

AGENDA – 1st UNBSU Council Meeting

UNB Student Union 2020/21

September 20th, 2020; 3:53PM via Zoom

Absent: Jillian Carson and Vienna Munck



1. Call to Order

Sean Mackenzie, President, calls the meeting to order at 3:53 PM.

1.1 Roll Call

Sean Mackenzie, performs roll call.

2. Approval of Agenda

Resolution 001-20

That Council adopt the agenda for the meeting of September 20, 2020.

Mover: Molly Pittman, Faculty of Management Councillor

Seconder: Vishnu Vardhan, VP Student Life

Motion is carried unanimously.

3. Chair's Remarks

Sean Mackenzie, President, thanks the Council for their patience during the Council transition.

Mackenzie also notes that typically Aodhan Murphy, Incoming-Chairperson, would chair the meeting and will do so, once ratified.

Sean Mackenzie: "I look forward to working with you for the remainder of the year."

4. Approval of Previous Minutes

No previous minutes to approve.

5. Substantive Business

5.1 Faculty Councillor Updates

Sean Mackenzie, President: "I wanted to make this as similar as possible to a regular meeting, so we're calling for faculty councillor updates. If you have nothing to update, that's fine. Just state you have nothing to add. We haven't expected you to over the summer. I will now go in order and call our Science Councillor, Matt Douglas, first."

Matt Douglas, Faculty of Science Councillor, presents that he has been brainstorming. He updates the council that he will have a meeting with a Science student for the Event Coordinator position.

Molly Pittman, Faculty of Management Councillor, updates the council by stating that she participated in Faculty Orientation and met the incoming first-year Business students.

Molly Pittman: “I’ve been working on my Councillor project this year. I originally was reaching out to local cafes to see if we can get some tables set aside for students for a few hours every week because I think it would help boost local businesses and help students have more of a study space. However, due to COVID-19, this is not possible as there is not much space left in the cafes. Now I’m working with them to see if students can get a discount, so starting on September 28th, students can get a 10% discount at Chess Piece and a 15% discount on all non-alcoholic beverages at the Topsy Muse. I’m working on a few other locations right now.”

Jharana Luitel, Faculty of Computer Science Councillor, states to the Council that she has e-mailed the first-year faculty advisor and has asked her to send a Google Doc form to all incoming first-year students. This document will address issues, and concerns students may have and give students a chance to update how their year has gone so far. Jharana Luitel is awaiting a response from the faculty advisor.

Madeleine Smith, Faculty of Nursing Councillor, presents that she will be reaching out to Nursing students and society presidents.

Xiuming Shi, Faculty of Renaissance College (RC) Councillor, updates the council that she is a Peer Mentor at RC and a part of the Committee of Life. She states that they have been planning events on those committees as events contribute to the community factor that is a large part of

the RC experience. They've also received a form that notes students' concerns and expectations for the upcoming academic year.

Lidia Shibre, Faculty of Arts Councillor, says that she is involved in the Peer Mentor Program for the Arts faculty. They have been working with first-year students and helping them transition from secondary education to university. Shibre notes that they have made incoming students aware of the different things they can access around campus, including what can be accessed virtually.

No update from Christopher Arisz, Faculty of Law Councillor

Sean Mackenzie: "That is all for our Faculty Councillor updates. Councillor updates will be weekly but will rotate every week as one week will be faculty updates, and the next will be non-faculty along with senators and Chloe."

5.2 Sean MacKenzie: Ratification of Chair

Sean Mackenzie, President, presents that the UNBSU Hiring Committee hired Aodhan Murphy as the UNBSU 2020-2021 Council Chair. He notes that the hiring committee includes six individuals, including himself, one general member, and four councillors.

Sean Mackenzie: "The ratification is in regards to the process, not whom we've selected. However, we've gone through the standard UNBSU hiring procedure. Currently, sitting as Chair, I cannot move, so I ask that someone else motion for the ratification of Council Chair."

Resolution 002-20

That Council approve the process of the Selections Committee for Chairperson of Council for the 2020-2021 academic year.

Mover: Jharana Luitel , Faculty of Computer Science Councillor

Seconder: Adriana Lefort, VP Finance & Operations

Motion is carried.

5.3 Sean MacKenzie: Ratification of Council Secretary

Resolution 003-20

That Council approve the process of the Selections Committee for Secretary of Council for the 2020-2021 academic year.

