

Minutes for KSU Council of Students

King's Students' Union 2015-2016
Sunday, September 27, 2015, 10:00am

Boardroom, 2nd floor A&A Building

Voting members:

Hannah Kaya
Zoe Brimacombe
Alex McVittie
Melina Zaccaria
Sofia Zaman
Alex Bryant
Aidan McNally
Joy Shand
Hannah Yaphe
Taylor Saracuse

Non-voting members:

Emma Jones
Gwendolyn Moncrieff-Gould
Charlotte Sullivan

Call to order

Recognition of unceded traditional Mi'kmaq territory

1. Adoption of Agenda

Alex Bryant strikes out two items. Alex McVittie adds items 5.4-5.10.

2. Approval of Minutes from September 13th, 2015

Sofia Zaman says that there are a few amendments to the minutes from last council, and that she will discuss this later with the scribe.

3. Oral Reports and Goals of Councillors

Taylor Saracuse says there is not much for him to report. He did a presentation on the Board of Governors at the Town Hall held last Thursday, and mentions that our constituents want to know more about the Board and what it does. He suggests potentially running a workshop and further educating people on what it is and who's on it.

Zoe Brimacombe mentions the Town Hall and the whole increase to FYP tuition situation. She is bummed that she couldn't make it, but heard that students were strong and awesome, and now she's a bit excited for the upcoming board meeting. She is happy that people have been fighting this and

congratulates everyone for working well together. She is excited for the KSU elections. She couldn't make the latest College Task Force meeting, but hopes we can get on track with that. Nick Hatt, the Dean of students, has updated the resource sheet in the Dal blue folder to include King's resources for mental health, learning support, etc. Sofia Zaman asks what the blue folder is. Hannah Yaphe replies that it is an information folder with a ton of different contacts in it, and Joy Shand adds that it's available at Alex Hall front desk.

Hannah Yaphe doesn't have much to report. She is sad she couldn't make the Town Hall, but heard there was good attendance. She is excited to work with the new science representative on making their transition into this position.

Joy Shand says the DSS has been working on a number of things, including fulfilling budgetary items they didn't get to last year, and commitments to funding they're finally getting to. This includes cover for the piano that is going into the Wardroom. They can move the piano from the chapel to the Wardroom for students or bands to play. They have also purchased a vacuum for societies to use to clean the Wardroom after using the space for their events. The Wardroom will store that for them. They are working to find funding for the new ice machine, cooperating with Jen in particular. They are not sure if they'll find funding for this through the Wardroom, Galley, or through the advancement office. They attempted to hire their CRO on Friday but the person who was going to be hired didn't show up. Nominations are open, and set to close on Tuesday, but they might have to extend the deadline because of lack of interest and lack of CRO. It is delaying the GM so the tentative date of October 7 may change. The date for Maritime Night is October 15 and the musical act has been hired for that. Trivia host tryouts are happening on October 7. There has been a ton of interest in the position, so now there's an extra special face off that day. Regular trivia starts after that, every two weeks. Joy Shand has also joined a subcommittee of the Campus Master Planning Committee to talk about non-resident student spaces. Sofia Zaman asks if there's a day student newsletter that's going out tonight. Joy Shand says this is a question for Fiona Westin, and that she's not sure how often Fiona will be doing these things for them.

Melina Zaccaria says the last couple of weeks have been good. The Town Hall was really interesting and fun. There was a huge range of students there and a lot of people were engaged and had questions. People were still talking about it after the meeting. She went to the DASS AGM and a lot of new people were elected who sound like they will do a good job. They didn't lose quorum, which was good to see. They rearranged their budgeting system this year so that they won't lose funding. She met with the head of CSP, and will meet with the heads of EMSP and HOST soon. The elections are coming up so she is excited to see the nominees and hopes her experience will help whoever will be arts rep this year. This person will be going to the arts and social sciences meetings this year and the Dal reps also look great for this position.

Fiona Westin just walked in at 10:22 am.

