

Minutes - UNBSU Council Meeting

UNB Student Union 2022/2023

January 29th, 2023; in-person meeting



Present:

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

Not Present:

Regrets:

- Bradley
- Heer
- Kisenge
- Jordan

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

1. Call to Order

- Council chairperson, Josh, calls the meeting to order at 7:04 PM AST.

1.1 Roll Call

- Council chairperson, Josh, performs roll call.

2. Approval of Agenda

- Chair - Everyone should have received the agenda via email, did anyone not receive it? Are there any questions about the agenda? Are there any amendments that need to be made?
- Ryan- I would like to add a time to discuss a report that was made about advocacy relating to students no longer being represented on the Senate committee that reviews and appoints the president.
 - Motion: Be it resolved that a discussion on the report regarding student representation on the Senate committee be added to the agenda, placing it as item 5.3 and pushing back items 5.4. and 5.5.
 - Mover: Chair assumed
 - Seconder: Amanda
 - Notes: No discussion
 - The vote passes. Motion carries.
- Chair - Are there any other amendments?
 - Motion: Be it resolved that the agenda for January 29, 2023 be approved with the aforementioned amendment.
 - Mover: Chair assumed
 - Seconder: Kordell
 - 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 - We are in search of a new Indigenous Councilor, the Indigenous Council here will be meeting this week to discuss the next steps in the process. So tonight, we have Angelina Elizabeth joining us to represent the Indigenous Council on their behalf following the resignation of Kiana. Thank you for joining us. Another note is that the Nursing Councilor position is now vacant following the resignation of Rayleh Hanson-Munn, who has resigned for personal reasons. With the Superbowl coming up on February 12th, I have had a few members of council ask about moving our session up to an earlier time. Based on the fear of losing quorum and potential sheer interest from councilors wanting to watch the game, I have made a survey to seek feedback as to when council will be scheduled for that date. We will take two minutes to fill this out. We are still missing some headshots of councilors. This is required

and had been asked that all of those who did not have their headshot taken to have them done before last Friday. For those who have not booked a meeting with Annie to get this done, please see Annie before you leave today to get this done. Nomination Period for the general election opens tomorrow. Forms will be available online, in the Welcome Centre, and outside of my office. For more information on the election please contact Drashtant Varma. Additionally, we have received information from Jenica Atwin who is the Fredericton MP that she is seeking members of the youth population to join The Fredericton Constituency Youth Council. This is not representative of a party yet is a non-partisan opportunity within the Fredericton Constituency. In the words of Jenica Atwin as submitted to myself, The Constituency Youth Council is an opportunity for youth to learn about Canada's political process, discuss their viewpoints on issues, and most importantly, get involved in their communities. Projects undertaken by past Constituency Youth Councils have ranged from food drives to multimedia projects. Past councils have consistently tackled important issues such as climate change, gender equality, and youth employment. If anyone is interested in pursuing this opportunity, you can see me to get her email. Today is the last session of the month which means councilor of the month will be announced. The prize for this month has changed a little bit so I hope you are all ready. We have also included senators to be considered as nominees. We have a decently busy agenda, so I look forward to continuing our work today.

4. Approval of Previous Minutes

- Chair - The minutes were hyperlinked in the agenda that was emailed to everyone. Are there any questions about the previous 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. Discussion Regarding an Upcoming Presentation from CASA

- Kordell - Representatives from Casa will be at the council meeting on Sunday, February 12. This is a standard thing that is normally done every year. We are getting back into the routine of having them present at council. Their presentation will be covering how they work, how their work is done, and any challenges they will have moving forward. I just wanted to give you folks a heads up. If you have any specific questions either now or over the next week, just send me an email and I will pass the feedback along so that they can tailor the presentation to the wants and needs of council and what you are

curious about with their organization. If there is anything specific you would like to present, just let me know.

- Chair - Does anyone have any questions?

