

Minutes - UNBSU Council Meeting

UNB Student Union 2022/2023

November 20, 2022; in-person meeting with virtual option



Present:

- Kordell (virtual)
- Rose (virtual)
- Ridhi
- Annie
- Jill
- Isabella
- Sangeet (virtual)
- Amanda
- Warren
- Rayleh
- Keri
- Molly
- Sarah
- Bradley
- Sean
- Jordan
- Abby
- Alexa
- Kartik
- Zach
- Kianna
- Minh
- Amy
- Kate
- Luc
- Gaia
- Heer
- Patrick
- Kisenge

Not Present:

- Ally

Regrets:

- Emily
- Shayna

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

1. Call to Order

- Chairperson, Josh, calls the meeting to order at 7:18 PM ADT.

1.1. Roll Call

- Chairperson, Josh, performs roll call.

2. Approval of Agenda

- Chair - The agenda was sent out per usual Friday at noon. I know there have been a few email problems, so did anyone not receive the agenda, if you haven't told me already?
 - Minh - My email was messed up, so I forwarded my email to Jill to fix this issue.
 - Chair - Jill, can you please forward the agenda to Minh using the proper email?
 - Jill - Yes!
- Chair - Are there any amendments to the agenda?
 - Jill - I'd like to add an item to Substantive Business to look over the updated council committee list.
 - Motion: Be it resolved that an item is added to the agenda as item 5.3 regarding the approval of an updated council committee list.
 - Mover: Jill
 - Secunder: Gaia
 - Notes: No further discussion, the item will be placed as item 5.3, and every subsequent item will be moved down.
 - The vote was taken using unanimous consent. Motion carries.
 - Motion: Be it resolved that the agenda for November 20, 2022, is approved with the above amendments.
 - Mover: Chair assumed
 - Secunder: Amanda
 - Notes: No further 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 have a few general reminders. Please remember to speak loud and clear, we want to make sure we aren't missing out on anyone's input and want to put as much as we can into the minutes. As well, all feedback, debate, discussion, and questions are important. We should ensure we follow proper procedures so that we are able to best represent the student body to the best of our abilities. I would also like to ask that we are all mindful of our tones and messages to ensure civility within the union as we are a student government working together.

- Chair - Executives, please ensure you send Abby your reports to the council by the Wednesday following the meeting at the end of the day at the latest. I also met with Kordell this week to discuss some bylaw regulations regarding the resignation of the VP Academic. For councilor check-ins, I met with Jill and Sangeet on Friday and had a very productive check-in.
- Chair - And as a final update, this is not directed at anyone, but I just know it was very briefly talked about in transition so I would like to expand some more on it. I would like to remind you of the attendance policies, with your positions you are supposed to be here every session, and if you miss 3 sessions it opens up the potential for a vote to remove you. Of course, things pop up, whether it's plans, appointments, physical or mental health, or really any other reason, and by all means, you do not have to let me know the reason you are not attending, but please send me your regrets.
 - Gaia - If you message saying you can't come, does it count against your three absences?
 - Chair - Technically, when it comes to absences that are regrets, it needs to be discussed with the council and debated. There may be more leniency with excused absences.
- Chair - Also, I'd like to note that we are hosting this council meeting as a hybrid session as Rose and Kordell are away in Ottawa for CASA. If you message me beforehand, I can usually set up a Google link so that we can meet.
 - Gaia - When did we implement hybrid?
 - Chair - Hybrid is something we can do because the bylaws don't necessarily indicate how we have the meeting. If you require accommodations, just message me and I'll put together a link.

4. Approval of Previous Minutes

- Chair - The previous minutes were sent out as a hyperlink to the agenda, if you can't access it please let me know.
 - Motion: Be it resolved that the minutes from November 13, 2022, are approved.
 - Mover: Chair assumed
 - Seconder: Zach
 - Notes: No further discussion.
 - The vote was taken using unanimous consent. Motion carries.

5. Substantive Business

5.1. Ratification of the Classics Society

- Isabella - This group wants ratification, from what they said, they have been active and there have been no issues, however, they just want official ratification. They want to provide a positive and accepting environment for students to discuss classics and ancient history. There is no problem with the constitution, and there are no similar clubs on campus, so they fill a niche.
 - Motion: Be it resolved that the Classics Society be ratified.

- Mover: Isabella
- Secunder: Gaia
- Notes: No further discussion.
- The vote passes unanimously. Motion carries.

