



January 2015 Members Meeting Minutes

Date: January 22, 2014

1. Review of Meeting Rules & Agreement & Land Recognition 5
 - Completed
2. Approval of Agenda 5
 - Agenda approved
3. Introduction to WPIRG and Members Meetings 5
 - Completed
4. Approval of minutes from October & November meetings 5
 - October Minutes: 26 approve, 2 abstain
 - November Minutes: 26 approve, 2 abstain
5. Palestine Solidarity Action Group Presentation (Attachment #1) 30
 - 32 in favour, 0 against, 1 abstain
6. Funding Applications 60
 - a) Community Access Bikeshare– Suzie Taka, The Working Centre (Attachment #2)
 - Layla motions, Max seconds
 - Amendment to table it to the board - 27 approve, 1 abstain, 0 against
 - b) ConflictED: Overcoming Adversity through Education – Emma Tamlin, Sponsorship Director (Attachment #3)
 - Filzah motions, Shifa seconds
 - Table to next members meeting: 25 in favour, 2 abstain, 1 against
 - c) One Seed Many Roots - Nisheida Price (Attachment #4)
 - Becca made motion, Zainab seconded
 - Matt amends motion to \$650, Layla seconds
 - 21 approves, 4 abstain, 0 against

d) Wen-Do Self Defence Organization - [REDACTED] (Attachment #5)

- Becca moves the motion, Shifa seconds
- Shifa amends the motion to \$500, Dave seconds
- 12 approve, 5 against, 8 abstain

e) Fashion For Change -- Maarj Rehman (Attachment #6)

- Becca motion to table, 26 approve, 0 abstain, 0 against

f) Waterloo Aboriginal Education Centre, Visibility Project -- Shawn Johnston (Attachment #7)

- Shifa motions, Dave seconds
- 24 approve, 1 abstain, 0 against

g) Aboriginal Student's Association -- Amy (Attachment #8)

- Becca moves, Saam seconds
- 25 approve, 0 abstain, 0 against

7. Member Motions

N/
A

8. Action Groups Updates & Announcements

5

- Cinema Politica presented (Tiffany)
- Waterloo 350 presented (Rob)

9. Announcements from Associated Clubs/Groups

5

- KW Solidarity Network presented (Thomas)
- WPIRG Volunteer Application Announcement (Kalin)
- Food Not Bombs updated (Alex)
- UW BASE Events Reminders (Nisheida)



January 2015 Members Meeting Agenda Attachment #1

Whereas as the right to education is a basic human right;

Whereas thousands of Palestinian students and teachers are routinely prevented from reaching their schools due to military checkpoints and roadblocks, the separation wall, and frequent closures of cities;

Whereas Palestinian students of Israeli universities face systematic discrimination on admissions and scholarships, and are restricted from participation in campus activities;

Whereas the University of Waterloo has relationships with the University of Haifa, Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Technion, Tel Aviv University, and Weizmann Institute of Science in such forms as research collaborations and exchange programs;

Whereas these institutions have not condemned nor taken measures to oppose, but have been complicit in various human rights violations;

Whereas students must have a say in the way their university is run;

Whereas students must advocate for human rights for all; therefore

Be it resolved that the members of the Waterloo Public Interest Research Group (WPIRG), call upon the University of Waterloo to sever ties with the following institutions due to their complicity in violations of the human rights of Palestinians: University of Haifa, Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Technion - Israel Institute of Technology, Tel Aviv University, and the Weizmann Institute of Science; and

Be it further resolved that we empower the Board of Directors of WPIRG to issue public statements to the university community on behalf of WPIRG members, affirming the spirit of this motion;



January 2015 Members Meeting Agenda Attachment #2

APPLICATION FORM

Tentative Name of initiative: Community Access Bikeshare

Name of Contact Person:

Please provide a description of your initiative (include mention of the type of initiative – project, group, event, campaign etc.):

Community Access Bikeshare (CAB) is an innovative membership-based project designed to provide affordable public access to bicycles. Bikeshare memberships cost \$40 per season (April - Nov), and members can access CAB bicycles at convenient locations throughout Kitchener and Waterloo. Bikes can be used spontaneously to get to a meeting or meet a friend, or as part of a daily routine to commute to school or run errands. Members participate in CAB in the spirit of sharing bicycles as a community tool. Together, we contribute toward a culture of sustainable transportation with a focus on inclusivity.

