

Minutes - UNBSU Council Meeting

UNB Student Union 2022/2023

January 22nd, 2023; in-person meeting



Present:

- Kordell
- Rose
- Annie
- Halle May
- Amanda
- Isabella (virtual)
- Ryan
- Warren
- Emily
- Keri (virtual)
- Molly
- Ally
- Jorja
- Sean (virtual)
- Jordan
- Abby (virtual)
- Alexa
- Kartik
- Zach (virtual)
- Sangeet
- Minh
- Amy (virtual)
- Kate
- Gaia (virtual)
- Heer (virtual)
- Kisenge (virtual)

Not present:

- Bradley
- Patrick

Regrets:

- Rayleigh
- Sarah

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

1. Call to Order

- Council chairperson, Josh, calls the meeting to order at 7:08 PM AST.

1.1. Roll Call

- Council chairperson, Josh, performs roll call.

2. Approval of Agenda

- Chair - I sent the agenda out on Friday in an email. Are there any amendments that need to be made?
- Alexa- Could we amend it to include a time for discussion on the inclusivity of the Winter Carnival?
- Chair - Yes, we can do that. Does anyone want to discuss this amendment?
 - Motion: Be it resolved that a discussion on the inclusivity of the Winter Carnival be added to the agenda, placing it as item 5.4. And pushing back items 5.5. and 5.6.
 - Mover: Chair assumed
 - Seconder: Jordan
 - Notes: No discussion
 - The vote passes. Motion carries.
- Chair - Does anyone else have any questions or other amendments?
 - Motion: Be it resolved that the agenda for January 22nd, 2023 be approved with the aforementioned amendment.
 - Mover: Chair assumed
 - Seconder: Sangeet
 - 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 - I do not have much to say. Thank you to those who have booked or have attended their councilor check-in with Isabella and I. I want to remind councilors who haven't, there was a Doodle Poll sent out last week. We can send it again, or contact myself or Isabella with your available time and we will review our schedules. The check-ins can be in-person or virtual, but send a message to let me know if you would like to do it virtually. Just shoot me a message to figure out what times will work. The second thing is a reminder for headshots. Thank you to those who have already gotten their headshot taken. If you have not, please send Annie a message as soon as possible because we would like to get them done by the end of next week. We want to get everyone's headshot up on the website before the election. Does anyone have any questions?

4. Approval of Previous Minutes

- Chair - The minutes of the previous council meeting were hyperlinked in the agenda that was emailed. Are there any questions about the minutes?
 - Motion: Be it resolved that the minutes from the previous council meeting are approved.
 - Mover: Chair assumed
 - Seconder: Ryan
 - Notes: No discussion
 - The vote was taken using unanimous consent. Motion carries.

5. Substantive Business

5.1. Appointment of Interim Student Senator

- Chair - This item was on last week's agenda, but was tabled to this council meeting.
- Ryan - Last week we talked about appointing an Interim Student Senator. I want to bring forth Emily Simon as a candidate to fill the role.
 - Motion: Be it resolved that Emily Simon be appointed as Interim Student Senator until June 30th, 2023.
 - Mover: Ryan
 - Seconder: Kartik
 - Notes:
 - Alexa - Do you graduate this year?
 - Emily - Yes
 - Alexa - Will you be here until that date?
 - Emily - I am back and forth a bit, but yes I will be.
 - Chair - Any other discussion?
 - The vote passes. Motion carries.

5.2. Appointment of Interim Vice President Student Wellness

- Kordell - The discussion on appointing a VP Student Wellness was also brought up last week. I reached out to Halle May, who is the current wellness coordinator, to see if she was interested in the role. We sat down to have a meeting about the expectations and made sure it worked for her. Halle May is very interested, engaged, and eager, so I am recommending her for the appointment. If any folks have questions for her I can pass my speaking rights to her.
- Chair - Are there any questions for Kordell or would anyone prefer to give Halle May speaking rights?
 - Motion: Be it resolved that Halle May be appointed as Interim Vice President Student Wellness until April 30th, 2023.
 - Mover: Kordell
 - Seconder: Sean
 - Notes: No further discussion
 - The vote passes. Motion carries.