5.2. UNBSU Signing of the “New Brunswick: Make Rent Control Permanent” document

- Rose - If any of you have seen the advocacy document, one of our asks to the provincial government this year was the implementation of a permanent rent cap. The STU students created this petition/document and I think it would be great if the UNBSU signed it in support. Basically, it is a document that calls upon the government to realize the permanent rent control/cap before December 31st when the pre-existing cap of 3.8% expires.
 - Motion: Be it resolved that the UNBSU sign the New Brunswick: Make Rent Control Permanent document.
 - Mover: Rose
 - Secunder: Isabella
 - Notes:
 - Gaia - Who is organizing this?
 - Rose - Two STU students that created the Housing Teaching as well as Dr. Matthew Hayes as the prof who was overseeing the event.
 - The vote passes unanimously. Motion carries.

5.3. Councilor Appointments to Committees

- Jill - I had our new councilors fill in the same form that the current existing councilors were to fill in in the summer for committee preferences. I’m just presenting this to the council for the approval of the new appointments to committees.
- Chair - I can send around the printed version of this, and Jill can send the list around.
 - Motion: Be it resolved that the updated list of committee appointments is approved.
 - Mover: Jill
 - Secunder: Sean
 - Notes: No further discussion
 - The vote was taken using unanimous consent. Motion carries.

5.4. Councilor of the Month - October

- Chair - For all the new councilors, this is brand new this year. It had a hiatus last year. There was a Google Form sent out a few weeks back, and I think the majority of people filled it out. I would like to present the councilor of the month to Kate Palmer. It’s a token of our appreciation for the councilors and everything you do for the SU and the student body.

5.5. Non-Faculty Councilor Updates

- Jordan - Nothing to report.

- Abby - Nothing to report.
- Alexa - Nothing to report.
- Kartik - Nothing to report.
- Zach - I had my counselor check in with Jill, and it was really productive. I am planning to do a fundraiser for my project and I am in communication with Monarch for this.
- Kianna - We had our first few meetings with the Indigenous Student Council, it's kind of new and we're in the works of getting going. If you know anyone who is Indigenous here at UNB that would be interested in joining, please send them my way. We are working to improve the inclusivity and indigenous rates here on campus. We are looking into getting social media started, but we're going to work on our constitution first. Hopefully, within the next few months, we will have social media. I had my check-in with Josh, and we are hoping to get some events going soon. If you have any questions, feel free to reach out.
 - Amanda - Have you reached out to Matt Maclean who does a Bridging Back student class? It works with Indigenous students. And to add as the executive, we are also always available for questions.
 - Gaia - Are you working with the MWC?
 - Kianna - Yes we are trying to.
 - Rayleh - First off, congratulations. I was just wondering if you've reached out to Angelina.
 - Kianna - Yes, we have!
- Sangeet - I assisted in moderating the Finance Week as Ridhi was recovering from surgery and couldn't attend. It was an absolute success. I attended a meeting with Miriam for Orientation Chair and Vice-Chair hiring to prepare for interviews. I had a meeting with Josh and Jill to talk about what I'm planning on doing in my position and what I've done so far. The Off-Campus posters have been designed by Annie and will be put up soon, so please pass on this message to off-campus students.
 - Kartik - For the QR codes for the resources, where can students find those?
 - Annie - They'll be on the posters!
- Minh - Nothing to report.
- Amy - I had a meeting with RLC and the Res Life Office about my councilor project, and was pretty much told they would help but not help. Because charities are such a big part of UNB and have lately experienced a hiatus, I was going to put a donation bin in each residence for donations to be brought to local charities after the holidays when charities stop receiving donations. We are having trouble putting the bins in each residence, so the project might be postponed and done at some point in the next semester.

- Kate - I met with Jill on Tuesday and it was really productive. I talked about my counselor project and the needs-based form for sustainable products that will hopefully be up on the MHS website sometime this week.

