- Kordell - I scheduled a meeting with them tomorrow. I have been raising this issue at every committee meeting I can to say that they are bringing forward the budget to the Board of Governors, but are not speaking to students. The only time I was given for a meeting was tomorrow evening, but this is not where the conversation ends. UNB typically approves the budget at the board meeting in April, which means by April 10, the Board will have an approved budget so this shows the urgency of the conversation.
- Sean - Is anything about these increases confidential at the moment?
- Kordell - I can get back to you on that.
- Chair - The conversation that we have had so far will be on public record, so unless there is a motion to strike, this can probably be discussed with other individuals. Is there any other discussion?
- Sangeet - International students are already coming from another country and are already paying high tuition fees, and on top of that, housing prices have gone up. The thing is, let's say wages are increasing here, but stuff is not changing back home. Parents are having to send more and more money each month. I know a lot of students are struggling with managing their expenses. I know some people's parents have lost their jobs, so they are struggling to send money. With the current situation it is hard to manage. Let's say even if an increase happens, hopefully it goes towards health care stuff or maintaining the buildings on campus. I know some spaces on campus which are outdated and have outdated computers and stuff like that. I think students should feel it is worth giving the extra money.
- Chair - Jordan has asked in the chat if service costs are included in the tuition increase?
- Kordell - It would be all of the university administrative fees. They would all be going up. The Brunswickan, CHSR and the Union approve their own fee increases. They have autonomy in the bylaws to approve their fees however they see fit. The Union has no intention of increasing their fees this year.
- Jordan - I have a question about the accessibility of the Brunswickan and how some people cannot use the services they provide because of learning disabilities, but those students are still charged for those fees. You can't say we can't charge fees for the Brunswickan because it is a service that is provided,

but it is something I wanted to bring up since there are students who cannot even use the service due to disability.

- Kordell - I appreciate you bringing that up. I definitely hear arguments from students who are charged fees for services they do not use or can't access. We get a lot of pushback, especially from the Early Childhood Education students because their courses are completely online. Students who are studying in Ontario are being charged facility fees but cannot access those facilities. It doesn't make sense to charge students for services that they cannot be accessed. There have been some conversations about some of those fees and work is certainly being done regarding that issue. This is something myself and Patrick Hickey, the president of the SRC, advocated for last year during the tuition review and something we continue to push the university on how they charge these fees. The Brunswickan is a separate entity. There were conversations from students last year who felt as if they weren't providing a service to the value of what is being charged. The Brunswickan were not very cooperative at all, and they did not have to be, but CHSR was cooperative. Conversations were had about what steps the Union could take towards the Brunswickan being more cooperative, but we wouldn't be able to do anything unless we got approval through the alumni. The Brunswickan and CHSR are a grey area. They are not separate from UNB so we cannot advocate to UNB. We can hold referendums to get other fees cut or eliminated and we are doing some advocacy on the UNB side for other services, but those two are a weird grey area.
- Gaia - I would love for this discussion to be brought up at the next council meeting after all the councilors have been given a chance to ask students what they would prefer. Keep in mind, other services could be applicable like working with public transport or options like providing reduced food costs or anything else people might be struggling with. I would love to hold a discussion again when everyone has had a chance to go out and discuss this.
- Kordell - It was my plan to keep the conversation coming back to council as we go ahead of the budget proposal. The budget is approved in a grey area. It is not next year's council's problem, but it is also after the last council meeting. I would love to continue the conversation. The university will not facilitate a bus pass for us, it is something we have to discuss with the city. It takes a while to get a response and try to get a meeting set up. I have had two or three so far. There are a couple different components to it, but it is something that is beneficial from a Union perspective, as well as the student's perspective. It is just a matter of convincing students to want to pay for it. The food contract is under review and one thing that we have really been pushing to include is a hunger program. Another provider proposed a program and the idea is that for every plan that is bought they would donate one meal to financial aid or the Union or someone who works closely with a student who can give it to

those students in need. Sadly, the food isn't the best, but it is nutritious, so it is better than students going hungry. There are a couple of programs that are small but make big impacts, so we are looking to expand those. I certainly hear the point of other services that either UNB or the Union doesn't offer.