5.2. Update from Policy Committee

- Kordell - I have a package of bylaw amendments that we are recommending for approval tonight. I want to start with recommendation of appointment of interim councilors. The package is hyperlinked in tonight's agenda that was sent out via email. All of the recommended amendments are highlighted in the document. Included in this package is a bylaw that discusses the process of filling executive councilor. The only change we are making is that appointments will be at the recommendation of the Selections Committee so that there is joint recognition between executives and councilors. The specific appointment I want to point out is the appointment of Jorja because it goes against the bylaws. The recommended amendment for this is included in the package. What we are looking to do is change it so that we have the ability to appoint interim councilors. Our first recommendation is to strike Jorja's original appointment until the bylaws are amended.
 - Motion: Be it resolved that Jorja Smith's original appointment of Interim Councilor be struck until the bylaws are amended.
 - Mover: Kordell
 - Secunder: Amanda
 - Notes: No discussion
 - The vote passes. Motion carries.
- *President Kordell Walsh presents that Policy Committee met and discussed changes to bylaws 1 through 3. Specific changes include clarifying voting and speaking rights, developing a framework for appointing interim councilors, moving up the timeline for hiring of Chair and CRO to May 31, extension of the Good Standing Clause, allowance of executives to endorse themselves during the campaign, an extension of CRO powers, a shortening of election appeals from 7 days to 6, appointment of Interim Appeals Officer, voting rights for appeals officers, and various administrative changes to reflect how the Union operates.*
- Kordell - Does anyone have any questions?
- Gaia - Would someone who is found innocent after an investigation still be banned to participate in future elections?
- Kordell - No. What I am trying to do before I leave office is to create a document that describes how the bylaws and policies interact with each other. If someone is currently under investigation then they may not run in the election, but if it was a past investigation then they are able to run.
- Amanad - When you say it is an obvious and blatant offense, how would you determine that? How do you choose one person who gets to decide if it is a

blatant violation and how do you get to that level? I feel that there should still be a proper warning first before further actions are taken.

- Kordell - In our amendment we want to include that you first must notify the candidate that they have breached the bylaws. We try to tell them about the bylaws as much as we can, but sometimes they are unaware that they have violated them. We first must have a meeting with the candidate, then if the issue persists we can move forward with further action if needed. It is never our goal to need the appeals board, but if they are made aware of their violations but still continue to violate then further actions such as disqualification could be taken. Are there any other questions?
 - Motion: Be it resolved that council approve the amendments as presented.
 - Mover: Kordell
 - Secunder: Sean
 - Notes: No further discussion
 - The vote passes. Motion carries.

5.3. Discussion on Committee Advocacy Document

- Ryan - There is a joint committee between the senate and the Board of Governors that is assembled to review and nominate the president of the Student Union. There is a position on that committee that is traditionally filled by a student, but is now filled by a faculty member which we deem as unacceptable. Myself, Josh and a few others have created an advocacy document regarding this position being filled by a faculty member.
- Kordell - I feel that for council to make a full assessment it would be valuable if they had their own copy to read through themselves.
- Chair - Maybe you could mention some highlights from the document and we can get conditional approval, send out a copy, then can get full approval at the next council meeting.
- Amanda- You could send it out now so everyone has a copy to look at and then read it.
- Chair - The document has been sent out to everyone.
- Ryan - The main highlight is we propose to table the motion to approve the committee list with the justification that although it is not in writing that a student must fill that position, we have found a precedent where all other committees have student representation so we feel that it is unacceptable to cut us out.
- Chair - The idea is that the decision impacts all of the campuses and all students so we thought it would be best to coordinate with the GSA from Fredericton and Saint John.
- Kordell - Do we know why they made the decision to cut students out despite the precedent and have we tried to discuss this with the administration?

- Ryan - This issue was brought directly to my attention by Mohammed who is the VP Academic of the GSA. Their justification is that since there was no VP Academic at the time there were no names to bring forward to fill the position and there is nothing in writing saying that it has to be a student, so they decided to make that decision.
- Chair - Are there any other questions for Ryan at this time? We do not need to do a formal vote, we can just have a discussion. Based on what was presented, are people comfortable with this being taken on? Is there anyone who is uncomfortable?

