



Concordia Student Union – Council of Representatives

CSU Regular Council Meeting – Agenda

Wednesday, November 11th, 2015

H-767, 18h30, S.G.W. Campus

1. Call to Order

2. Roll Call

3. Approval of the Agenda

4. Consent Agenda

- a) Approval of the Minutes – October 28th RCM
- b) Reports from Committees
- c) Executive Reports
- d) Chairperson's Report

5. Presentations and Guest Speakers

- a) Reggie's Presentation

6. Appointments

- a) Finance Committee
- b) Appointments Committee
- c) Clubs & Space Committee
- d) Sustainability Committee
- e) Loyola Committee

7. New Business – Substantive

- a) Chairperson's Report
- b) Orientation Post-Mortem



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- c) Fall Reading Week
- d) Unist'ot'en Solidarity
- e) Rideau Institute - Asbestos Report

8. Question Period & Business Arising

9. Announcements

10. Adjournment



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CSU Special Council Meeting – Minutes

Wednesday, November 11th, 2015

H-767, 18h30, S.G.W. Campus

1. CALL TO ORDER

Meeting is called to order at 18h47.

We would like to acknowledge that Concordia university is on the traditional territory of the Kanien'keha:ka (Ga-niyen-gé-haa-ga), a place which has long served as a site of meeting and exchange amongst nations. Concordia recognizes, and respects the Kanien'keha:ka (Ga-niyen-gé-haa-ga) as the traditional custodians of the lands and waters on which we meet today.

2. ROLL CALL

Council Chairperson: *Mat Forget*

Council Secretary: *Caitlin Robinson*

Executives present for the duration of the meeting consisted of *Gabrielle Caron* (VP Sustainability), *Lori Dimaria* (VP Clubs & Internal), *Marion Miller* (VP Academic & Advocacy), *John Talbot* (VP Student Life), *Gabriel Velasco* (VP External & Mobilization), *Terry Wilkings* (President) and *Chloë Williams* (VP Loyola).

Executives absent for the duration of the meeting consisted of *Anas Bouslikhane* (VP Finance).

Councillors present for the duration of the meeting consisted of *Omar Al Khin* (JMSB), *Rachel Gauthier* (JMSB), *Jana Ghalayini* (ENCS), *Sanaz Hassan Pour* (Fine Arts), *Lucinda Marshall-Kiparissis* (Arts & Science), *Adrian Longinotti* (Arts & Science), *Aloyse Muller* (Arts & Science), *Geneviève Nadeau-Bonin* (Arts & Science), *Terry Ngala* (Arts & Science), *Marcus Peters* (Arts & Science), *Jason Poirier-Lavoie* (Arts & Science), *Leyla Sutherland* (Fine Arts), *Michael Wrobel* (Arts & Science) and *Rami Yahia* (ENCS).

Councillors absent for the duration of the meeting consisted of *Jenna Cocullo* (Arts & Science), *Michael Giesbrecht* (Arts & Science), *Faddy Kamel* (ENCS), *Benjamin Prunty* (Arts & Science) and *Fadi Saijari* (JMSB).

Chairperson: I have received one set of regrets from **Jenna**. **Michael Giesbrecht** is asking for an excusal as he is sick.

Chloë Williams moves to excuse **Michael Giesbrecht**'s absence.

Seconded by **Terry Wilkings**.

VOTE

In favour : 12

Opposed: 0



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Abstentions: 0

Motion carries.

Anas Bouslikhane: I would also like to be excused as I have a pretty time sensitive matter to attend to. I am here right now if you have any questions about the report or my activities. If it is alright with you all, I would like to be excused to attend to these matters.

Aloyse Muller moves to excuse **Anas Bouslikhane**'s absence, and to waive the \$100 penalty.
Seconded by **Jason Poirier-Lavoie**.

VOTE

In favour : 12

Opposed: 0

Abstentions: 0

Motion carries.

3. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Chloë Williams moves to add 6. a) *Finance Committee*, 6. b) *Appointments Committee*, 6. c) *Clubs & Space Committee*, 6. d) *Sustainability Committee* and 6. e) *Loyola Committee*.

Chairperson: We will now vote to approve the agenda and all items under 4. *Consent Agenda*.

VOTE

In favour : 12

Opposed: 0

Abstentions: 0

Motion carries.

Anas Bouslikhane: On the finance side of things we have been working on the audit and will be reviewing it and bringing a more thorough review next meeting. Things are going well and are on point in terms of all budgeted and projected expenses and revenues. If you have any questions on the submitted documents, I am here to answer them.