- Minh - I haven't been tracking the tuition increase over the past few years. Is 4.5% percent a lot?
- Kordell - Last year's increase was the same and the year before that was 3%. The increase two years ago could have been 3%, but it could have also been the year of the tuition reset so it could have been higher. For the past few years though it has been within the three to four percent range. UNB's argument for this year's increase is that it was 4.5% last year so why change it.
- Minh - Just to follow up, I live at home so I do not have to worry about the cost of living. Everything is increasing at the moment, so if tuition increased I would like to know where the extra money is going. I think it would be great to let students decide on where they want that money to go. I guess reaching out to students is what popped in my head. I have a ping pong thing at the library, so I could use that to gauge what services students would want or there are also whiteboards at the library where students could write down what they want to see. I am not sure how open council is to telling people.
- Kordell - I think that is a fantastic idea. I agree with the sentiment of having more conversations with students. For this conversation, I just need a guiding principle from student representatives. Some programs will be more impacted than others, so I just need to gauge the conversation I will have tomorrow evening so I would not have enough time to get student's feedback. If I had more time I would love to send out a survey. I got an email this past Thursday about having time for a meeting on Monday and they basically said if I was unable to attend that meeting then there is nothing they could do. I would love to have more consultations to get further directions.
- Chair - There is a comment from Alexa in the chat that says that the Brunswickan journal is not great at being inclusive. Students have been denied or ignored when voicing their concerns.
- Kordell - I have heard varying feedback about the Brunswickan. We can task another review if that's what folks want, but I certainly hear the concerns students have. There were also concerns last year about the social media content not being visually accessible, as well as not having the feature to audibly describe what the picture is.
- Kartik - Are council members able to attend the meeting you mentioned?
- Kordell - I can certainly ask and if I get a response I can send out an email to let you know.
- Halle May - Based on your experience doing this last year, what do you think is the best way to negotiate with them for lowering the increased percentage or expanding services?

- Kordell - Last year they made their decision based on the recommendation of the Review Committee. It is a committee of ten people and their report is publicly published. They did an environmental scan that looked at other schools, the context of programs, whether the increase should affect graduate or international students, then recommended a flat increase. There are two student seats on the committee and there are ten seats in total. Students had large representation and two seats is quite high for a university committee. They negotiated and convinced them to lower the increase from 6 percent down to 4.5. They were really hopeful for three percent but the university didn't budge. This year they told us it would be 4.5% and didn't really ask students about the decision. We need students involved in the decision in some capacity. I don't really know what the best method of negotiating with them is. I would expect advocating for more funding for programs would be the best method. The Sexual Violence Policy Taskforce provided a report so there could be information we can use for that to advocate. That might be the easiest way to advocate but it comes at a cost of students having to pay a six hundred dollar fee increase. More funding for programs is probably an easier ask.
- Sean - Based on what you said earlier, the increase is growing exponentially. Tuition is increasing and the cost of living is increasing. All of this together is creating an unsustainable student environment and people may not be able to attend university. I think we need to advocate for affordability.
- Kordell - I appreciate everything you have listed off. We are upset with the university for not meeting with students earlier and I have asked ten times now for a meeting and this is the first one I am finally able to set up. The increase is compounding. There is a terrifying but cool chart that shows the increase all the way to the 1980's and how it has grown equally with the inflation rate up until then before it starts to go up exponentially. It is not really growing at the rate of inflation anymore. I appreciate the note about affordability.
- Sangeet - Everything is increasing, so like you mentioned it is going to rise, so can we request for them to invest in creating more opportunities on campus like creating more jobs so students have more opportunities to sustain themselves? If there are more prepositions then more students can work and make their own money rather than having their parents send money. What are your thoughts?
- Kordell - That can definitely be a part of what we advocate for. I don't think that falls outside of what this advocacy could be.
- Chair - Jordan says in the chat that a new job could be adding alternative technology to the Brunswickan social media posts.

