DSU Council Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date and Time: November 29, 2021 at 7:00 PM

Location: Council Chambers (Student Union Building) and Microsoft Teams (Virtual)

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.

Equity Statement

Student union solidarity is based on the principle that all members should be able to participate equally in their union, recognizing that students have diverse experiences of privilege and marginalization. As members of the students’ union, mutual respect, cooperation and understanding are our goals. We should neither condone nor tolerate behaviour that undermines the dignity of any individual or creates an intimidating, hostile, or offensive environment.

It is our collective responsibility to create an inclusive space for discussion and dialogue. Any form or forms of discrimination and/or harassment will not be tolerated, nor will hate speech rooted in, but not limited to, sexist, racist, classist, ableist, homophobic or transphobic sentiments and/or remarks. We all have an obligation to ensure that an open and inclusive space, free of hate is established. If you violate this understanding, you will be asked to leave.
1. **Call to Order**

   The meeting was called to order at 7:15pm by the Council Chair.

2. **Roll Call**

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<th>PRESENT</th>
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<tr>
<td>Madeleine Stinson – President</td>
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<td>Truelee Love - Vice President, Internal</td>
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<td>Frey Verth – Vice President, Academic and External</td>
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<td>Mohab Brisha - Vice President, Finance and Operations</td>
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<td>Jonathon Frontain – Board of Governors Representative 2</td>
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<td>Miranda Walsh - Faculty of Dentistry Representative</td>
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<td>Graham Headley - Faculty of Law Representative</td>
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<td>Kathleen Cabillan - Faculty of Science Representative</td>
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<td>Micha Davies-Cole - Indigenous Students’ Representative</td>
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<td>Brij Vaghani – International Students’ Representative</td>
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<td>Victoria Slipp – Students with Disabilities Representative</td>
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<tr>
<th>ABSENT WITH REGRETS</th>
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<tr>
<td>Mazen Brisha - Vice President, Student Life</td>
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<td>Muyu (Murray) Lyu – Board of Governors Representative 1</td>
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<td>Patrick Oldfield - Faculty of Engineering Representative</td>
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<td>Tam Pham - LGBTQ Students Representative</td>
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<tr>
<th>ABSENT WITHOUT REGRETS</th>
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<tr>
<td>Sameer Mohammed – Faculty of Computer Science Representative</td>
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<td>Riley Lockhart - Faculty of Medicine Representative</td>
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<th>VACANT POSITIONS</th>
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<td>Faculty of Architecture Representative</td>
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<td>Faculty of Agriculture Representative</td>
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<td>Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences Representative</td>
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<td>Faculty of Graduate Studies Representative</td>
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3. **Approval of the Agenda**

**MOTION 2021-11-29-3.1**

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

*Moved by Vice President, Academic & External*

*Seconded by Vice President, Finance & Operations*

*MOTION 2021-11-29-3.1 Passes*

4. **Business Arising Out of the Minutes**

*None*

5. **Approval of the Minutes of the Previous Meeting**

**MOTION 2021-11-29-5.1**

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the minutes of the Council meeting on November 15, 2021 be adopted as circulated.

*Moved by Vice President, Academic & External*

*Seconded by Vice President, Finance & Operations*

*MOTION 2021-11-29-5.1 Passes*

6. **Communications Received**

*None*
Motion to Omnibus

Be it resolved that MOTION 2021-11-29-7.1 – 7.6 be voted upon in omnibus

Moved by Vice President, Academic & External

Seconded by the President

Motion Passes

7. Appointments by Council

MOTION 2021-11-29-7.1

WHEREAS section 6.2 of the Elections and Referenda Policy stipulates that should any position on DSU Council remain vacant following a by-election, “[the] Oversight Committee must evaluate all candidates who have expressed interest in appointment to the vacant positions and provide recommendations to the DSU Council regarding the filling of those positions and Council must then make the appointment”; THEREFORE:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT __________ be appointed Black Students Community Representative for the remainder of the 2021-22 Council Term.

Moved by President

Seconded by Faculty of Science Representative

Nominated and Appointed: Sydney Keyamo

MOTION 2021-11-29-7.1 Passes

MOTION 2021-11-29-7.2

WHEREAS section 6.2 of the Elections and Referenda Policy stipulates that should any position on DSU Council remain vacant following a by-election, “[the] Oversight Committee must evaluate all candidates who have expressed interest in appointment to the vacant positions and provide recommendations to the DSU Council regarding the filling of those positions and Council must then make the appointment”; THEREFORE:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT __________ be appointed Women Students Community Representative for the remainder of the 2021-22 Council Term.

Moved by President

Seconded by Faculty of Science Representative

Nominated and Appointed: Emilia Cordova

MOTION 2021-11-29-7.2 Passes
MOTION 2021-11-29-7.3

WHEREAS section 6.2 of the Elections and Referenda Policy stipulates that should any position on DSU Council remain vacant following a by-election, “[the] Oversight Committee must evaluate all candidates who have expressed interest in appointment to the vacant positions and provide recommendations to the DSU Council regarding the filling of those positions and Council must then make the appointment”; THEREFORE:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT __________ be appointed Residence Students Community Representative for the remainder of the 2021-22 Council Term.