5.4. Non-Faculty Councilor Updates

- Abby - I have no update.
- Alexa - I had a meeting with Amanda and Kordell to touch base on the idea that I brought up last week. Amanda is working hard with financial services and we do have a certain amount of tickets allocated to that. I also met with Kordell to discuss accessibility on campus and brainstormed what we can do around campus.
- Chair - Are there any questions?
- Kartik - I scheduled a meeting with Josh and Isabella this week. Last week, I met with Kordell and Rose to discuss a new initiative, so I will have more updates in the future.
- Chair - Does anyone have any questions for Kartik?
- Zach - Last week I attended a policy committee and am planning to collaborate with Monarch to organize some Valentine's Day events.
- Chair - Does anyone have any questions?
- Halle May - I would love to be connected with your events that week if I could get in touch with you.
- Zach - Absolutely, that would be great.
- Chair - Are there any other questions? With Kiana's resignation, that position is vacant and will be filled by the Indigenous Council. Kordell and I are in contact with them. They did not meet this week, so they couldn't get someone permanent to fill the role, so the plan was to either have Angelina or Britney join us tonight, but unfortunately they are not here.
- Sangeet - First, I had a meeting with Sean and Marie to discuss an off-campus housing information session. I requested that they be the speakers and I set the date for February 10th and talked to Matt about booking SUB Room 103. Also, I have been trying to decide on the food that needs to be provided so I am looking for suggestions. I asked Isabella if I could share a stall for the Clubs and Societies Fair to answer questions students may have about off-campus housing, bus passes, etc. I also booked a time with Josh and Isabella for my councilor check-in. I will also put out a form for volunteers to work at my event which is coming up soon.

- Chair - This could be a good opportunity for councilors to complete their volunteer hours.
- Minh - Two meetings ago I was talking to Keri about help for the computer science students. We talked a bit more about what we could do to make things more accessible. I emailed Natalie Webber about the help hours and tutorials, as well as the hours for teaching assistants. There are a lot of people, especially in first year, who need help and even though the help hours are three hours long, there are so many students that attend and there is a lack of TAs. These hours are not much help, so I reached out to her but I haven't heard back yet, so I will reach out again.
- Amanda - I had someone bring that up as well and they attended but was not able to get the help they needed so thank you for bringing that up.
- Minh - I have definitely struggled with that so I wanted to address it.
- Sarah - I was walking around Head Hall and there is a space called the Computer Science Tutoring Space so maybe it would be good to check that out. I got a lot of updates from students that Natalie does not respond to emails.
- Keri - The Computer Science Collaboration Space is not necessarily a space for tutoring but it would probably be great if there were office hours there.
- Chair - Any other questions?
- Amy - I have been thinking about my councilor project and wanted to do a charity drive before Christmas but that did not work out. I am hoping to do one at the end of the semester and coupled with this is trying to figure out the logistics of collecting items that are thrown out when students move out of their housing. I am trying to think of a way where we could keep and store those items to give to new students who are moving in. Also, a lot of students in the residences are reaching out because they feel that there are no events for them. A few formals are being planned and there are a few events happening this semester. I am trying to start a recycling initiative soon within residences. Also, the residences have not been shoveled or salted around those buildings and some students have gotten hurt. A lot of students have come to me and said they have fallen multiple times. I spoke to the residence administration and they kind of said they would do something about it, but if anyone has any suggestions that would be great.
- Kordell - It would be Facilities Management that would oversee that. Partially why we have seen more snow days is because a lot of the staff that used to plow and shovel have started to retire or move to new positions so there are a lot of new folks now who are not doing the best. The Cellar has a lot of issues because they are refusing to clear their loading bay. It is an ongoing thing. A lot of it is caused by the new people not knowing when to start plowing, which is why late openings are being proposed since they are not familiar yet.

It would certainly be Facilities Management that you should direct those concerns to.