- Sangeet - It could be anything like more positions in the library, in the Student Union Building, in Head Hall, or any of the faculties. I'm sure there are students willing to take on those positions.
- Kordell - I will also note that on-campus opportunities are also overwhelmingly applied for and hired for international students because it is the easiest way for them to get hours because of the restrictions so that can be tied in too.
- Sangeet - If there are more student positions like something related to a receptionist, I think other students would be more comfortable accessing those services. If they know another student is on the other end they may be more happy to interact with them.
- Kisenge - I think it is a little dangerous to use prior data and is a bit of a slippery slope because if you aren't able to have some say in what the funds are doing then I'm not sure if that is the greatest thing. I think it would be really great as a student if we could just keep school as financially accessible as possible. A lot of people are involved in deciding on the budget. If we could do that for students I think that would be a good move.
- Abby - So say we advocate for a 4.5% increase with all the extra funding going to extra supports, what are they like for following through with that? Do they actually do what they say they are going to do?
- Kordell - That is the big question. To give you some further information about the budget process, we would have this meeting and follow-up meetings where we would make changes to the budget. The budget would then go to the UNB Budget and Property Committee, which I am a part of as a voting member. That committee votes on the proposed budget, which is then sent back to the Board of governors to vote on. There are three students on that committee, myself, Gaia, and a UNBSJ student, who are all voting members. At the end of the day, whether we approve it or disapprove of it, we do not have the final decision. It would play out that if they did increase the funding for services and we agreed to the 4.5% tuition increase, the extra funding may not be put towards the services we want. It is a general cycle that all Student Union's face. If that does occur, we could make a petition and start the cycle over again and hope they bring us into the conversation sooner. We don't know what will happen but if they said yes then didn't follow through, we would go to the students and try to put pressure on them to follow through on what was agreed upon.
- Amanda - I am going to fight for affordability. Something to take note of is some things that have happened to Paul Mazerolle's office. He had a wheelchair ramp built then taken down just so he could have one visitor. I would be asking to see those details.

- Chair - Is there anyone else who wishes to add something to this discussion? I know there was a general consensus about bringing this up again at the next council meeting.
 - Motion: Be it resolved that the discussion on the UNB 2023 - 2024 budget be tabled until the next UNBSU council session.
 - Mover: Chair assumed
 - Secunder: Kartik
 - Notes: No further discussion
 - The vote was taken using unanimous consent. Motion carries.

5.3. Menstrual Health Society Constitution Changes

- Isabella - Probably around a month ago, the Menstrual health Society reached out because they were wondering if they could change their constitution by taking away the election process and do a hiring process for their positions instead. They want to get rid of the election process because they feel it is better to be hired for their club. In the Clubs and Societies Policy, it says the standard can be waived for some groups by recommendation of the Clubs and Societies Committee and then approved by council. They amended their constitution by taking out all of the election processes and want to put together a Selections Committee instead. They want people within the club to be on these committees. I think it is a good idea for this club since they are quite big and it would be better for them to hire their position rather than do an election.
- Chair - Does anyone have any questions?
- Kordell - After looking at their constitution, I fully understand why they would not want coordinators and executive positions to be elected, but I do not understand why they want co chairs, secretary and treasurer to be hired positions.
- Isabella - I can get why they want their executives to be hired. They probably do not need every single position to be hired, and could instead like fifty-fifty.
- Kordell - My understanding is, like BAUS is core elected and then the staff under them is hired. I am not opposed to the hiring process, I am just wondering what the rationale was.
 - Motion: be it resolved that the changes to the Menstrual Health Society Constitution be recognized by the UNBSU and that the society remained ratified.
 - Mover: Chair assumed
 - Secunder: Amanda
 - Notes: No further discussion
 - The vote passes. Motion carries.

5.4. In-Camera Session: Sexual Assault Discussion

- Chair - We are now entering into an in-camera session. Due to the nature of this conversation, if you need to step out or be excluded, you are welcome to

step out now. Also a reminder, there will be no minutes recorded during this session.

5.5. UNBSU General Election Update

- Drashtant - We are not well into the campaign period. Voting opens tonight and students can do so via the UNB Intranet, The voting period closes one week from tonight. The results will be available that next morning. We had the all-candidates debate and everything went very well. We had at most fifty people in attendance at any given time, with six candidates taking part in the debate. The debate was streamed on the Student Union Facebook page via a live video. We have received a few minor complaints about a few candidates, but those have been dealt with. There is also a gift card giveaway for the Cellar for those who vote.
- Chair - Are there any questions?

5.6. Faculty Councilor Updates

- Warren - I have no update.
- Emily - I have no update.
- Keri - I had a meeting with Amanda about some SafeRude data and I attended the UNBSU debate. I also volunteered at cookie decorating with Halle May for Sex Week.
- Molly - I have heard the Peers on Careers has been going well. I am not sure if Amy wants to touch on it because she is the leader. I was able to attend last week and I hope all is going well.
- Amy - We have had three sessions so far. There is a very small student base that attends, but it seems to be working well and I hope more students attend in later weeks and hope to spread the event to other faculties.
- Ally - I have no update.
- Sarah - I went to the cookie decorating event during sex week.
- Jorja - My only update is that I have been working on my councilor project.
- Bradley - I have no updates really. It is the last week of the term for us then we are back to our practicum after reading week. I am working with the President of the Education Society to work together for my councilor project. I need to figure out if it is going to be after April since we are still on campus.
- Sean - I spoke with Ryan about filling the vacancy on the senate library committee. If you have spare clothes you are looking to donate they are holding a clothing drive at BAUS. raising money for homeless shelters. I had also reached out to all clubs and societies, according to statistics by UNB of institutional about 60 percent of students do not know how to join. Doing some gruntwork right now to get. Talked to alot of students. Working with students to start their own project trying to get student initiatives out there. Hoping to have it done by the end of the month.
 - Kordell - When is the clothing drive?