Mover: Sean MacKenzie, President

Second: Adriana Lefort, VP Finance & Operations

Three abstain. Motion is carried.

5.4 Sean MacKenzie: Ratification of CRO

Sean Mackenzie presents that the UNBSU Hiring Committee hired Seth Corner as the UNBSU 2020-2021 Chief Returning Officer.

Sean Mackenzie: “His duties as CRO will be to oversee the elections, act as the chief conduct officer, and if the chair is unavailable, he will chair our council meetings, if available. Again, we are ratifying the selection process that was done by the selections committee over the summer.”

Resolution 004-20

That Council approve the process of the Selections Committee for the Chief Returning Officer of Council for the 2020-2021 academic year

Mover: Vishnu Vardhan, VP Student Life

Second: Jharana Luitel , Faculty of Computer Science Councillor

Three abstain. Motion is carried.

6. Reports to Council

6.1 Vice President – Communications

- Deanna Merriam, VP Communications, has been working with Becky and Matt at the Student Union Building (SUB) for the last two weeks. Their goal is to create an information base on how to study at the SUB.

- Deanna Merriam is working with Grace Pelkey to discuss how students can study at the Harriet Irving Library (HIL). Note that this will be changing over time; therefore, it will continuously be updating.
- Sat on the post-secondary relations committee and made a presentation for faculty of law orientation. Worked on creating a UNBSU community group with the club UNB Cares with Emma Toole and Natasha Batcher. Working with graphic designer Alice to make marketing materials for the ISB campaign, filmed and edited Kelsi's ISB campaign. Currently working on rearranging our draft schedule and planning any third-party posts, and re-doing the home page to our website.

Aodhan Murphy, Chairperson: "Just as a reminder if anyone has any questions for discussion, just say something in the chat such as 'question' or 'pending further discussion' and what I'll do is I will call you right before I include an agenda item. I'll say 'does anyone have anything to say' then wait for a second and you can unmute and ask your question."

6.2 Vice President – Student Life

- Vishnu Vardhan, VP Student Life, states that he has finished planning the college cooking series with his Food Coordinator. They will try to procure the filming equipment. They are also finishing up the recipes. The goal is to finish the planning phase by the end of next week and begin filming the week after.
- Vishnu Vardhan will be emailing the UNB Health Officer regarding an operational plan for the UNBSU Garden. He would like a chance to take care of the Garden before next season. He will also be reaching out to the government to keep them updated on what's happening with the Garden as the Student Union has received funding.
- Vishnu Vardhan finished the interviews for Safe Rife and is in the process of equipping all of the vans to carry people safely. Vishnu states his tentative date of September 21st will be extended a bit longer as coming up with a training program has taken more time than initially planned.
- DrinkSmart is going through a rebranding process. Vardhan states he is working with the inclusion councillor, Brennan Marks, to rename and redesign it.

6.3 Vice President – Finance & Operations

- Adriana Lefort, VP Finance and Operations, states that she has been busy contacting 203 and the Woman's Centre to see how they are operating online or not.
- Adriana Lefort and Deanna Merriam have been working on Townhouse Executive interviews. They hope to have a team selected by next week.
- Has been in contact with Jillian from Student Services to discuss volunteer fair. A company has approached Lefort interested in funding several clubs and societies, among other inquiries. She will refer them to Jillian.
- Adriana Lefort is working on initiatives such as Club Week.
- Adriana Lefort met with the manager of the Cellar, Pat, to look into delivery service.
- Adriana Lefort and Sean Mackenzie met with ISAO to see if they need financial assistance.
- She finished the Blackshirt transition report.
- Orientation Week went well.
- Adriana Lefort had a budgeting meeting with Karen and Mackenzie.
- Adriana Lefort and Vishnu Vardhan have an RBC meeting this upcoming Monday to go over a project that aims to teach students about financial literacy.

6.4 Vice President – Internal

- Grace Pelkey, VP Internal, states that she has been speaking with a particular student about an event and inclusion presentation. They have discussed making this presentation available to clubs and societies.
- Grace Pelkey has sorted Council into committees and gotten these committees approved by the Executive.
- Grace Pelkey has planned the council transition which happened today.
- Finished the councillor handbook, which was shared with the Council.
- Grace Pelkey had Senate this week, as well as two pre-Senate meetings with student Senators and non-positional Senators.