6. Reports to Council

6.1. Vice President - Communications

- Updated candidates section to solely include VPFO candidates for re-election. Updated the coordinator's section of the website.
- Added the extended library hours and appeals stories to the news section.
- Updated paper trail section and Typeform.
- Archived out-of-date pages.
- Designed and posted new election posts and stories.
- Coordinated with Ridhi and Martha (graphic designer) surrounding Instagram stories and schedules for finance week.
- Posted events stories and added events to the calendar to the website.
- Attended a few events and took photos.
- Designed certificates for student-run business fairs.
- Edited and reformatted graphics for MP Tuesday and MLA Monday. Edited photos from previous events and scheduled a post for these this Monday and Tuesday.
- Responded to social media messages and updated auto responses.
- Updated highlights section further on Instagram and posted fresh food bag promotions.
- Created and distributed a newsletter.
- Designed and cross-posted hiring stories for Orientation positions.
- Coordinated with the Appointment Committee for the Associate Vice Provost Student Affairs and Services and attended a meeting Friday afternoon surrounding the candidates and upcoming interviews.
- Attended weekly executive meetings.
- Aided in creating a poster for off-campus housing.
- Took more stock photos of outside the SUB and some election material.

6.2. Vice President - Research and Policy

- Had a meeting with the entire liberal caucus for advocacy week.
- Worked on deferred maintenance policy.
- Had a meeting with the ISAO meeting for advocacy week with Hillary and we discussed some ways that we can advocate further for international students.
- Meet and Greet with Cassidy Wilson - 2S LGBTQ plus wellness coordinator.
- Chatted with Nathan quickly from Moncton Nursing.

- Spoke at the housing teach-in with some STU students and Dr. Hayes who is the leader of the tenant's rights association of New Brunswick.
- Sent some follow-ups to individuals from advocacy week.
- Created a presentation for our bid to hold the next policy strat conference next week in Fredericton.
- Had a meeting with STUSU and Kordell to discuss the conference bid for next year.
- Help out some with Finance Week.
- In Ottawa for advocacy week meetings.
- Had an informal chat with the Indigenous Student Councillor for Stu discussing ideas for how the UNBSU can further reconciliation which was super productive.
 - Kianna - Since you had a meeting with the STU Indigenous Councillor, could we meet to discuss what this conversation was like?
 - Rose - I wanted to discuss with her how best to approach reconciliation and how to better show up for Indigenous students. She mentioned fostering a meaningful connection and showing up to events before hosting roundtables. I'm interested in going to a meeting with the Indigenous Student Council that you have so I can learn and talk with you more.
- I am in Ottawa right now for CASAs advocacy week with Kordell, it begins tomorrow and will go on until Friday.

6.3. Vice President - Events and Services

- Had three committee meetings: A.C.E Steering Committee, Student Life awards, and Alumni Committee Meeting. In the Student Life awards meeting, we had two preliminary meetings and assigned discussions for the next meeting. For the Alumni Committee Meeting, we discussed student sponsorship programs with food insecurity (working on a plan for fundraising), more experiential learning, and mental health services.
- Met with the co-presidents from the Pysch Society (UPS) about UNB's sexual violence policy and will be bringing that to the table in a couple of weeks.
- Met with Darren from WeSpeak Student
- Met with Alumni, Greener Village, and the Food Coordinator
- Met with the Food Coordinator, doing a food bingo on November 28th
- Checked in with the SafeRide Coordinator, and we are also working on promos for SafeRide services.
- Met with the executives about current affairs.
- Hosted Boo Bash and student night Khrome night, and student hockey night.
- Met with the Positive events committee.
- Met with Sara and Miriam for a January event
- Molly and I regularly touch base - winter carnival, boo bash, and planning battle of the bands.

6.4. Vice President - Finance & Operations

- Had a meeting with the Orientation team regarding the interviews for the O-Chair positions for the 2023 year.
- Extended the RED Awards chair position along with the O-Chair position due to a lack of applicants.
- Worked on the Sponsorship package for the RED Awards, had to make a few tweaks, and reached out to a few businesses.
- Met with a club in regard to a funding question.
- Held my finance committee meeting on Friday to go over some funding requests.
- Attended a SERC meeting to go over some higher risk events.
- Did a lot of event approval this week.
- Trying to arrange a meeting with TownHouse to discuss future plans.
- Attended a meeting with Kordell and Rose with Cassidy Wilson.
- Attended our weekly executive meeting.

6.5. Vice President - Academic

6.6. Vice President - Student Wellness

- This week has been predominantly focused on finance week and preparing for wellness week. And, I want to thank Sean and Sangeeth for volunteering at the events. We had 7 events and had an average of 30-40 folks per event. If you have any feedback for me, feel free to email me.
- I also finished the budget for finance week so this would be a summation of all the expenses for the record.
- The next programming week is our wellness week which is from Dec 5-9th, so if you are interested in volunteering, shoot me an email. I have been focused on getting logistics worked out in terms of the events - rn we are working on a therapy dog event with SJA, games night, paint and sip, and looking into collaboration with MHA and PMHT. If you have any questions for me please let me know.
- I continued discussion with CCDI around their See Different Program through which students can get a DEI certificate so if anyone is interested please let me know.
- I sit on the YMCA NB Partnership Committee as a student representative. So, I reviewed the meeting minutes.
- I also met with a student who was referred to me by Danielle from Sustainability Office to chat about their Sustainability platform.
- If you have any questions, please let me know.

