DSU Council Meeting Agenda

Meeting Date and Time: Thursday, December 17 2020 – 6:30 pm

Location: Microsoft Teams

Land Acknowledgement

The Dalhousie Student Union acknowledges that Dalhousie University and the Dalhousie Student Union Building are located on traditional, unceded and unsurrendered Mi’kma’ki territory. The Dalhousie Student Union seeks to honour the relational treaty process in its programming, events, and meetings.

1. Call to Order

2. Roll Call

3. Approval of the Agenda

MOTION 2020-12-17-3.1

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the agenda for the present meeting be adopted as presented.

4. Business Arising Out of the Minutes

5. Approval of the Minutes of the Previous Meeting

MOTION 2020-12-17-5.1

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the minutes of the Council meeting on December 3, 2020 be adopted as circulated.

6. Communications Received
7. Appointments by Council

8. Presentations

9. Committee Reports

10. Old Business

MOTION 2020-12-17-10.1

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the revised budget for the 2020-21 fiscal year be adopted.

Moved by the Vice President, Finance and Operations

11. New Business

MOTION 2020-12-17-11.1

WHEREAS the Revised 2020-21 Budget includes funds set aside to distribute an emergency bursary in January and February of 2021;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council approve the 2021 DSU Emergency Bursary Terms of Reference as circulated, including designating the Grants Committee the authority to review applications for this bursary.

Moved by the Vice President, Finance and Operations

MOTION 2020-12-17-11.2

WHEREAS the Revised 2020-21 Budget includes funds set aside for the Union to contract an external body to review the Union’s governing documents;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Executive Committee develop a Request for Proposals (RFP) defining the scope of the planned Governance Review, including the purpose of the review, objectives, and timeline for the project;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the RFP will define two phases to the project:

- First, a review of disciplinary and complaint procedures within the DSU with specific focus on defining clear steps to be taken when complaints or allegations are brought forward against a Councillor or Executive Officer. This review should particularly focus on allegations of sexual violence, harassment, and discrimination, and should support the DSU in developing a survivor-centred response process. The goal is to ensure that the DSU has mechanisms to respond to student concerns and hold elected
representatives accountable through a clear process, while ensuring that said process does not create unwanted legal ramifications for the DSU or any party involved.

- Second, a general review of the DSU’s governing documents to identify inconsistencies, best practices, and areas for change to better meet the objectives of the organization.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the draft RFP will be circulated to Council by January 31st, 2021.

Moved by the Vice President, Finance and Operations

MOTION 2020-12-17-11.3

WHEREAS Council struck the Response Committee on July 30, 2020 on recommendation of the Judicial Board with the purpose: “to ensure that DSU policies and procedures reflect a survivor-centric framework as well as due process, fairness, and transparency; AND

WHEREAS since that time, preliminary conversations have highlighted both the need for a comprehensive review that has a lasting impact and the importance of seeking expert advice and counsel on this complex and multidimensional issue; AND

WHEREAS to this end, the Executive has proposed contracting an external organization to undertake a complete governance review with a specific focus on clarifying discipline and complaint procedures through a survivor-centric framework; THEREFORE

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the mandate of the Response Committee be changed to the following:

- To review the process that took place to address the allegations made against the Vice President, Student Life in 2020;
- To consult Executives, Councillors, and other interested parties on their concerns about and perceptions of said process, and their ideas for the development and revision of disciplinary and complaint procedures;
- To develop a report summarizing their findings and the outcome of their consultations

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Response Committee will deliver this report to Council by March 30, 2021

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Response Committee Report will guide the Executive Officers, Bylaw and Policy Review Committee, Council, and any other relevant committees or bodies in the implementation of the recommendations about disciplinary and complaint processes delivered in the governance review.

Moved by the President

12. Executive Reports

12.1 Report of the President

12.2 Report of the Vice President, Internal
12.3 Report of the Vice President, Finance and Operations
12.4 Report of the Vice President, Academic and External
12.5 Report of the Vice President, Student Life

13. Notice of Motion

14. Announcements
14.1 Announcement regarding Council dates for the Winter term

15. Adjournment