5.3. Open Discussion on the Objection of the Current UNB Storm Day Policy

- Ryan - As you guys know, we have had a few storm days the past couple of weeks. I have been speaking to students and although there is no outright objection to the current policy, many students have voiced their concerns. My plan moving forward is to reach out to the school to suggest making it mandatory for professors to record their lecture if the campus is closed. A lot of students do not have access to high speed internet to be able to stream the live videos. Does anyone have any ideas or anything they would like to discuss?
- Gaia - I do have a comment on this. It is important to keep in mind that the university cannot mandate the recording of lectures. This area falls under the professor union. I am unsure how far we can get with this plan.
- Kordell - I think that is a fantastic point. One note I have is every single union contract is currently in re-negotiations, so it may be something that can be brought up during these negotiations.
- Gaia - Kordell is right, so we can encourage this idea and also still push as much as possible. I just think mandating the recordings would be very hard.
- Chair - Does anyone else have anything to bring forward to this discussion? Is everyone comfortable with Ryan pursuing this?

5.4. Discussion on the Inclusivity of the Winter Carnival

- Alexa - As the inclusivity representative, it has been brought to my attention today that it might not be a financially inclusive event. I did learn that the tickets are not fifty dollars if the discount code is used, but where at this time in the semester students are paying their tuition and paying for textbooks, it is a hard time financially for most. I wanted to motion for \$750 towards my councilor project to make the ticket price more reasonable for those who are struggling financially. I wanted to open up a discussion about potentially having a set time in advance where you can apply for a cheaper ticket to the event and have winners randomly selected for the discount. A lot of people want to go, but \$25 is not feasible for them right now.
- Chair - Would you be looking at this as a councilor project or the union subsidizing this money for the students?
- Alexa - I am fine with both since it is last minute, but I would also be comfortable doing a different councilor project.
- Amanda - I do not see that being an issue at all. Maybe we can talk about it more at some point. Since you are pioneering the project, you would be controlling who gets the discount.
- Kordell - I think it is a fantastic idea, although there are a lot of different parts. One piece is where the Student Union already has comp tickets which could be used as free tickets in giveaways or have some allocated for students in

financial need. How much is allocated to your councilor project depends on the size and scope, so \$750 sounds reasonable. Looking at the administration piece, there needs to be a way where students can go to someone to get the discount. I think the best way to be more inclusive is to redirect this to the Financial Aid Office and have them be the place where students access the discount. My one concern about making it inclusive is having to expect students to ask for the support.

- Alexa - This is just me brainstorming in the last hour. We do have an inclusion Instagram page, but that doesn't necessarily mean that students will check that page to find out where to get the code. Maybe the union could promote it and students could apply anonymously in order to receive the code and we could have a google form for them to fill out to state their case.
- Minh - I agree because keeping it anonymous will make it inclusive. The discount is supposed to target certain people and there are certain students who need it more than others. Sometimes it is difficult for people to make their case so keeping the form anonymous is important.
- Kordell - I think it definitely is possible. Where I am coming from is that we run the Student Bursary Program where we strategically send money to the Financial Aid Office so that students do not have to share their financial details. That information is difficult enough to share with administrators, let alone students, so we could use that as the location to receive the discount code. I would like to discuss it more so as many students who have financial need can access it. The Instagram page is not a bad idea, I am just wondering how it will play out between students.
- Molly - I appreciate you bringing this forward. I am so happy we are having a conversation about making this event more inclusive. Hopefully we can have a discussion sometime this week and figure out a game plan if that works for you.
- Alexa - I just want to ask Kordell, when you say financial services, do you mean students going to the office in person or just emailing?
- Kordell - A form to fill out online would be sufficient where the back end of the Google form is managed by the Financial Aid Office so that they are the only ones who can see the information, as well as manage the responses so that students would not have to go in person. We can certainly share a link on all of our social media platforms, there are just concerns about students handling other students' financial information. I personally would not have applied if a student was on the other end of a financial need application, which is why I do not think going to the office in person should be required.
- Alexa - It is better to have an institution run it rather than a single person.
- Chair - Are there any other comments or discussion about this?