4. Reports of the Executive Committee (attached)

4.1 Report of the President

Alex Bryant wants to talk about the committee on student fees. The memo came out on the 15th and the letter was submitted on the 21st. The Town Hall was on the 24th and there is a meeting of the committee tomorrow one hour before the consultation session. It's been called in response to outcry from the entire community. Hopefully it will be productive and we can enter the consultation with something new to share. We heard from students that increasing fees for FYP are unacceptable and everyone is tired of consultation sessions with no change. The committee might decrease the amount of money but still have an increase and blindsided everyone, but any increase at all is unacceptable. The presidential search met. There are 25 candidates still and 10 on the shortlist. Some edits were made. They were just 25 really impressive CVs, and really exciting people. There will be readings of cover letters and interviews over the next few weeks. The 5-6 person shortlist will be made publicly available around November. Alex Bryant was also going to include all of the gross sexual harassment incidents that occurred these past few weeks but there were too many. He mentions the SMU incident where a man exposed himself to a female student at a bus stop. Alex Bryant includes this because it's important for us to see these things and share them both on the Union Facebook page and amongst each other so that people are aware that they are occurring. Two weeks ago there were five back to back incidents around Edward Street. We are urged to send things like this to the KSU Facebook page if we see them just in case the Union has not. Taylor Saracuse mentions tuition hikes and how George Cooper has come up a lot. The general public seems unaware that a presidential search is happening. It is important to let people know. Joy Shand says that the rough deadline for the selection of a new president is January 1, but the new president will officially start in June. The decision should be made before Christmas. They will start a changeover heading into the end of the term.

4.2 Report of the Vice-President (Student Life)

Alex McVittie says that campus master planning has been her big thing and they have met twice since the last council. They always get things done when they meet, which is really nice. They had a review of all the problems with the school during their first meeting, where they went on a tour of physical problems and saw where all the money is being allocated. The Angels Roost underwent significant renovations this summer, and is now more accessible to international students. Alex Doyle says it's important for residences to be the first priorities for the future of the college. Students in the past have accepted their offer from King's, come in on move-in day, and left upon seeing the residences. We must fix them sooner rather than later. St.-FX is our biggest competitor and they have great residences. Our residences are falling apart, like North Pole Bay, and it's affected recruitment. Alex McVittie is showing us drawings of what might happen with the design of the bays. The drawing shows a plan for the three sets of bays, including a widened hallway that connects all of them. There is common space on each floor so that a group can't just make it "their turf" since there isn't a door. Now it's transitory: one can walk in and walk out. There will be a widened hallway too so that people can hang out there going through Chapel Bay, Middle Bay, and Radical Bay. One idea is to knock down the walls between the bays so it's floor style living vs. bay style living and that there might be a don on each floor. The cement in front of the building means that there is no accessibility right now, so they might have to push out the wall at the back, which they don't know if they can do since they don't know where our property ends. We can't install mobility chairs either due to how the stairs are constructed. This would be very expensive and complicated even with an elevator in the back. Because the bays pose a problem for accessibility, we need to make Alex Hall as accessible as possible. The elevator needs to go all the way up and we need a chair there so that

people can get up to the elevator past the stairs. For the bay renovations, the timeline would include the residence program closing for a year so they can't outsource students. The systems underneath the ground mean that they will have to shut down all of it- meaning residences that year would be just Alex Hall, or nothing. It's a big decision. The renovation of North Pole Bay will start within the next couple of weeks and that will serve as the model for how the interior looks. They are coming to the next meeting with sets of sketches that Alex McVittie will bring in next time. Societies will be ratified too and society training is happening in the next few weeks. Athletics information night was the same night as the Town Hall so she talked about athletics and the services we provide at King's. She was also discussing the athletic wear line, and how Ryan Abrams has expanded the sketches. This was announced to the athletes and they were very excited. The Town Hall was super successful and everyone should go to the consultation on Monday. It's one thing to hear the executive advocating for students but another for students to advocate for themselves. Taylor Saracuse asks how we are making sure that energy renewal is at the forefront of discussion. We convert all of our power from Dal so Alex McVittie says that we need to work with this. She also mentions that Alex Doyle got an award for being eco-friendly. There has been discussion about conversion of steam to hot water. The renovations are going to be energy efficient and well-weighted, like accessibility and other issues. Aidan says that it will be energy retro fit. We are investing in King's being more environmentally friendly for the amount that we're putting in, and we're wasting money as it is with the system. Melina Zaccaria asks if there are plans for Cochran Bay. Alex McVittie says it will be modelled similarly but it's not as in terrible shape as North Pole Bay, so it will probably come after the set of three bays.