Terry Wilkins: Just to note, in the up-to-date actuals, these are the closed books for the end of September. Since this meeting is happening on November 11th and the documents were due on November 6th, the finance team could not close the books on the first week of October. We will be sending the closed books for the up-to-date actuals at the second meeting of October.



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4. CONSENT AGENDA

a) Approval of the Minutes – October 28th RCM

Ratified by consent.

b) Reports from Committees

Ratified by consent.

c) Executive Reports

Ratified by consent.

d) Chairperson's Report

Ratified by consent.

5. REGGIE'S PRESENTATION

Lori Dimaria: We are going to talk about construction of the Hive and Reggie's and then going into more specifics about the Reggie's bar. When it comes to the construction, at the beginning we had the demolition phase. We will show you the difference and dramatic changes to come and the foreshadowing of a different philosophy and welcoming of this beautiful space. We demolished and gutted almost everything, making the space more open and vibrant and we have a new addition, which is window space. We did extensive renovations and remodelling of the wall to offer more light and to have a space which is more welcoming. Everything was gutted so we had to rebuilding over it. The floor took while to do. We have a kitchen now and the bar that is almost finished. Behind the scenes we had Robert, the CSU General Manager and Terry Wilkins. A couple of people not in this presentation but have been aiding in the process like **Chloë Williams. Marion** and **Chloë** have been helping in other aspects. **John** and myself are in the stages of finding ways to promote the space and how to make Concordia student life as vibrant as we can. As for the hiring process, the first step was to hire a general manager. That was primordial because she is the expert in a lot of areas and could give us her expertise. Melanie Desrosiers was hired around a month ago with **Terry, John**, myself, and our General Manager Robert, and she has taken the initiative to hire the bar manager and the kitchen manager. She looked into what characteristics were important in hiring a bar and kitchen manager and we had different opportunities to meet with the candidates and we made a global decision to hire Stephane Thibault and Kathleen Boswell as the bar and kitchen managers, respectively. We have sixteen (16) student positions for bartenders, servers, cooks and dishwashers. All of our team will be going through consent training and the Server Intervention Training (SIP) certification with the Centre for Gender Advocacy and the Dean of Students' Office. To give you a little background behind the brand and how we will be using it, back in the day the brand was the devil logo. When we look ahead, we have new branding – the R with circles and on the bottom is written "Reggies". The apostrophe was dropped from the name to comply



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with French regulations. There are six (6) variations of the Reggies logo. What we are doing with the space is a painting and we will be incorporating art from students using whites, blacks, golds, greys and greens. We are complementing the menu with the silver, grey and black because we will have black and white staff uniforms. The logo is very bold and added some punch. We will see what the students say though. We have a menu called “6 for 6” which are six (6) different items costing \$6 tax-in. We have different options from vegetarians to meat options. We have a more extensive menu and we will be able to do more because of the renovations and because of what we put into the kitchen. The general manager and kitchen manager know this, and we have created a menu which represents that.

Lucinda Marshall-Kiparissis: Looking at the sample menu, at first glance fries do not seem like they should be the same price as a burger.

Lori Dimaria: The burger is a simple patty, not an extra large one, and everything is priced by the general manager to make sure everything is sustainable. The sweet potato fries are going to be a large portion.

John Talbot: To touch on that, the extensive menu is extensive and elaborate and intense. It is going to be really extensive. The kitchen manager just started and they are re-working that menu and what ingredients they will use, so we did not want to show an incorrect ingredient list. It is reasonably priced and based on the local market, and tons of stuff will be going on in that menu.

Lori Dimaria: There will be another burger on the extensive list which will be a massive burger. We will also have the vegan and vegetarian options.

Terry Wilkins: After extensive discussion, we have decided to include taxes in all the pricing as well.

Geneviève Nadeau-Bonin: Have the bartending and waitressing staff positions already been filled?

Lori Dimaria: Yes, we have hired the staff and we are ready now.

John Talbot: Consent training is Friday, and they will be in the bar Saturday training.

Aloyse Muller: What is the timeline in terms of opening?

Lori Dimaria: We will be opening by the end of the month, but the exact date depends on when the bar will be delivered to us by the construction team, Doverco, but we are ready now.

John Talbot: The bar will be opening with a soft launch style, and then once the staff begin to familiarize themselves with everything, then we will have a grand opening party. The soft launch style is good for the bar and food staff before we bombard them with patrons.

Lori Dimaria: Melanie did something where she hired people with tons of experience and people with very little experience since student organizations should be a place to acquire that. She felt training was necessary.