5.5. Faculty Councilor Updates

- Warren - I have no update.

- Emily - I have no update.
- Keri - The only update I have is that I had my councilor check-in with Josh and Isabella.
- Molly - I have no update.
- Ally - My only update is that I had my councilor check-in with Josh and Isabella and I am working on getting my name out to people in the faculty of science.
- Chair - Are there any questions for Ally?
- Jorja - I had my councilor check-in tonight. On Wednesday I met with a society to discuss their upcoming events and how I can play a role in those with my councilor project.
- Sean - I have a quick update. I spent the last week working on the website, but my week was busier than expected, so I should have the website back up by tonight.
- Chair - Are there any questions for Sean? Next week's meeting will have time for Non-Faculty Councilor updates.

5.6. Student Senator and Board of Governors Updates (Optional)

- Chair - Are there any senators who have updates?
- Gaia - I have a quick update from the senators. Some of the Board of Governors have met this week and the university is pressing forward, but nothing major for student concerns. On the personal side. The debate society is holding an event next week.
- Chair - Are there any questions for Gaia?
- Kordell - One thing worth highlighting that is happening at the board over the next couple of months is there are lots of conversations happening towards tuition, which will inevitably increase again. No one fully knows the exact percentages, but the university is discussing a 4.5% increase. I just had a meeting with the president of the UNBSJ Student Union, the president of the UNB Fredericton Graduate Student Union, and the president of the UNBSJ Graduate Student Union and we are working on appointing a student to a committee to have some advocacy happening to encourage a rate that is as low as possible, It never will be zero, but we want it as close as it possibly can be. I just wanted folks to be aware, as the conversations will really pick up over the next few months.
- Chair - Does anyone have any questions for Kordell. Are there any senators who wish to say anything?

6. Reports to Council

6.1. Vice President - Events and Services

- Met with Miriam and Rob about Winterfrolic for pitch and timings, dates, negotiating, etc.
- Met with Ski&Board with Molly to discuss their budget, the itinerary for their event, apres ski, etc.

- Been dealing with SafeRide, it was in an accident last week. We are not at fault and no one was hurt.
- Met with the SafeRide coordinator to talk about upcoming events, scheduling, marketing, etc.
- Met with the CHSR about the podcasts and points of collaboration.
- Met with Pat from the Cellar and then met with him and Ski&Board about their apres ski event.
- Have had ongoing conversations with Kordell and the Chair about the Winter Carnival.
- Responded to emails and other administrative needs.

6.2. Vice President - Research and Policy

- Met with Julia from STUSU regarding the continuation of MLA Monday and we have confirmed two dates. The first one is going to be at Sir James Dunn Hall at 12 on Monday, February 13th.
- Started working on the pharmacy policy regarding advocating the provincial government to allow pharmacists to be able to prescribe for more conditions.
- Confirmed two dates for the MP Tuesday events which we are going to call Just Chat with Jenica for this term.
- Received confirmation from three city councilors including the deputy mayor to host events similar to that of MLA Monday.
- Worked on FPC check-ins with the Canadian Alliance of Student Associations.
- Had a quick chat with Hillary regarding plans for an international student policy. We are having a meeting with Kartik about plans this week.