4.3 Report of the Vice-President (Financial)

Aidan McNally says it's been a fun few weeks. She sent her first fax to Bell Aliant and is concerned about why a Communications company is still using faxes. The tuition fee Town Hall happened and she said it was great to see students out and engaged. She is impressed with students and impressed with how aware and concerned people were. Everyone understood why this is a ridiculous proposal and also the negative impacts of student fees. This ties into the federal election- a section of what students are concerned about in the election is in the Gazette. Everyone talked about how tuition was the number one election conversation that hasn't happened and should be happening. We can't forget the power of our informed student body and collective power. Finance committee met this week and had a robust discussion about funding requests and the discussion made Aidan McNally realize that we should be working on a comprehensive financial policy for the union and this should be a full year project. We vote through all of our funding requests, which is a great system that is more transparent, but other universities don't. She is not suggesting a radical change but it would help societies and council to work on this. She also wants to say that if someone is interested on being on finance committee we are electing people at the GM. There are students who might be interested. The GM is next week on Wednesday, and it is Harry Potter themed. The final financial statements are going to be signed but everything that we need to figure out has been figured out. DC has been in contact- they provide our ATM in the A&A. Recently they've had to up their costs due to the rising of their external costs. The vans that bring money around have upped their cost, which is the reason for this, so we need to talk about our surcharge. So far it's 2 dollars. We make a small profit through the fee but that might not be significant. Hopefully it will stay as low as possible. We will talk about honoraria soon, as it is one of the bylaw amendments. It will be recommended at the gm. We've drafted the budget in the spring and were more conservative than the

university on enrollment, saying 1040 for enrollment, and we are currently at 1014. There are 37 fewer students than projected so budget was changed. Some minor changes: first thing is that they spent less money on sexual health products since we had leftovers from last year. We've included an extra 100 dollars for menstrual health products in the office. One of the changes is budgeting for travel and conferences- generally, to send Union members to things like the CFS general meetings. We sent 3 reps this spring and there is a fall GM. Each member school has one free member. King's was going to send 2 but they might save some money and send less people. We've budgeted 3000 in contingency. Enrollment dropping is a factor we cannot control on what the contingency line is for. This is a budget so it doesn't necessarily reflect the amount in our bank account. Aidan McNally is not worried about not having a contingency line. This discussion will occur at the GM and is open to amendments there. Joy Shand says the ATM fee is currently \$2.50. Aidan McNally will look into that because she isn't sure if DC has upped it over the summer. Taylor Saracuse asks about trouble with that ATM operationally. Has there ever been talks of getting a newer machine? Aidan McNally says she isn't part of any of those discussions. We normally call them to repair it. If anyone has concerns about the ATM they should email her.

4.5 Report of the Vice-President (External)

Hannah Kaya has been focused on the election mostly and registering people to vote. She has a good set of tablers who are passionate and experienced, and have registered over 100 people to vote. If you are voting from somewhere that is not Halifax then you need to vote from the 5th to the 8th. She is helping students vote, consistently on Wednesdays but will be upping presence closer to the election. On the 17th there was a debate watching party with a fantastic turn-out. We streamed Elizabeth May's comments, which went well. She mentions sustainability- a screening of Princess Mononoke is happening October 5th. A few more things: Dal is hosting a student issues debate on the 28th at 6:30 and there will be a walk over for King's students, who will meet at the flagpole. Hannah Kaya also says that if anyone wants to sign up for tabling they should talk to her. She went to the Cats against Cat Calling event. The women's rep for the CFS helped host it and it was fairly successful, but the turnout could have been better. She is also impressed with the Town Hall and the interest we're getting from first years, and it's important to remind people to go to consultations and keep voicing their opinions after that. Aidan McNally asks for the date again for students issues debate. Hannah Kaya says all candidates will be attending except the conservative candidate. It should be Megan Leslie, Andy Fillmore, and Thomas Trappenburg. She doesn't think Alan, the Marxist Leninist party candidate, will attend. The theme is student issues. Students are monitoring the debate.