- Gaia - One major plow and three minor plows are broken, so we are down four plows.
- Sangeet - Do they have spaces where you could put some of those unwanted microwaves or fridges?
- Amy - We do have lounges that have those amenities but it is quite common for students to have mini fridges in their room that they share with their roommate. Anything you put in the fridge in the lounge spaces is kind of fair game to anyone. Also, most of those spaces are not the cleanest and often do not work.
- Sangeet - Why not put those things there?
- Amy - They are not going to make any changes to the traditional houses so we are looking more into saving that stuff for new students rather than throwing it in the garbage.
- Kate - As part of my councilor project to provide sustainable menstrual products, I have received 50 menstrual cups from Menstrual Cares and sent out an application form for students to fill out. All of the cups were claimed within a day and we now have a waitlist. Thanks to the UNB Sustainability Fund, we are about to put in a big order and can have people order their own products. I am also planning an event in late March where students can choose sustainable menstrual products, as well as disposable ones for free. I just applied for funding last week from the UNB Alumni group, so I am waiting to hear back.
- Chair - Are there any questions?

5.5. Student Senator & Board of Governors Update (Optional)

- Gaia - The activity I participated in this weekend was the UNB Debate Society, which is now called the HIL Society's, first tournament. Around 20 people competed in the tournament and it went really well. The UNB team placed second.

6. Reports to Council

6.1. Vice President - Events and Services

- Met with the SafeRide Coordinator and DCE about drivers for the concert, established the schedule, and looked into the cost of a Sprinter.
- Chatted with the STU Student Union President about SafeRide and complaints.
- Discussed with SafeRide Coordinator other complaints we have received and the possibility of opening services for Saturday.
- Working on disciplinary action with a current SafeRide driver.
- Planning a refresh training and an appreciation dinner for the SafeRide drivers.

- Finalized the terms of our new contract with the Reds with Molly for the concert.
- Finalized the budget for AUS with Molly.
- Had a discussion with Karen and Kordell about AUS and the concert.
- Met with Alexa and Kordell about the concert and provided 15 comp tickets to accommodate students who cannot afford tickets to attend.
- Met with Kordell and Food Coordinator Lucy to discuss food insecurity and the offer Alumni have given us.
- Met with Pat to discuss their giveaway for the concert.
- Submitted the request for funds with Miriam to the President's office for Winterfrolic and had to make changes per their request.
- Met with Rob, the NBEX President, about changes to the event and sponsorship.
- Met with Michelle at the Alumni office about sponsoring the Winter Carnival, a donation for student needs, and using the SkyBox.
- Started preparing and reached out to my SL committee for our third meeting.
- Sent out the invite for my committees to set up a meeting and begin planning SURA.
- Reached out to security about charging our iPads as per Sangeet.
- Provided Halle May with information about last year's Sex Bingo.
 - Keri - What time is Rail Jam?
 - Annie - It is 7:30 to 9:00 PM on Friday.

6.2. Vice President - Research and Policy

- Have a meeting with Julia from the STU Student Union to discuss our joint event with David Coon that is coming up.
- Sent an email to almost all Deans and many professors regarding MLA Monday/MP Tuesday so that more students are aware of the events taking place.
- Took part in check-ins with members of CASA to make sure they were on the right track with their policy packages.
- Started planning the next policy forum ideas.
- Have a meeting with Hillary from the ISAO, Kartik, and Kordell to discuss international student representation.
- Took part in two of the policy consultations for CASA in which Trevor and I presented policies to membership ahead of our annual general meeting.
- Took meetings and answered general questions about federal policy committee plans.
- Took part in the policy committee.
- Had a meeting with CASA again to prepare for the policy consultations.
- Kept working on the updated healthcare policy.
- Have been working on research for the Indigenous Languages Act that the federal policy committee is working on.

6.3. Vice President - Communications

- Updated the website with the new VP Academic and VP Student Wellness.
- Fixed Jorja's position name on the website.
- Attended the executive meeting.
- Picked up business cards for Kordell, Rose, Ryan, Josh, and Halle May.
- Took two headshots and rescheduled two due to the storm day.
- Coordinated with the Arts Center to organize SUB posters for Black History Month.
- Updated clubs and societies page with new club's information.
- Created and distributed the newsletter.
- Created and posted about clubs and societies fair.
- Began discussing Sex Week with Halle May and the graphic designer.
- Met with CHSR surrounding the new Student Union radio show with Josh and Ryan.
- Coordinating with the graphic designer surrounding the radio show logo.
- Adjusted posts and stories for the nomination period and edited photos to be used.
- Updated the elections pages again.
- Corrected dates in the website calendar.
- Scheduled elections nominations posts.
- Coordinated with CRO and Chair surrounding candidates and debate information.
- Scheduled and posted orientation hiring posts and stories.
- Worked on Rail Jam and Apres Ski materials and posted on Instagram and Facebook.
- Met with Connor on Friday afternoon and continued to communicate with Megan from the Ski and Snowboarding club to discuss promotions, etc.
- Continued to communicate with the club and design poster options post-meeting.