6.3. Vice President - Communication

- Edited and submitted minutes from the beginning of last Sunday's council.
- Updated the website with the new VP Academic and VP Student Wellness.
- Looked into getting a replacement banner for the broken ones and started designing one for Townhouse.
- Attended the executive meeting.
- Scheduled food bag stories.
- Met with the videographer surrounding upcoming events and campaigns.
- Ordered business cards for Kordell, Rose, Ryan, Josh, and Halle May.
- Updated website homepage.
- Took three headshots and have scheduled three more.
- Coordinated with the art center to organize SUB posters for Black History Month.
- Updated clubs and societies pages.
- Created posts and stories for nomination period of general election and have been making edits to the dates.
- Updated the six election pages.
- Added dates to the website calendar.

- Uploaded the Orientation Chair and Vice Chair position to the website and am ready to upload the post and stories.
- Continued working on concert promotions (alternate designs of posters, stories, and posts).
- Worked on Rail Jam and Apres Ski materials and met with Megan from the Ski and Snowboarding club to discuss promotions.
- Continued working on posts and stories for services.

6.4. Vice President - Finance and Operations

- Attended the SERC meeting.
- Met with Miriam to discuss the hiring of the orientation positions.
- Set a date for my committee meetings.
- Worked on the Clubs and Societies Fair.
- Attended councilor check-ins with Josh.
- Met with my clubs and societies coordinator.
- Met with a club.

6.5. Vice President - Student Wellness

- No update provided.

6.6. Vice President - Academic

- Coordinated new pick up times for the Book Buy and Sell.
- Handed out books from the Book Buy and Sell.
- Attended the joint senate meeting.
- Did the necessary preparations for the meeting.
- Met with Josh about the UNBSU radio show.
- Met with the VP Academic from the Graduate Student Association to discuss committee matters.
- Worked on a student opinion survey regarding storm day policy.
- Scheduled meetings to discuss the storm day policy.
- Sat in on senator check-in meetings.
- Cataloged remaining books from the Book Buy and Sell to begin contacting the owners.
- Met with the videographer to begin planning content for the Breaking Stereotypes campaign.
- Scheduled meetings with CHSR to move forward with the radio show.

6.7. President

- Reviewed CASA's operating procedures. A few changes are coming with respect to the National Advocacy Campaign that will improve things in the future.
- The National Advocacy Committee met with James from CASA. We spoke about the campaign and copyright advocacy.
- Created a Teams channel with most people, there were some I couldn't find/add so I'll be reaching out to get the rest.

- Met with CHSR regarding events like the Clubs and Societies Fair for cross promotion options.
- Read the Board Advancement Committee package and attended the meeting.
- Met with Halle May, worked on her transition report, etc.
- Met with Miriam regarding the next steps for orientation, SERC event approvals, and collaboration over the semester.
- RFPs, preparing for food services interviews tomorrow.
- Worked on rescheduling Policy Committee meeting. Please fill out the poll if you haven't.
- Met with the presidents from SRC, GSA-F, and GSA-SJ regarding committee appointments, tuition and fee increases, intimate partner violence, mental health, and childcare for students who are parents.
- Responded to emails, helped students who came in, and kept our GM in the loop.

7. Announcements

- Drahstant - In alliance and accordance with the bylaws, we are calling a general election for 2023-2024. I went over the dates during the last council meeting, however, there have been a few changes made. The nomination period opens on January 30, 2023 at 10:00 AM and closes on February 10, 2023 at 12:00 PM. The all-candidates meeting will take place on February 10, 2023 at 4:00 PM sharp and is a mandatory meeting for all of the candidates. The meeting will take place in Student Union Building Room 103. The campaigning period begins following the All-Candidates meeting on February 10, 2023 and closes March 5, 2023 at 11:59 PM. You can vote online through the UNB Intranet. You must be an undergraduate student at UNB to vote. The positions in this election are President, VP Academic, VP Events & Service, VP Student Wellness, VP Finance & Operations, Arts Councilor, Kinesiology Councilor, Law Councilor, Science Councilor, Forestry and Environmental Management Councilor, Computer Science Councilor, Management Councilor, Nursing Councilor, Engineering Councilor, Renaissance College Councilor, Residence Representative, Accessibility Representative, Gender & Sexual Diversity Representative, two Inclusion Representative positions, Off-Campus Representative, Women's Representative, Part-Time Student Representative, First-Year Student Representative, International Student Representative, three One-Year Term Senator positions, a Two-Year Term Senator position, and two One-Year Term positions on the Board of Governors. If anyone has any questions, please email me, the CRO.
- Chair - Are there any questions or any other announcements? I have also added some people to the Teams group that Kordell couldn't find. The UNB Teams app kind of sucks when searching for people. There are three accounts associated with me and all of them converge into one email. If he cannot add