CAB is a Community Tools project of The Working Centre (TWC). As an established organization with a strong history of grassroots action helping groups and individuals implement projects for community cooperation, TWC has acted as a mentoring organization, held funds, and provided administrative support.

In 2014 CAB ran a successful first full season, with 7 stations, 150 members, and nearly 1000 rides from May-November. In order to better serve our community, especially the student population of Waterloo Region, CAB is planning on expanding our network to Wilfrid Laurier University and the University of Waterloo in 2015. In partnership with the WLU Sustainability Office and LSPIRG, CAB will be launching our first campus-based station on the WLU campus in the spring of 2015.

We are currently working with Conrad Grebel University College to bring the first ever bikeshare station to UW's campus. We hope to work on this project in

conjunction with WPIRG, an organization we see as a natural partner in creating a culture of progressive environmental and social change.

Please outline the mission and goals of your initiative:

The mission of CAB is to provide affordable access to bicycles, to promote and grow a cycling culture in Waterloo Region, and to build community through a cooperative and participatory membership-based model.

Our goals with a University of Waterloo expansion are to:

Connect the UW campus with the wider Waterloo Region community

Build bike culture at the University of Waterloo

Assist campus groups and organizations, such as Conrad Grebel and WPIRG, in establishing themselves as innovative and pioneering supporters of forward-thinking initiatives, such as bikesharing

Give students access to the community outside of campus through bicycling

Provide bicycles on campus to students who are unable to own their own bicycles for a variety of reasons such as: cost, lack of storage, fear of theft, and frequent moving (in particular at UW, co-op students and international students face difficulties transporting their own bicycles as they move back and forth between locations)

Please describe how your initiative fits within WPIRG's mandate (refer to above mandate):

The Working Centre hosts 400 volunteers and 100 staff to engage in meaningful, thoughtful, and collective community building within a non-hierarchical framework. Bringing together The Working Centre and WPIRG on this project will enhance and grow organizational knowledge about effective non-hierarchical ways of working and organizing.

CAB operates on an intersectional approach to access. In addition to a membership cost that is already low, CAB has worked with government, organizations and businesses to create free memberships for people receiving Ontario Works, youth living on a low income, and students at WLU. This approach is also reflected in our community outreach strategy, through which we actively seek to engage people who are outside the largest cycling demographic (which is professional men between the ages of 24-35). Our outreach approach includes engaging with women's groups, refugee groups, and social service providers. These initiatives work to create a community project that is committed to building connections from the margins.

Cycling is not only helpful for physical health as a mode of active transportation, but as a March 2, 2014 article from the Montreal Gazette reports, "when all factors are considered, including the risks associated with cycling, the boost in physical activity among bike-share users results in significant health gains at the population level."

These health benefits include a reduction in depression, which will help promote mental health on campus.

Cycling culture is a necessary shift in order to decrease our dependency on fossil fuels, especially in transportation. Research from the University of Toronto

Cycling Think and Do Tank has recently reported that we are at an important time where the possibility of shifting transportation behaviours is possible and forthcoming – as long as research-based action is taken. CAB is currently working with this organization to promote cycling culture in Waterloo Region, helping to create a local shift towards a more environmentally sustainable culture.

As a membership-based organization, CAB actively listens to members, and incorporates them into the planning process. As well, CAB is heavily supported by volunteers, and deeply appreciates the importance of consensus-based, community inclusive decision making procedures.

Is your initiative affiliated with any other organizations or groups on campus or in the community?

CAB works closely with municipal governments, our parent organization The Working Centre, as well as community leaders and groups including Sustainable Waterloo Region, Clipped Outdoors and BikeKitchener – among others. In 2015, we will be launching a partnership with LSPIRG and the WLU Sustainability Office to bring CAB to WLU. Our plans for a University of Waterloo station are supported through a strong relationship with Conrad Grebel University College, which will provide the space to implement a CAB station on campus.