4.6 Report of the Hospitalities Coordinator

Jen, the hospitalities coordinator, started here in June to take over the hospitality management position. Over the summer she worked with Nick, who was the past manager, and hit the ground running on a few projects. She split her report up on the administration, Galley, and Wardy. Administration: Jen is working with CRA to get documents in order, organizing bookkeeping in general, organizing contracts for staff and making sure we have basic HR information for everyone. She is bringing suppliers up to date and maintaining working relationships with them. Square (a point of sale app on iPad) will happen for the Galley and Wardy. We can keep everything together, tracking times that are most busy, etc. This month is kind of a test for everything that's been implemented over the summer. She is working on payroll to make

sure it's direct deposit rather than cheques. Galley: they collected levy from 2012 students. They also did staff training, organized new menu items, and developed relationships with new suppliers. Their new cucumbers are a hit. A woman has been going around getting fresh food for us. MFA students had the Galley open for them over the summer. We painted the entire Wardy and got ethernet cables for both services, so we are just waiting on Dal to finalize everything. We hired a management team, got wifi in the wardroom, new sound equipment, and adjusted where speakers are so there is less feedback. There is also an added landline for telephone access. The Wardy did a bar service for an alumni association dinner and opened the Wardy for two Pride events as well. This summer has been challenging and exciting so she wants to thank everyone who made this transition really easy. KSU exec have been supportive of everything so she thanks them for it. Joy Shand says she worked at conferences services this summer and that all the MFA students said that the Galley was great and how grateful they were that there was coffee there. She also asks if we can get a landline number to the front desk since they don't have it there. Sofia Zaman is curious about new menu items. Jen says they got a convection oven so they can do more cooking. They can roast vegetables now, can make their own soups soon, are roasting tomatoes and garlic through that and are trying to do a sandwich a week (could turn into a sandwich a month). They have smoked salmon still that they've been putting on stuff. Sandwiches will be based on whatever we can get from local producers. There is a shifting menu to be more accommodating to what is available in Nova Scotia at different times. Alex Bryant says that Jen is the reason all of these things happened and working with her was a dream and a relief so we owe her some gratitude. He also gives Jen props since she came into Council on a Sunday morning to talk about this.

4.7 Report of the Vice-President (Communications)

Sofia Zaman mentions that she says "great" a lot in her report. We came up with exec honoraria quickly and this is posted outside the KSU office. TWAK will report on that and it will come up at the GM. We are making the Union more accessible- there's a massive list of everything they want to do but are focusing on elections policy. Kate Ashwood, the CRO, has worked hard and is very enthusiastic. Nominations will close Friday at midnight. We will send out TWAK but if everyone could reach out, the rule is talking to two first years (but really anyone who wants to be engaged should be contacted). The GM is Harry Potter themed so everyone should wear red scarves.

5. Action Items Items concerning society ratifications and seats on committees (approximately 20 minutes)

5.4- 5.10 BIRT King's Record, King's Dance Collective, UCVE, YAS, UKC Blue Devils Hockey, Tabletop Gaming, Wordsmiths be ratified for the 2015-2016 school year.