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Jason Poirier-Lavoie: Do we have any expectations in terms of the line of products, drink-wise? What is our philosophy? Will it be breweries like Molson, or craft beer?

Lori Dimaria: We have a contract with Sleeman, so we have to respect that for now.

Terry Wilkins: We adopted this contract signed in 2011-2012, and the way the contract works is by volume. Unless we distribute the total volume stipulated in the contract we will be bound by it. The intention following the completion is to enter into a request for proposals and have a bidding. We would just like to have a more competitive approach for the next phase. We will still have ciders, wine and beer at the moment though.

John Talbot: The Sleeman contract is just for the draft beer, so all the bottles will be a different distributor more in line with the vision that the CSU has been speaking about throughout this year. We also have two (2) open guest taps, and I spoke about having the Brasseurs Illuminés having one of them for a draft of student-made beer.

Jason Poirier-Lavoie: If the contract is by volume, are we close to achieving it?

Terry Wilkins: We are probably going to be a year to a year-and-a-half with it, based on previous annual reports. It is difficult to assess and evaluate the integrity of the reports though, as the distribution was very loosely monitored. The time frame could be as low as a year though.

Marcus Peters: So you mean that the more people who drink Sleeman, the faster we will be out of this contract?

Lori Dimaria: Yes.

Adrian Longinotti: Besides providing serving for food and beverages, is there any other way that you will promote the Reggies brand?

Lori Dimaria: We will be offering the space to different student groups to rent free of charge. **John** is looking at finding ways to implement a concrete strategy for rentals, and as promotions we are also looking at selling sweatshirts, tee-shirts and hoodies.

Terry Wilkins: The producer for the attire is someone who makes them locally in the east end of Montreal. We are trying to develop a partnership where we use the proceeds of the sales to go to organizations such as Head and Hands. It will transition to a not-for-profit bar. We are trying to promote community cohesion and things like that.'

Jason Poirier-Lavoie: Could we choose to sell student-bottled alcohol outside of the the contract requirements?

John Talbot: Good luck finding student-bottled alcohol. Quebec breweries and the like are being prioritized, however. Beau's is the type of bottles you will see.



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Jason Poirier-Lavoie: What is the ballpark figure for student association costs to rent the bar?

John Talbot: If you are renting Reggies as a whole, you would need to absorb the cost of security and other things. The booking policy is going to be a tiered thing. This will be coming out soon though.

Adrian Longinotti: While renting the space, is there going to be the possibility for student groups to have residency at reggies?

John Talbot: With the soft launch mentality, we do not want to immediately institute weeklies or monthlies, but there is definitely something coming in the new year.

Terry Wilkins: For the booking policy, we should have it prepared and distributed and operationalized by January.

John Talbot: So if you are excited, just start talking to people.

6. APPOINTMENTS

a) Finance Committee

Chloë Williams: We do have By-elections in-process, so I imagine that quite a few people will be running for the open Council seats so we do not need to fill these immediately. We have a position open on the Finance Committee, however, if you want to know about numbers or are an expert with numbers.

b) Appointments Committee

Chloë Williams: We have a seat open on the Appointments Committee. It is my committee and you get to do interviews.

c) Clubs & Space Committee

Chloë Williams: On the Clubs & Space Committee, you get to see all of the new clubs applying for club status and go over their budgets.

d) Sustainability Committee

Chloë Williams: On the Sustainability Committee, you get to ensure that the campus is sustainable

e) Loyola Committee

Marcus Peters: How many seats are open on the Loyola Committee?

Chloë Williams: There is one (1) seat open.



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7. NEW BUSINESS – SUBSTANTIVE

a) Chairperson's Report

Terry Wilkins: A couple of weeks ago I was approached by our Chairperson, Mat Forget, and we had a discussion about a need at the Arts & Science Federation of Association (ASFA) for a Chairperson. There was a meeting where they needed chairperson and Mat volunteered and the meeting went smoothly. I think that we can appreciate the collegial atmosphere that Mat is able to facilitate here at this board and basically if you read the Chairperson's Report, Mat is seeking to potentially apply as the Chairperson of ASFA on a more permanent basis. I felt uncomfortable providing some approbation in a unilateral sense, so I felt more comfortable bringing this to Council. Given the nature of how ASFA is kind of a moving target, I think that Mat would provide a bedrock of consistency and they would benefit immensely from it. He will remain the Chairperson of the CSU at the same time. Being a chairperson at ASFA, he would have access to closed session documents in a way that is non-traditional, however. I have strong confidence in his ability to not mix up the roles though. This is more just opening the floor and asking Council what they think. There is nothing in the Standing Regulations or Bylaws which delineates how to proceed. In this case, it does not fall into the jurisdiction of the chair.