the remaining folks who are missing, I will see if I can add them. CHSR has reached out to the student union to start a podcast or radio show situation. It seems pretty promising. We had a meeting last week where I got a tour and they told me about their following growing four times what it used to be during the pandemic. An idea that has been suggested is basing the podcast around the student union where we talk about what we do and the services we offer. Another rough idea is to include councilors to share what they do and include students to share feedback. I am meeting with them again Friday, so I will have more information to provide you at next Sunday's council meeting. Also, I have money for some people. There are a few people who have not received their honorarias. I have yours Minh. Kisenge and Amy, we also have some money for you. Your cheques will be at the Welcome Center. Everyone else should have already received their honorarias, but if you haven't, just send me a message. Regarding the concert, Molly gave me some posters to give to everyone if they don't mind putting them up in buildings when walking to your classes. This is a great opportunity and the concert will be big. There is already a lot of excitement.

- Molly - If anyone works off campus and would like to bring a poster to work that would be greatly appreciated. I have already gone with the student experience team to put up posters downtown, but if there is anyone who works off campus, they are more than welcome to grab some. I can also print more posters at the Welcome Center if need be.
- Chair - This is also a really good opportunity to get your volunteer events done.
- Alexa - Are you able to print off a few and bring them to the residence administration office or have you already done that?
- Molly - I believe some have already been posted in residences.
- Chair - One last announcement, it is a very rough idea and I want to get everyone's opinion. Last council session we held a refresher session with pizza and I wanted to get feedback to see if you guys enjoyed the team bonding session. Some of the executives and I talked and we have a few ideas to do some more team events. One of our ideas was for all of us to watch a UNB hockey game in the Colter Room. I have been made aware that we could get this room for a team bonding event, Is anyone interested?
- Kordell - Do you want to maybe clarify what the Colter Room is?
- Chair - It is at the Aitken Center. It is a heated room which is almost like a mini cellar except they do not have food. There are pool tables, foosball tables and a bar that we could use while we watch the hockey game. If people are interest could you please raise your hand? We do not have a firm date as of yet, I am just trying to see if people would want to use the roome. My thought is to coordinate to get the room for next month. When we find out more information I will let you know.
- Amanda - We may want to put together a mini committee to delegate.

- Chair - Are there any other announcements?

8. Other Business

- Alexa - I just wanted to ask about Safe Ride not operating on Sundays. I noticed students have more of an opportunity to use it since they do not have class, but the service is not offered.
- Amanda - I think it is offered in certain areas. One vehicle went down this week due to an accident. It has also been hard to find drivers under our new insurance policy, so we are trying to offer the service as much as possible with the drivers we currently have. The rules of our insurance policy changed so we had to fire almost half the staff during the first semester.
- Kordell - It does not run on Saturday, but I believe the service is available on Sunday.

9. Adjournment

- Motion: Be it resolved that the UNBSU Council Meeting for January 22nd, 2023, be adjourned at 8:03 PM AST.
- Mover: Chair assumed
- Seconder: Emily
- Notes: No discussion
- The vote was taken using unanimous consent. Motion carries.

Kaitlin Calder
Secretary

Samuel West
President