- Sean - We do not have a set date yet but it will probably be after March Break.

5.7. Non-Faculty Councilor Updates

- Jordan - I volunteered for a cookie decorating event during Sex Week and I participated in the debate. That's pretty much my only update.
- Abby - I also volunteered at cookie decorating. I had a check-in with Josh last week and went to the hockey game. I loved the cow bell.
- Alexa - I had my check-in with Josh and have been having some talks with Jordan about my councilor project.
- Kartik - I was going to start my councilor project but it was deleted from my laptop. I should probably have the project done by next week.
- Zach - I have no updates.
- Brittany - I am going to go through the notes from the last meeting I attended and give you all some updates. Hello, everyone, for most of you this is the first time I am speaking to all of you. I stepped in for Kiana, so I met with my council twice so far since she stepped down. We chatted about how we want to move forward with her stepping down and I will be filling this position until we appoint someone new in May. We also discussed how we want to move forward as a collective. There have been lots of conversations with Kordell about what our bylaws look like as a group under the Union. The council has only been a thing for two or three years and Kordell gave me some origins and why the council was created. We are focusing this semester on what our purpose is and looking at initiatives with the Indigenous population on campus and what they need from us. We are also trying to finalize how to utilize our budget before the fiscal year and should be narrowing this down at our meeting on Friday. I met with Kartik to discuss how we would be involved with Culture Week. I am in the middle of booking a beating session. We are looking to get an elder, Genie, to attend Culture Week and looking for students to be in a fashion show. We want to establish a relationship and link our council with MWC. They have been making some big moves these past three years. We are also starting a social media for the council, so stay tuned for that and we will pass out our socials when we are more formed. It would be great if you guys could help us get some followers.
 - Amanda - Those updates were all really great. I want to point out two things. I would love to see if you could connect with Molly and I about the red and Black Revue. I also would recommend that you talked to It may also be worth speaking to Matt MacLean who does the bridging Gaps class.
 - Brittany - I also know Matt from previous experiences, so that would be great. Are either of you online?
 - Molly - I will put my email in the chat for you Brittany.

- Sangeet - I had my councilor check-in with Josh and we discussed another off-campus housing session at STU since UNB's went well. We will be having another session again at the end of the term. I will also be featured on the podcast with Josh and Ryan so I will be preparing for that.
- Minh - I have no updates.
- Amy - I do not have much of an update. Events in residences have been picking up. There are a lot more charity events and socials happening.
- Kate - I do not have much either. I had my check-in meeting and last week I applied for funding from the Student Union for my councilor project. It is going to be at the end of March and is going to be an open house event where students can bring sustainable menstrual products home with them for free.

5.8. Student Senator/Board of Governors Update (Optional)

- Chair - Gaia had to leave early so I will read the updates that were provided in the chat. The HIL debate club has gotten funding and we will be going on our trip in the coming days.

6. Reports to Council

6.1. Vice President - Events and Services

- Attended the Alumni Associate Committee meeting.
- Met with SafeRude coordinator and the STU President.
- Met with Keri about data tracking for SafeRide.
- Met with Sara about SURA's.
- Had conversations with Molly about AUS.
- Attended AUS this weekend.
- Followed up about a student who attended the concert with Nick.
- Met with April Kennedy about the future of evening counseling services. Discussed with Karen about when we should actually revisit the conversation.
- Helped coordinate for the SkyBox this past weekend. Picked up tickets for the game.
- Met with ACE coordinator.
- Met one of the VPES candidates.
- Attend the SL Awards Committee meeting.
- Attended Sex Week Trivia.
- Organized the Red and Black Revue on March 25.
- Interviewed for the UNBSU and You podcast.
 - Keri - I want to add to the SafeRide point and the different locations. It is hard to schedule so we are trying to come back in a timely manner, especially at the busier stops. I just wanted to add a point of view. There is not really much based on scheduling with addresses given..
 - Amanda - I understand it is difficult to schedule, but we currently do not have a way of trying to find the best routes for the drivers.