Chairperson: As far as our regulations go, this seems acceptable though I thought it maybe unorthodox. As for ASFA's Bylaws, there are two things in particular that might cause issue as I am a previous CSU Councillor as an independent student, but they seem uncomfortable making the necessary adjustments or reforms in order to facilitate this process. I think it would be an interesting challenge to juggle two Chairperson positions, including ASFA, which has been a little contentious. I would look forward to the challenge but respect the decision that Council makes.

Geneviève Nadeau-Bonin: Speaking as an ASFA councillor at the moment, it was a delight having Mat chair the meeting. If you have ever been to an ASFA Council, it is long and disorganized, and people do not understand Robert's Rules. Having Mat there was very straightforward and he brought a lot of order. I am confident that Mat will be an amazing Chairperson and I do not think that it would be a nuisance having him chair another council. I plead you to consider this because we need a strong chairperson to direct the meetings.

Marcus Peters: I was also present at the meeting and it was a relief to see someone who knew what was going on. There are a lot of people in the organization who do not necessarily have an in-depth understanding of Robert's Rules as Mat does. He dressed in neutral colours and settled all of the debates in the meeting, especially when he had to shut down on someone, which was actually me. Mat exercised his right as Chairperson to shut me down so it is nice to have someone with a little backbone and a firm understanding of Robert's Rules. As long as there are no Bylaw or Standing Regulation issues it should be a great opportunity for ASFA.

Aloyse Muller: I have not had the chance to go to many ASFA Council meetings, but from what I have seen and heard, a permanent chair is needed. This should not be something which becomes a rule, but it is a good thing and needed.



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Jana Ghalayini: Have you considered being the Chairperson of other associations like maybe the Engineering and Computer Science Association (ECA)?

Chairperson: ASFA was brought to my attention, but no, I have not shopped around for other positions. I would consider what people bring to me as a compliment though.

Lucinda Marshall-Kiparissis moves that council support support Mat Forget's application to the position of Arts & Science Federation of Associations (ASFA) chairperson.

Seconded by **Marcus Peters**.

VOTE

In favour : 12

Opposed: 0

Abstentions: 0

Motion carries.

Chairperson: I will let Council know what comes of this decision.

Marcus Peters moves to take a ten (10)-minute recess.

Seconded by **Jason Poirier-Lavoie**.

Meeting enters recess at 19h28.

VOTE

In favour : 12

Opposed: 0

Abstentions: 0

Motion carries.

Meeting reconvenes at 19h46.

b) Orientation Post-Mortem

John Talbot: The Orientation post-mortem is supposed to be presented to Council every year. The document presents the staff, the budget and the costs. I sent it out a little late, but since it is 55 pages long, I will present it. Usually the graphic designers make the formatting intense and beautiful and the presentation great, but I did this myself for some reason. We were under-budget in terms of staffing and general expenses. I have the total revenues, including the \$105 000 that the CSU itself puts towards Orientation, along with how much we spent. All of the Orientation staff together cost \$36 164.99, including the coordinators, the production manager, the general staff, the staff coordinators, and the bar, food and logistics staff coordinators. We managed to stay \$39 327 under-budget, though the final numbers will vary slightly because of reimbursements and tax costs. We are really proud that we could do this, considering that the budget is usually absurd. We still held twenty-one (21) events in a span of



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two (2) weeks, and had two (2) significant concerts instead of just one. We spent significantly less money than the CSU has in the past.

Aloyse Muller: Is there one category of spending that significantly impacts this number and makes it lower?

John Talbot: Two years ago the cost of the final concert was double what my entire budget was. We looked at the amount of food ordered and just ordered half of that and halved the prices. We ordered less merchandise but it cost us the same amount because it came from a more equitable space. For the Community Street Fair, we spent a bit more than we thought, but it was awesome. For the Clubs Street Fair, a lot of the costs saved were from the fact that every club was giving money to do things. For the Chalk Up the Block, which was used to promote the daycare, we bought chalk, skipping ropes and bubbles. For Swing Night, we went a lot over-budget because we forgot about getting a sound system so we had to hire someone to come in and run the production.

Gabrielle Caron: About Swing Night, it was not just a matter of forgetting, but was originally to be held at another location and then we had to do it outside. It was not in our projected plan to have a sound system because was supposed to be on the eleventh floor of the EV-building.