6.5 Vice President – Advocacy

- Kelsi Evans, VP Advocacy, states that she's been working on the Get Out the Vote campaign, which ended September 14th. Also notes that the NBSA has been discussing the election.
- She has been working with her Wellness Coordinator, keen on initiatives such as Sustainability Week (October 13th - 16th).
- Has been working on Pride History Month, People and Pride History campaign, which will be in October and an initiative regarding this. Plans to have four or five to-be-confirmed events that week.
- Deanna Merriam and Kelsi Evans have been filming a sexual violence campaign. They are seeking volunteers for this.
- The Canadian Alliance Student Association had a meeting on September 16th, and a new Equity, Diversity, Inclusion Board member was elected, and a few people from different committees were elected.
- Since the executive report came out, Evans and her Wellness Coordinator have been meeting to discuss sustainability week and confirm details.

Sean Mackenzie brought it to the attention of Aodhan Murphy, Chairperson, that an item of substantive business had been missed.

Resolution 005-20

That Council return to Substantive Business.

Mover: Sean MacKenzie, President

Seconder: Grace Pelkey, VP Internal

Motion is carried unanimously.

5.5 Sean MacKenzie: Bylaw review for the Selection process of Indigenous Councillor

Resolution 006-20

That Council refer for review the selection process of the Indigenous Councillor to the Policy Committee.

Mover: Sean MacKenzie, President

Seconder: Grace Pelkey, VP Internal

Motion is carried unanimously.

6.6 President

- Sean Mackenzie restates that Get Out the Vote ended last week. An all-candidates debate in the Fredericton-South riding was coordinated with Saint Thomas University (STU).
- Took Safe Ride vans to be re-decorated.
- Sean Mackenzie discussed with the University of Regina Student Union members about a co-curricular program as they are looking to implement the same program.
- Being a member of the Canadian Alliance Student Association, Sean Mackenzie is required to make Board calls to students to gauge their information, so he had a few of those.
- Met with CRO.
- Sean Mackenzie reviewed the Operation plan for SafeRide.
- Sean Mackenzie had a budget meeting with Lefort.
- Meeting with Chair of CASA, Shelly Clayton, and a few others to discuss how we can push funding for student supplies (tech, desks, seats, etc.)
- He participated in SafeRide driver interviews and the interview for SafeRide Coordinator.
- Mackenzie is working on an in-depth review of policies and by-laws.

Aodhan Murphy closes reports to the Council.

7. Announcements

No announcements.

8. Question Period

Luc Bouvier, Student Senator: “I imagine with COVID-19, the budget has changed a lot, and I was wondering if you could highlight what has changed in the budget and whether Council can expect to see a revised budget?”

Adriana Lefort, VP Finance & Operations: “I’m hoping that by the beginning of October, this will be possible. Currently, I can’t give exact specifics until we have several students because the amount may go down as it has in previous years. Given that enrollment might not be as high due to

some people not returning because of COVID-19 and education is now primarily online. Things such as our entertainment budget have gone down because we don't have in-person events. Stuff like that will change the budget. I've tried to keep the budget fairly similar and allocate money in other areas. However, I can't give specific details until I know the number of students. I can't reallocate all of the money until I have exact numbers."

Luc Bouvier: "For sure. I just wanted to ask; we just ratified our CRO, I'm just wondering if we have a timeline for the by-election coming up?"

Sean Mackenzie, President: "The goal I'm aiming for is later October just because right now, where students are still getting used to the online format, that's my main concern that they are comfortable before we call another election. I think we will get a better response if we hold it a little later. But also not so late that it's in the middle of a semester and closer to midterms. I'll be working with the CRO on this."

9. Other Business

Sean Mackenzie, President: "I want to make a quick note so that everyone is aware, members that are senators and that are on the board solely (not a councillor for either faculty or non-faculty or executive) don't have a vote but are granted full speaking rights. Your opinion is still heard."

Grace Pelkey, VP Internal: "A reminder that I need every code of conduct signed, please. I emailed them out, and you should have to type up your name and the date and send those back to me."

10. Adjournment

Resolution 007-20

That Council adjourn the meeting.

Mover: Adriana Lefort, VP Finance & Operations

Seconder: Molly Pittman, Faculty of Management Councillor

Motion is carried unanimously.

Meeting is adjourned at 4:32PM.

Secretary: _____

President: _____