6.4. Vice President - Academic

- Worked on the Book Buy and Sell.
- Attended a meeting regarding the radio show.
- Met with the GSA VP Academic.
- Continued planning the Breaking Stereotypes campaign.
- Met with students.
- Met with Josh regarding the student position on the Selections Committee.
- Met at the library to look at physical archives.
- Worked on the advocacy document with Josh.
- Coordinated with the secretary about the new student senator.

6.5. Vice President - Finance & Operations

- Attended councilor check-ins with Josh.
- Had a meeting with Karen in regards to the budget.

- Met with Miriam in regards to O-Chair/Black Shirt hiring.
- Had a SERC meeting.
- Held my Finance Committee meeting.
- Attended the Policy Committee meeting.
- Met with a club in regards to some questions.
- Had a meeting with Matt and Becky in regards to Clubs and Societies Fair.
 - Chair - What day of the week is the fair?
 - Isabella - Thursday.

6.6. Vice President - Student Wellness

- Met with Anahi, the VP Student Life at STU to coordinate events for Sex Week.
- Met with Hilary from the Sexual Assault Prevention Group to discuss collaboration for Sex Week.
- Purchased prizes for Sex Week.
- Found a new person to be the Wellness Coordinator.
- Budgeted for this event,
- Booked the Cellar for trivia night.
- Met with Rachel from Venus Envy for a bingo event.
- Currently in the process of finding volunteers.
- Met with Tiffany Isabelle (Residence Wellness Coordinator)
- Scheduled a meeting with Brent Colby. Student Service currently works with McGill and other schools.
- In the process of sending an event schedule to Annie.

6.7. President

- My entire Monday was spent attending the Food Services Contract provider interviews - where each company presented a brief of their proposal. We had a question and answer period, and each provider provided food samples.
- Worked on the Policy Committee meeting package.
- Had a meeting regarding the CASA National Advocacy Campaign, where I was interviewed regarding my experiences with Canada Student Grants and accessing student loans.
- Had a meeting with Rose, Kartik and the ISAO regarding international student representation and advocacy.
- Had Policy Committee.
- Worked on the Advancement Committee meeting package and arranged a meeting time.
- Had CASA's Board meeting.
- Had a chat with Amanda and Alexa regarding the proposal for concert tickets for students in financial need.
- Had a meeting with Amanda regarding an on-campus food bank proposal.
- Met with Becky from the SUB regarding space allocation in the SUB during renovations, and there is potential temporary space for Townhouse to have an office and for a small food bank/pantry.

- Spoke with Karen about preparing everything for our submission to UNB's Board of Governors.
- Booked myself and Rose's hotels for CASA AGM in March.
- Had CASA's Board of Directors meeting which was my entire Friday afternoon.
- Prepared National Advocacy Committee's next meeting package.
- Answered emails, helped students, etc.

7. Announcements

7.1. Skybox - UNBSU Social (February)

- Chair - Last week, I briefly mentioned looking into more bonding events. There were two that we talked about. Amanad reached out to an associate of the Alumni group and they offered to allow us to use the Skybox so we are trying to coordinate a day for council to watch a hockey game. Good note is UNB's men's hockey team are the first seed in the AUS so we are guaranteed to play in the semi-finals. We also get the first pick of where to play so to start we are playing at home. There are two guaranteed home games so we are contacting the Alumni group to get those boxes reserved. We will update council with the solidified date. Any questions?