What is the amount of funding that you are requesting? (Please attach a tentative budget, be as detailed as possible and include other sources of revenue)

CAB is proposing that WPIRG contribute \$8,000 towards the set-up costs for a new station on the University of Waterloo campus at Conrad Grebel. This amount would cover a significant portion of the total set-up cost of \$13,173. This number includes the cost of one lock box, 6 bikes, one bike rack, and staffing and technical support.

For each CAB station, we are committed to working with station hosts and funders to develop unique funding arrangements that work for everyone. We look forward to continuing this conversation with WPIRG.

In addition to funding, do you require any additional support? (i.e. help with outreach and promotion, logistical support such as space booking, access WPIRG office supplies etc.)

As an organization committed to community building, we welcome the opportunity to engage with WPIRG members as volunteers, riders, and campus promoters. We would be interested in exploring a partnership with WPIRG similar to our current

partnership with LSPIRG, through which CAB volunteers are also LSPIRG volunteers, working together to build connections both on and off campus.



January 2015 Members Meeting Agenda Attachment #3

Tentative Name of initiative: ConflictED: Overcoming Adversity through Education

Please provide a description of your initiative (include mention of the type of initiative – project, group, event, campaign etc.):

The University of Waterloo Student Association for International Development (SAID) is holding their fifth annual International Development Conference. This year the focus of the conference is the issue of conflict and how it hinders education and literacy in the Global South. The conference will examine the different levels of education and look at new ways to provide learning environments for individuals in areas of conflict. It is widely recognized that education is the foundation for global development in many areas. The conference will demonstrate how important it is to make education assessable for those disadvantaged for living in areas of conflict.

Please outline the mission and goals of your initiative:

The conference hopes to be able to reach out to 300 individuals, including undergraduate and graduate students, faculty members and professionals, as well as high school students, community groups and other members of the public. The audience of the conference is encompassing of those familiar with the topic, as well as those wishing to gain understanding of education in conflict zones.

Our mission statement is to create an atmosphere of like minded people that facilitates meaningful discussion, and community interaction while raising awareness about education and conflict. Ultimately the goal of the conference is to have a long lasting effect on those who participated, and the community as a whole, by bringing students and professionals together to establish mutually beneficial relationships. The conference aims to provoke emotions, knowledge and insight that will be the foundation for change. The conference seeks to be the spark that further inspires individuals to take action in the journey to universal education.

Please describe how your initiative fits within WPIRG's mandate (refer to above mandate):

ConflictED: Overcoming Adversity through Education is the perfect initiative for The Waterloo Public Interest Research Group to support because of how well it fits within the WPIRG mandate. SAID's goal is to engage the community in meaningful discussion about the issues of education and human rights in conflict zones. Targeting both university, and high school students as well as members of the surrounding areas, the conference will promote intellectual growth, and awareness. Wars and other conflict within a country are recognized as some of the main causes of human rights violations and oppressive regimes in the world. The more attention that is brought to the issue, the closer we are to social justice. There is infinite potential of the ConflictED conference to ignite passion within the community. All we need is your help in our mission to motivate the next generation of visionaries.

Supporting our conference will not only support the students involved but it will also allow the conference to support local businesses. ConflictED: Overcoming Adversity Through Education will bring the University of Waterloo and the City of Waterloo closer, by working together to achieve success of the conference.

Is your initiative affiliated with any other organizations or groups on campus or in the community?

The conference is run under the student group Student Association of International Development (SAID).

What is the amount of funding that you are requesting? (Please attach a tentative budget, be as detailed as possible and include other sources of revenue)

The conference is requesting a grant of \$500.00. The funds will be used to cover speaker transportation costs, as well as speaker accommodation. The entire team would be very grateful for any contribution to the conference. The success of the conference is dependent on grants and sponsors like WPIRG.

2014 Conference Budget	Projected Cost	Actual Cost	Difference
Venue	2000		
Food	3000		
Goodie Bags	400		
Speakers	1000		
Transortation	800		
Printing			
Posters	100		
Business Cards	25		
Programs	25		

Lanyards	25		
Registration Materials	25		
Total:	\$7,400		

In addition to funding, do you require any additional support? (i.e. help with outreach and promotion, logistical support such as space booking, access WPIRG office supplies etc.)