Moved by President

Seconded by Faculty of Science Representative

Nominated and Appointed: Bianca Morelli

MOTION 2021-11-29-7.3 Passes

MOTION 2021-11-29-7.4

WHEREAS section 6.2 of the Elections and Referenda Policy stipulates that should any position on DSU Council remain vacant following a by-election, “[the] Oversight Committee must evaluate all candidates who have expressed interest in appointment to the vacant positions and provide recommendations to the DSU Council regarding the filling of those positions and Council must then make the appointment”; THEREFORE:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT __________ be appointed Faculty of Arts & Social Science Representative for the remainder of the 2021-22 Council Term.

Moved by President

Seconded by Faculty of Science Representative

Nominated and Appointed: Stephen Abbott

MOTION 2021-11-29-7.4 Passes
MOTION 2021-11-29-7.5

WHEREAS section 6.2 of the Elections and Referenda Policy stipulates that should any position on DSU Council remain vacant following a by-election, “[the] Oversight Committee must evaluate all candidates who have expressed interest in appointment to the vacant positions and provide recommendations to the DSU Council regarding the filling of those positions and Council must then make the appointment”; THEREFORE:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT __________ be appointed Faculty of Graduate Studies Representative for the remainder of the 2021-22 Council Term.

Moved by President;

Seconded by Faculty of Science Representative

Nomination to be brought forward by Oversight Committee.

MOTION 2021-11-29-7.5 Passes

MOTION 2021-11-29-7.6

WHEREAS section 6.2 of the Elections and Referenda Policy stipulates that should any position on DSU Council remain vacant following a by-election, “[the] Oversight Committee must evaluate all candidates who have expressed interest in appointment to the vacant positions and provide recommendations to the DSU Council regarding the filling of those positions and Council must then make the appointment”; THEREFORE:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT __________ be appointed Faculty of Health Professions Representative for the remainder of the 2021-22 Council Term.

Moved by President;

Seconded by Faculty of Science Representative

Nominated and Appointed: Anika Declan

MOTION 2021-11-29-7.6 Passes

8. Presentations

8.1 Presentation of Revised Budget

Presented by Vice President, Finance & Operations

8.2 CFS Prospective Membership Update

Presented by the President

Document attached
9. Committee Reports

9.1 Board of Governor’s Caucus Report

   Presented by President

   Documents attached

10. Old Business

   None

11. New Business

MOTION 2021-11-29-11.1

   WHEREAS in late September 2021, the firm PwC resigned from auditing the Union after 8 years for economic reasons; and

   WHEREAS section 5.3 of the Financial Policy stipulates that “Budget and Finance Committee shall recommend an independent external auditor for a term of up to five (5) years to Council”; THEREFORE:

   BE IT RESOLVED THAT the firm BDO Canada be appointed as the Union’s auditor for a term of 2021-2023.

   Document attached.

   Moved by Vice-President, Finance & Operations

   Seconded by Faculty of Science Representative

   Approved by Budget and Finance Committee on Tuesday, November 23, 2021.

   MOTION 2021-11-29-11.1 Passes

   Abstention: Vice President, Academic & External

MOTION 2021-11-29-11.2

   BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Winter General Election schedule be approved as proposed.

   Document attached.

   Moved by President

   Seconded by Vice President, Finance & Operations

   Approved by Elections Committee on November 25, 2021.

   MOTION 2021-11-29-11.2 Passes
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

*PDF Documents of all reports attached*

13. Notice of Motion

The following motions will appear on the agenda for the next Council meeting on December 13, 2021.

13.1 Motion to approve the revised budget

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the revised budget for the 2021-22 fiscal year be adopted.

*Moved by Vice President, Finance and Operations; approved by Budget and Finance Committee on Tuesday, November 23, 2021.*

13.2 Motion to discipline a councillor

WHEREAS the duties of a DSU councillor, as described in Section 4.4 of the Bylaws, include that they must use reasonable efforts to advance the interests of the constituency they represent, and must attend all meetings of Council and any Committees to which they are elected or appointed; and

WHEREAS Councillor Sameer Mohammed, Computer Science Representative, has been absent without regrets from 5 out of 9 meetings of DSU Council and has failed to attend Society Review Committee or Grants Committee meetings, of which he is a member; and

WHEREAS Section 4.8 of the DSU Bylaws dictates that councillors may be disciplined for failure to attend Council and Committee meetings, and/or failure to perform their duties; THEREFORE:

BE IT RESOLVED that Councillor Sameer Mohammed, Computer Science Representative, be recalled-to By Election; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Council empower the DSU President to formally request that the Dalhousie Computer Science Society nominate a new Computer Science Representative no later than January 31, 2021; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that should Councillor Sameer Mohammed provide reasonable explanation for his lack of participation, as well as present a plan to ensure his commitments to the student body are met in the future in his response to this motion, that Council consider his response with empathy for his individual circumstances.

14. Announcements

14.1 The next meeting of Council will be held on Monday, December 13, 2021.

The DSU would be open for extended hours (till about 2am) during exam week (Dec 7-9) and breakfast would be served at 11pm, everyone is invited!

15. Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 7:52pm