6.7. President

- This was a bit of a lighter week for me; because I attended the UEQ conference all weekend last weekend, and I participated in Advocacy Week during reading week, as well as how much I'll be working during Advocacy Week, and I took part of the afternoon on Monday off, and most of the day Tuesday, the day I returned from Montreal.

- I attended the UEQ - Quebec Student Union conference in Sherbrooke, Quebec. At the conference, we discussed a lot of topics such as mental health, graduate student issues, work permits, and more! The conference was a really interesting opportunity to learn more about how the Quebec Student Union works, build connections, and gain ideas for our work. It was also exclusively in French, so translating constantly was very draining
- I attended the Board of Governors Finance and Properties Committee meeting, and UNB is beginning to develop its first draft of the budget for next year. When I can share more information with you all, I will.
- I sent a follow-up message to the city regarding bus pass conversations.
- We had our executive meeting
- I had a meeting with Josh
- Rose and I met to prepare for our meeting with the Liberal Caucus, and then we attended that meeting
- I followed up with Jill Green's office, she is the Minister of Housing. We are still trying to meet with her after her office committed to a meeting, but we haven't heard back since.
- I had CASA Advocacy Committee, and the CASA Board meetings
- I attended the UNB Board Committee to nominate the Chair and Vice Chair of the Board, as the current term of the board chair and vice chair has ended (after 2 years). This will involve conducting interviews over the following months.
- I, along with some other executives, met with Cassidy Wilson, UNB's LGBTQIA2S+ Advisor, about collaboration throughout the remainder of the year. We're thinking of doing a presentation in January, and Cassidy will be looking to work with Ridhi regarding Sex Week.
- I answered a lot of emails, supported a student who was struggling with transferring credits from another institution, prepped for CASA's Advocacy Week, and had a couple of catch-up meetings with Karen, our GM

7. Announcements

- Gaia - You are able to get another COVID shot if your last one was 5 months ago or more. You can also get your flu shot, all at the campus pharmacy. We know exams are approaching and Wellness Week is there to ensure that we don't mentally collapse during this time, but we also have a duty to protect students during tougher periods. It's on all of you to ensure students are protected.
- Annie - I'll be sending an email out to you all very soon about Councillor headshots to be put up on the website. Any time during my office hours is the best time to take a picture because of when the sun goes down now.
- Amanda - On the same note as Gaia, if you or your friends are struggling, there are people here that can help you. We also have mental health services on campus that are available for help. We're all a team here.

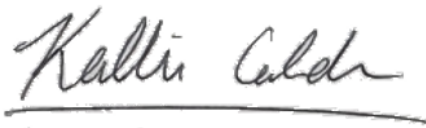
- Rayleh - My roommate is a third-year nursing student and was one of the students running the STI clinics, and they got a lot of great attendance from that and people found out through their counselor reps.
- Jill - The code of conduct forms that I just handed out to new council members need to be handed in tonight. If you didn't sign one in the fall, please see me and sign one tonight. Outside of that, I would like the student senators to stay behind for a little bit so we can talk about Tuesday. On your council honorarium forms, there are two boxes worth \$30 combined for an interactive booth and volunteering for an activity. I have been trying to get one of the lists of these possibilities from the executive team, so it's not your fault if you don't have those accomplished. You will be given that \$30 because you haven't been provided with those resources. If anyone has any questions, we can talk about them during your check-ins.


8. Other Business

- Chair - We messed around with some seating tonight. Does anyone have any input on how it's going tonight?
 - No response.
- Jill - For those of you that weren't here last week, this is my last council meeting. I am around for the next week, I'm done on Friday but please let me know if you need anything.

9. Adjournment

- Motion: Be it resolved that the UNBSU Council Meeting for November 20, 2022, be adjourned at 8:24 PM ADT.
- Mover: Chair assumed
- Seconder: Gaia
- Notes: No further discussion.
- The vote was taken using unanimous consent. Motion carries.


Secretary


President