The conference would be incredibly grateful for any additional support, but our primary focus is obtaining grant funds to cover costs. The conference team is working hard to manage all areas of preparation but if WPIRG would like to help out it would be greatly appreciated.



January 2015 Members Meeting Agenda Attachment #4

Tentative Name of initiative: One Seed Many

Roots

Please provide a description of your initiative (include mention of the type of initiative – project, group, event, campaign etc.):

In recognition of Black History Month the Black Association for Student Expression is having a series of events throughout the month of February to educate and celebrate black history and the contributions we have made to society.

The name of the overall event is “One Seed, Many Roots”. But it is broken down it three sections:

- 1) *Discover your Roots* is an informative session designed to engage the students of the community with discussion about important issues
- 2) *Rock your roots* is a fashion show featured to encourage and students who have a particular interest in clothing design. We give a platform to advertise their work.
- 3) *Showcase your roots* is a concert with which to display the other talents of the students.

* We have decided to combine *Rock your roots* and *Showcase* as it is more cost effective

Please outline the mission and goals of your initiative:

We hope that One Seed Many Roots will highlight the fact that ‘black history’ not only affects People of Color but it is a significant part of Canadian history as well. This event is not meant to highlight segregation in any way but it’s meant to encourage harmony. We decisively chose this year’s theme to be “One Seed Many Roots; A People’s Mosaic” in order to make the connection to the multicultural society that shapes Canada’s history and future.

Please describe how your initiative fits within WPIRG’s mandate (refer to above mandate):

This initiative is fitting with WPIRG’s mandate to encourage diversity and social equality as there is a need for events and platforms such as these within the Waterloo-Kitchener community. We hope to counteract the negative image with which descendants of the African Diaspora has been labeled with. At the same time we are allowing the students of the community an opportunity to get actively involved and display their wide array of talents

Is your initiative affiliated with any other organizations or groups on campus or in the community?

Unfortunately this year no other organization has the resources or time to partner with us on this event.

What is the amount of funding that you are requesting? (Please attach a tentative budget, be as detailed as possible and include other sources of revenue)

Tentative Budget:

Space Rental:

- **Bomber**(#1 choice): approx \$1000
- Wilf’s Pub: estimate \$1200
- Jazz room: \$500 deposit

- Conrad Grabel: possible \$350

Informative Speaker for “Discover your roots”

- Maximum fee \$200

Refreshments for “Discover your roots” and “Rock your roots”

- Maximum expenditure: \$150

- Previous year total: \$100

Advertisement:

- Previous Year’s total: \$100

Max. total: \$1650

We are requesting aid for the cost of the space rental as it is the most expensive. We are also submitting funding request to the Arts Committee and we also hope the Internal Funding committee for the university will subsidize the cost of Bomber should we choose to use it. The total amount we are requesting is the cost of the venue: \$1000

In addition to funding, do you require any additional support? (i.e. help with outreach and promotion, logistical support such as space booking, access WPIRG office supplies etc.)

In addition to funding we hope that WPIRG will support our event by helping us to advertise, alerting us of any interested parties hoping to display their talents and by attending the event! We have tentatively secured a Showcase date with Bomber for March 6 2015. Even if we don't receive funding we hope to see your there.



January 2015 Members Meeting Agenda Attachment #6

APPLICATION FORM

Tentative Name of initiative: Fashion for Change's Annual Charity Fashion Show 2015

Name of Contact Person:

Please provide a description of your initiative (include mention of the type of initiative – project, group, event, campaign etc.):

I am the Finance Director for Fashion for Change, one of the largest student-run clubs at the University of Waterloo. We have over 200 members from all faculties participating in the capacity of models, choreographers, designers, graphic artists, stage managers and executives, all working towards bringing our Annual Charity Fashion Show to life. The show will be held in March 2015, and will feature 9 choreographed dance scenes as well as a catwalk portion.

Our aim at Fashion for Change is to promote artistic expression and allow creative freedom to our members through the show. We also give a very high importance to community involvement. For that reason we are partnered with Free the Children, an

international charity organization through which we sponsor the war-torn village of Moyamba in Sierra Leone. All the proceeds from our show go to Free the Children, and in the past four years, we have raised over \$55,000 for the village, allowing them to build and maintain a school there.