- Minh - I have only taken SafeRide one time but there are apps where you can add a bunch of locations and it plans the best route for the driver.
- Amanda - I think it is a great idea but we do not have data in the SafeRide vehicles and we couldn't ask the drivers to use their personal data.

6.2. Vice President - Research and Policy

- Worked on the edits to the pre-budget submission.
- Did a segment on What's New with the UNBSU with Josh and Annie.
- Went to Halifax to attend the AUS basketball games.
- Had a meeting with PETL for our quarterly catch up meetings,
- Had MLA Monday which was a great event.
- Took part in the Community Post-Secondary Relations Committee.
- Chaired a Federal Policy Committee meeting.
- Had a meeting regarding educational materials with CASA.
- Began crafting guiding questions for the Pizza and Policy event and just doing overall planning for the room and food.
- Finished off advertising MP Tuesday which is happening this Tuesday from 1-2 at Room 103 so hope to see you all there.
- Took part in e-voting for the Policy Committee.
- Added some policies to our Mental Health Policy, updating statistics and policy recommendations regarding a mental health advocate in New Brunswick.

6.3. Vice President - Communication

- Update will be provided next week

6.4. Vice President - Academic

- Update will be provided next week

6.5. Vice President - Finance and Operations

- Met with my Townhouse Coordinator.
- Hired the two Orientation Chair positions.
- Attended a SERC meeting.
- Attended Sex Toy BINGO.
- Did an interview for the podcast.
- Did a meeting with Josh in regards to councilor projects.
- Worked on the final budget with Karen. We are finalizing it this week.
- Had a meeting with a conference in regards to starting one.
- Tried to have a finance meeting. I want to make a note about attendance.
- Attended a SURA meeting.
- Went to the AUS basketball weekend.

6.6. Vice President - Student Wellness

- Attended the Sex Week events: Wheel of Fornication, Crafting and Consent, Valentine's Trivia on the Cellar, Cookie Decorating and Sex Toy Bingo.

- Attended the Wellness Fair. After this event I have had a lot of students reach out which is exciting.
- In the process of planning Multicultural Week with Kartik.
- Met with Cindy from Sodexo for food for the Global Gala.
- Met with potential DJs for the Global Gala.
- Was interviewed for the podcast with Josh and Annie.
- Met with Anna, the on-campus dietician, to have an event for Nutrition Month this March. The general idea for this event is to promote Nutrition Month and let people know Anna is on campus, there will be a give away as well.
- Started the process of planning De-Stress Fest.
- Jordan - when should we be expecting breaking stereotypes?
- Halle May - I am waiting for Ryan to get back and then I will let you know.

6.7. President

- Attended the Wheel of Fornication event which was super successful - Annie, Ryan and I had to go get more products like 10 minutes in.
- Made the agenda for the National Advocacy Committee and we had a meeting.
- Met with Annie to chat about the CASA campaign that just launched and our role in promoting it.
- Printed pamphlets for Halle May for the Wellness Fair.
- Attended Crafting and Consent, which was also fantastic.
- Attended Cellar Sex Trivia.
- Student Standings and Promotions.
- UNB Board of Governors Finance and Properties Committee.
- A housing workshop with different community groups across the province to be used as a base for the upcoming provincial housing strategic plan. We were the only university student group, and there were some high school students which was cool.
- Monday was Family Day so I took the day off.
- Worked on policy changes that council just approved, and some other recommendations to come forward.
- Met with Halle May to chat about the presentation for AGM.
- Read the documents for the UNB Academic planning committee (300+ page meeting package) but the meeting got canceled due to quorum.
- Had some media prep meetings with Mackenzy and Max regarding the CASA campaign.
- My days Thursday and Friday were on hold for media interviews with campus media cross country for the CASA campaign, no uptick yet so hopefully I'll have a few next week.
- Attended the CASA Board meeting.
- Helped students, answered emails, etc.

7. Announcements

7.1. March 12th, 2023 Council Session Update

- Chair - I mentioned at the start of the meeting about the next council session. We will be ratifying the election results and Kordell is going to bring some policies forward. We are going to invite all of the candidate elects.