Alex McVittie moves to omnibus these items. Alex Bryant seconds this motion. Alex McVittie says that the first ratification package she received was from the Wordsmiths, for an open and welcoming environment for students who write. It is a great society on campus for students. She didn't know we had a hockey team, but it ensures no one is held back by financial constraints and helps student athletics. They want to have games weekly at the Forum. The King's tabletop gaming society wants to spread the love of board games. They have game nights at the Wardy. UCVE explores the human voice as a tool for expression and encourages students at Dal and King's with a challenging repertoire and are having open

mic nights, a piece at Nocturne, etc. The King's dance collective has weekly workshops and are considering doing off campus workshops/outings. YAS is having several fundraising events for local charities. They want to have another Beyonce night as well as the YAS ball. The King's Record wants to revamp this year and will be a record of this school year. They hope to have a launch party and project building all year long. Motion passes in omnibus.

5.1 BIRT Hannah Barrie receive a \$100 travel bursary to attend the Canadian University Ringette championships with the Dalhousie Ringette team on Dec 28th- Jan 1st.

Finance committee recommends approval. Aidan McNally says she didn't know what ringette was but it's like hockey without blades, just more of a stick. You have a ring instead of a puck. Dal has a ringette team (not varsity) so they receive little to no funding from Dal. There are not many other ringette teams in the Maritimes so the championship is in Calgary, meaning flights are expensive. Her flight is 1000 dollars. Hannah is requesting \$100. We've only given one travel bursary out so far out of ten for the first semester. The motion passes.

5.2 BIRT Rebecca Steele receive a \$100 travel bursary to attend the Memorial University Debating Tournament in St. John's on Oct 2-4th. Finance Committee recommends approval

Rebecca Steele is part of the King's/Dal debate team (Sodales). Because of St John's location, there is not an opportunity to participate often in debates across the Maritimes so this tournament is a development thing as well for the MUN debate team. Travels are \$423 and she has gotten some money from Sodales, but wants a bit more from us to offset the cost. Sodales' biggest expense is travel, so they will discuss society funding, etc. The motion passes.

5.3 BIRT the Contemporary Studies Society receive \$250 in non-contingent funding to contribute to the speaker's fee for a lecture on Bob Dylan to be hosted on Oct. 14th.

We got a funding request from CSP society with regards to the event hosted on this date- a lecture on Bob Dylan and the poetry of the blues by professor Gray, a well known expert. There have been lots of questions on the total cost. The committee was unable to provide recommendation at the time but now can discuss it. The lecturer was invited by Wayne Wright, according to information from the CSP society. The cost goes to honoraria and the cost for him was \$2000. Concerns brought up at finance committee were: is this an event for King's students? King's students frequently go to events on Dal campus. Melina Zaccaria says this was brought to DASS before and the request was rejected both times because it's a retired professor making the request. That said, there is more information now than there was then. Students will enjoy this but it's weird that they've gone through Dal and are now coming here as a last resort. Alex Bryant is also against this. It's not an event from a society, or initiated or organized for and by students. It is also setting a precedent for departments or programs to use money for student initiatives. Only student events are run by the CSP, HOST, and EMSP societies. Here a retired Dal prof is coming to a prof at King's to see if they can scramble up some money to pay for an event that has no student organizing. The principle of the whole thing doesn't sit with him. Joy Shand, as a member of finance committee, has to say there were many issues with this request- departments have been so cut back that they're putting cost onto students. Students are paying not only tuition but to host our own events, which

is ridiculous since they're events that aren't held by us. When there's a broader discussion about financial policy we can talk more about events that are co-hosted and in the in-between zone. Aidan McNally adds that she thinks this is sad to the extent where we talked about the across the board cuts that went through King's last year. The series of significant cuts and the CSP department being on such a shoestring budget means that they can't fund this at all and have to outsource. This is an example of how that very directly affects students. The motion fails.

6. New Business

Taylor Saracuse asks if there's any motion for the Financial VP establishing a set of policies for travel bursaries. Aidan McNally says one can task it and set a date to report back to Council. There's a draft we can look over. Zoe Brimacombe is wondering if Emily Rendell-Watson's draft for travel bursaries might mean that there is something there already that we can edit. We need student consultation on this. Aidan McNally has been informally tasked to figure this out. Alex Bryant motions to adjourn, and Aidan McNally seconds it.

General Meeting: Wednesday September 30th 7pm