We use our media resources to promote awareness about our cause, as well as promote the brands of our generous sponsors without whose donations the show would not be possible.

Please outline the mission and goals of your initiative:

Our mission is twofold: to promote artistic expression and spread it through the UW community, and to make a change on a global scale by donating to a worthwhile cause. The Annual Fashion Show accomplishes both those goals: the club members who organize and execute it find an outlet for their artistic vision, and all proceeds from the show go towards the charity we sponsor, Free the Children, who put it to use in rebuilding the community in the village of Moyamba in Sierra Leone.

Please describe how your initiative fits within WPIRG's mandate (refer to above mandate):

We aim to spread awareness about our cause in the UW and WLU community by using our media resources (Facebook, Twitter, posters, newspapers, etc). We encourage the community to get involved by helping to make a change in however small way they can: clothing and monetary donations, volunteer work with us to execute the show and help the club with its other events, etc.

We also hope that our efforts are towards some social justice to the impoverished region we sponsor in Sierra Leone: the village of Moyamba has been torn apart by decades of civil war in the area, and we hope to do what little we can to give the people living there as much help as possible by providing everyday amenities like education, clean water, clothes, etc.

Our aim is also to provide the local businesses who sponsor us with logo branding and exposure, thus helping the local economy as well. We promote our sponsors on all our media outlets, depending on the level of sponsorship they provide us with.

Our club also gives voice to all our members, and we realize that transparency is key for the successful execution of our show. Our models are comfortable in the fact that any issues and concerns they have will be addressed by the executive members, and we strive as much as possible to maintain a harmonious atmosphere in our operations.

Is your initiative affiliated with any other organizations or groups on campus or in the community?

No, the Fashion Show is organized and run exclusively by Fashion for Change.

What is the amount of funding that you are requesting? (Please attach a tentative budget, be as detailed as possible and include other sources of revenue)

Up to \$5,000.

Every year, we try to donate as much as possible to Free the Children. As Finance Director, I would be happy if this year's donation were to exceed \$15,000. As the attached tentative budget for the fiscal 2014-2015 shows, our operating costs go easily over \$20,000. Last year alone for example, our operating costs were in the vicinity of \$25,000. If required, I would be happy to provide our audited bank statements for our expenses last year.

In addition to funding, do you require any additional support? (i.e. help with outreach and promotion, logistical support such as space booking, access WPIRG office supplies etc.)

We always welcome volunteers to help us on the day of the show, since the show itself is very high-energy. We will use the funding received from WPIRG towards the booking of a venue, as well as securing stage rentals such as lighting and props. Our directors have teams who are well adept at doing all that, provided they just have adequate funding.



January 2015 Members Meeting Agenda Attachment #7

APPLICATION FORM

Tentative Name of initiative: Waterloo Aboriginal Education Centre (WAEC) – Visibility Project

Name of Contact Person:

Please provide a description of your initiative (include mention of the type of initiative – project, group, event, campaign etc.):

The WAEC - Visibility Project aims to raise awareness about the Waterloo Aboriginal Education Centre, and its students, through the use of promotion material such as pamphlets, posters, flyers, banners, website, and social media.

This will include the hiring of the UWaterloo campus photographer for a 3-hour session. During this time, the photographer will take individual, and group, pictures of University of Waterloo students who identify as being of Aboriginal ancestry. The WAEC staff will have headshots taken which will be used for profiles on the St Paul's University College website.

After the photo shoot, the next step of the project is to work with St Paul's Communication Coordinator to design and layout the promotion materials. Once completed, they will be sent to the campus mediadocs after which the materials will be made available in the centre, throughout the campus, and within the community.

Please outline the mission and goals of your initiative:

- To raise awareness and bring visibility to the WAEC and its students.
- To help build bridges between WAEC, main campus, and the KW community.
- To increase the rate of Aboriginal students accessing the centre space.
- To increase admissions rate of Aboriginal students on campus.

- To bring the “Aboriginal Student” presence into the centre through the use of images such as posters, banners, and wall hangings.
- To remove the tokenism and “museum feel” of the student centre.
- To reclaim the “Aboriginal space” as a home space for aboriginal people.