7.2. Colter Room - UNBSU Social (March 12th, 2023)

- Chair - The Colter Room is run by the Cellar and is essentially a bar. There are pool tables and foosball tables so we thought about having a social event there. We could perhaps integrate the candidate elects into this event as well. The election results will be ratified on March 12, so we could book the room for that day and invite the new members of council to come talk with us. We will solidify this plan once the election starts. Are there any questions?

7.3. Constituency Youth Council

- Chair - I received an update from Jenica Atwin. It was just an inquiry. A Constituency Youth Council has been formed. If anyone is looking for more information just reach out to her via email. She can answer any questions you may have, but she is just reaching out to all of the student unions. Does anyone have any questions?

7.4. Councillor of the Month - December/January

- Chair - Last week, I sent out a Google form for councillor of the month. Like always, All of the councillors were listed, as well as added the senators and your peers voted on councillor of the month. We had an interesting verdict, there was a tie and we were unsure how to call that. The final verdict was why not just do two. The prize for each councillor is a ticket to The Reklaws concert. For more details, please reach out to Amanda or myself. The first councillor of the month is Sangeet. Our second councillor of the month is Jorja Smith. Congratulations to both of you.

7.5. Other Announcements

- Chair - We are meeting again this week to get the final stuff arranged for the new radio show. We are hoping to start it this Thursday. We are thinking of

doing a 4:30 to 5 PM show. We are trying to figure out what the first show will be. Also, we are looking to provide volunteer opportunities for councilors to talk about their faculty or who they represent. More details will come in the future. Are there any other announcements?

- Sara - From personal experience of moving off campus, students under a certain age cannot get their own internet connections and must depend on other people for the SIN number which is a breach of privacy. If there is something we can do about it, that would be great because a lot of people will be moving out again soon.
- Sangeet - Mostly you have to rely on somebody and it is the internet provider's policy so I am not sure if there is much we can do.
- Kordell - We can definitely look into it. I know there is an issue with laws and being able to get signing authority to enter contracts when you are under a certain age. Technically when you move onto campus if you do not have anyone that is close to you the university essentially acts as a guardian for international students because they have no one located in Canada who is close to them. The university is not held responsible for you which is why they are normally directed to live on campus. I am not sure if there is much we can do but to talk to the tenants rights associations and see what information they can provide. It might be something outside of the scope of what we can do.
- Sangeet - Can we do something where we can contact the internet providers and convince them that if a student shows proof then they can have exemption from the rule of needing to be a certain age to enter a contract?
- Kordell - I would be shocked if they accepted that since it is the law. I do not think students of that age can enter a legally binding contract. I am not sure if it is enforceable in court if the exemption is provided. I am not a lawyer, so I would direct any questions or legal advice to those who are more aware of the laws.
- Sangeet - Can the university be that person they rely on if they are underage?
- Amanda - It is honestly worth trying. None of us are taught anything about signing a lease or what they should look like or include. You can negotiate what is included and stated in your lease, so students can ask for internet to be provided. That could be a faster solution.
- Sangeet - In the off chance the landlord says no, what do we do? I think by then we have run out of all the options.
- Amanda- It is very likely that the landlord would say yes.
- Sangeet - My main reason for the concern is landlords are becoming more strict. In my personal experience, they say they are no longer going to allow students to rent from them. Negotiation is definitely a route we can look into though.
- Chair - Any other questions or other announcements?

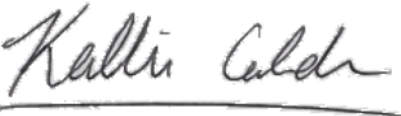
- Gaia - Contact Acorn about tenant rights. They are the tenants rights association in Fredericton.

8. Other Business


- Amy - I cannot access the link that was sent out at the beginning of the meeting.
- Annie - It might be set so only people in the organization can view the document.
- Kordell - Also, the date you have listed in the form is incorrect.
- Chair - I will fix that after council.

9. Adjournment

- Motion: Be it resolved that the UNBSU Council Meeting for January 29th, 2023 be adjourned at 8:40 PM AST.
- Mover: Chair assumed
- Seconder: Kartik
- Notes: No discussion
- The vote was taken using unanimous consent. Motion carries.



Secretary


President