7.2. 'What's New With The SU' Update

- Chair - Ryan couldn;t be there this week but we were fortunate enough to have Annie co-host instead. We were unable to do it live, so it was prerecorded but we acted like it was live. We had the Student Union executives come on to talk about who they are and what they do, projects they have worked on or that they are currently working on. The next show is Thursday which will be a live show. We are working on the active schedule for the rest of the year. Some of the highlights are we are having some UNB sports teams come one to talk about their sports, we contacted MP Jenica Atwin and David Coon and both agreed to come on the show, we reached out to Paul Mazerolle's office but we haven't heard back yet, Sangeet and Sean are coming on and we will be having two shows based on council.

7.3. Councilor of the Month - March 12th, 2023

- Chair - I will send out a survey and you folks will have around two weeks to fill it out. We will announce the results at council.
- Kordell - Please read the email that I sent out on Friday and fill out the form on their website, share their social media posts, and talk to students about the cancelling of doubling student grants. This is up to \$3000 a year that is being left on the table. It is going to have a big impact on students. More students are on grants than there were students on the EI Connect program, so there will be massive impacts. The more attention we can bring to the issue, the more likely we will see the federal government renew that in the upcoming budget. Please share stuff, respond to the survey, and talk to students.
- Chair - Are there any other announcements?
- Sangeet - A student reached out to me that their course is making them do a survey about off-campus housing, so I reached out to Annie about posting it in the upcoming newsletter. Please let people know and share it as much as possible. Hopefully we can all use these statistics to improve the situation for students.
- Chair - Does anyone else have any other announcements?
- Kartik - Culture week is coming up soon. We may be looking for volunteers. The global gala is also happening at this time.

8. Other Business

Sean - I have had at least a dozen students contact me about the quality of the parking lots on campus. I am not sure if this is for us or something the university needs to deal with.

Chair - That would be something for the university to handle.

Sean - I just wanted to bring it forward at council since I have been receiving several complaints.

Kordell - Concerns and complaints about the UNB parking lots are things we expect everyday. Whether it is not enough space or the quality of the parking lot. They all seem to suck even though they are paved every year. There is a Transportation Taskforce that deals with this and I can raise these concerns at the next meeting, but it is something we hear on a regular basis. UNB gets a lot of angry emails sent to the email that the taskforce monitors.

Chair - I know we talked a few weeks ago about the snow plows. I do have a few updates regarding that. The broken plows are now working again but a big issue, specifically at the SUB parking lot, is that a lot of people will park their car then leave it for like a week, which makes them have to plow around the car. The more snow we get the more it piles up. It kind of seems like there is no way to win.

Sean - The complaints that were sent to me were more about the quality rather than the space.

Amanda - I think it is due to the shifting of the temperatures since it keeps shifting between really cold and then kind of warm and back again.

Sean - Kordell, if you wouldn't mind putting me in touch with the taskforce that would be great.

Kordell - I can definitely do that.

Chair - A few weeks ago we went through and solidified plans for an external communication platform for the members of council. I noticed that there hasn't been a lot of use, so I am wondering if there is a general consensus about following up on this. Either people see use for the platform or if they do not feel that the platform is worth it then maybe there is a better platform.

Emily - What do we use the platform for?

Chair - The original idea is that people felt a lack of communication between the executives and the councilors. There was a Facebook page that was made but it wasn't really working.

Emily - Are we still using the Facebook page or just the Teams channel?

Chair - They are both in use but there has only been a few messages posted in the Teams channel.

Sean - I don't think I was added to that.

Emily - You have to type @general for people to get notification.

Keri - For me personally, I know a lot of professors have switched notifications off. I am aware that there is a group chat that was made, so I like that is the reason that there has been limited contribution to it. I see some people in the chat that weren't aware a Teams channel was made.

Chair - A lot of people are saying they have not been added. Kordell and I went through and we found everyone's emails so it could be a Teams or a UNB thing. Everyone saying they haven't been added, if you want to send an email

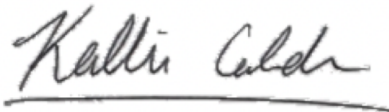
then we will add you. We will keep it live then at the end of the year we can recommend to keep it up.


Sangeet - Maybe we can put some sort of introduction in the Teams channel for the Student Union to set up general communication between councilors to have discussions and share ideas. Then whoever sees the message will have it in their mind what each councilor does and what their position is.

Chair - Is there any other business?

9. Adjournment

- Motion: Be it resolved that the UNBSU council meeting for February 26, 2023 be adjourned at 9:01 PM AST.
- Mover: Chair assumed
- Seconder: Emily
- Notes: No discussion
- The vote was taken using unanimous consent. Motion carries.


Secretary


President