Please describe how your initiative fits within WPIRG’s mandate (refer to above mandate):

The University of Waterloo has close to 150 self-identified Aboriginal students on its campuses. This past year, 32 of those students started as first-years. Creating visibility is important as many Aboriginal students face challenges with accessing other services on campus or joining students groups. The Visibility Project will aim to bring awareness to this population of people who have very few specific supports within post-secondary institutions. By doing so, this will promote a sense of pride and belonging among the students that access the centre as well a feeling of diversity to the campus community. The Visibility Project would also result in building bridges by encouraging other departments and student groups to become involved with the centre, and vice-versa.

Is your initiative affiliated with any other organizations or groups on campus or in the community?

No other group or organization will be involved directly with this project. We will be consulting with the Communications Coordinator of St Paul’s University College on layout and design of material.

What is the amount of funding that you are requesting? (Please attach a tentative budget, be as detailed as possible and include other sources of revenue)

Campus Photographer (3 hour session) - \$1000

Promotional Materials - \$1000

Cost Breakdown:

- Stand-up banner \$250 x 2 = \$500
- Posters \$200
- Postcards / Pamphlets \$300

Total Requested: \$2000



January 2015 Members Meeting Agenda Attachment #8

APPLICATION FORM

Tentative Name of initiative: Aboriginal Student Association of UW – Cultural Workshop – Moccasin Making

Name of Contact Person:

Please provide a description of your initiative (include mention of the type of initiative – project, group, event, campaign etc.):

Group Event – Moccasin Making – This workshop not only offers our Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal students (of all ages and any gender) a chance to participate in a cultural activity but also brings the knowledge and teachings behind the making of moccasins and incorporates the healing practices of crafting. At the request of the Aboriginal Students Association, we have been attempting to offer more cultural events and activities and this particular workshop incorporates many of the traditional teachings the Original People have been passing along for generations. For this workshop we are looking to schedule a local active Aboriginal community member with a wealth of knowledge and experience in moccasin making and traditional crafts.

Please outline the mission and goals of your initiative:

As most of our students have not grown up with the original teachings of our people, this workshop allows them to learn more about an important aspect of our culture. Moccasin making has been one of our traditional teachings since time immemorial. This item was of extreme importance to the Original People in order to survive the harsh winters and rocky terrain. The decorating of this item would be of significant importance as well, as each person, family, community and nation have specific colors, clans or totems, spirit names and spirit animals. Our facilitator imparts these teachings within the workshop and it is our hope that these stay with the participant throughout their life.

Please describe how your initiative fits within WPIRG's mandate (refer to above mandate):

This workshop would help bring our Aboriginal Students Association together to participate in an activity that has always been a significant part of the Aboriginal culture. In an effort to bring awareness to current Aboriginal issues, we are trying to

offer the student's traditional knowledge and culturally relevant activities. These activities help foster group cohesion, promote awareness of Aboriginal culture, and help educate students about the First Nations people.

Many of our members are non-Aboriginal and have expressed a wonderful desire to participate in cultural activities alongside our Aboriginal students. This type of networking and sharing of culture is essential to building better relations between our communities.

Is your initiative affiliated with any other organizations or groups on campus or in the community?

The Waterloo Aboriginal Education Center, room 228 at St. Paul's on University of Waterloo campus.

What is the amount of funding that you are requesting? (Please attach a tentative budget, be as detailed as possible and include other sources of revenue)

The Events Coordinator of WAEC currently on maternity leave has given me the following approximation, based on using the same community member facilitator for several semesters in the past:

Total funds for moccasin making workshop - \$1000

Covers time/labor for facilitator and all materials for 15-20 students, depending on the size they choose to make.

Sizes – Mens size - \$50, Womens size - \$40, Baby size - \$25

We have already received at least 15 requests from students to attend this workshop.

The facilitator is a very well-respected community member who is able to give the teachings around crafting moccasins as well as recognizing the healing aspects of the craft itself. We hope to have her conduct this workshop again this semester based on approval of funds.

In addition to funding, do you require any additional support? (i.e. help with outreach and promotion, logistical support such as space booking, access WPIRG office supplies etc.)

The current Events Coordinator (Shawn Johnston) of the Waterloo Aboriginal Education Center at St. Paul's can book room 228 for this workshop.