John Talbot: We got a booking confirmation then an un-booking confirmation and did not understand what this meant until much later, so basically they double booked us.

Marcus Peters: You did not budget for the fanny packs. Could you expand on this?

John Talbot: The Housing and Job Bank (HoJo) came to the CSU because every group was putting papers with information on it, and after looking through a catalogue of promotional materials, they chose fanny packs and then we just went ahead and got them because we were already \$15 000 under-budget. Even without the revenue, we were already under what we expected to spend. The Fine Arts Student Association (FASA) gave us a contribution to be a part of the concert. I reached out to every faculty association but a lot of them like the ECA and the Commerce and Administration Students Association (CASA) were done with their frosh. We got a Community Orientation Initiatives (COI) grant but got 50% less than expected. The Sustainability Action Fund (SAF) revenue went towards our mugs.

Jana Ghalayini: For the Loyola event, what happened? Was anything purchased for it?

John Talbot: It rained. We took the \$500 and gave it back to Chloë, the VP Loyola.

Jana Ghalayini: Are the alcohol permits different? The price is different – \$88 versus \$86.

John Talbot: There were three (3) permits for open air pubs. The \$2 difference might just be a mistake though. Security is also expensive.

Marcus Peters: Were the mugs a tasteful critique of consumerism, or were they the size that they should have been?



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John Talbot: The mugs were super expensive because promotional materials are insane. We tried to go through organizations like the Sierra Club and more locally sources places. When we tried to get enough mugs, the mugs from these types of organizations are like \$7 per mug. One of my recommendations was that promotional materials be scaled back. In both Charles and Katrina's documents, mugs were something that became a hassle.

Rachel Gauthier: What is the affiliate costs to mugs?

John Talbot: These are costs like customs and having a customs inspector inspect it. If something comes through customs it has to be inspected. The Orientation timeline was a godsend for my team this year. We would check things off as they came. We had an extra week because of Labour day and that saved us. Next year's team can use this knowledge. I ran into some issues with the post-Orientation timeline, however, with everyone clocking out once it was over.

Terry Wilkins: This year you went with having three (3) coordinators instead of two. Could you explain that?

John Talbot: In the past there has been Internal and External Orientation Coordinators working 35 hours per week. They started in June and then we hired a Sustainability Coordinator starting in July. For the staff management we decided to go with a new strategy of hiring three (3) staff coordinators instead of two (2), thinking one for food, one for the bar and one for logistics. In theory, it sounded like a great idea but it turned out to not be as there were many overlapping roles. It would be easier to have general coordinators with specialized roles. The only way that this worked was with the bar staff because they had to be SIP certified and I did not have to pay for too many SIP certifications. This created a structural and safe environment and they became very familiar with their bar stations.

Marcus Peters: You have in the notes that the community outreach letters were finalized for new students. Do we have a mailing list for students recently registered at Concordia?

John Talbot We did not do the physical mail-out because you are supposed to do that earlier since addresses change from old addresses to new addresses with students moving to Montreal for school. I was able to request the list through the Dean of Students' Office. We decided that it was non-sensical since so many addresses would have shifted at this point. We had free welcome coffees which went super well and people really liked the mugs. Reggies and the Hive were under construction though, so we had no storage for anything. Every morning we had to open Reggies to get the coffee and then open the CSU offices to get the stuff that the staff needed. Way too many people were needed to be involved in this process. It was awful to deal with and came as a hindrance to everything. The open air pubs went super well, though we expected a turnout of 350-400 people and it was more around 250. We attribute this to both the Hive and Reggies being under construction so we had no visibility despite the signage. The second week though, people made their way though. Our recommendation is that the Orientation staff work with other faculty associations and clubs. As for the Modest Mouse show, we got so lucky with CJLO hooking us up. It was sold out at Metropolis and they were down for us to be co-collaborators. They took care of everything and the CSU logo was all over the city. The only bad thing was that the last day tons of people showed up to our offices and we had run out of tickets. I was trying to contact Blue Skies who would have only gotten them to us by 18h00, at which time the CSU offices would be closed, so I



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had to tell people to buy the full-price tickets. Also, the CSU Community Street Fair got rained out way too early. For the Burritoville Live event, we were doing a live broadcast with CJLO and they got the local bands playing our final concert to do on-air interviews and I got to do one as well. We were informed of the legal capacity of Burritoville a week before the event, however, which is extremely low so we did not advertise as much. In retrospect, we should not have done that. The turnout was much lower, maybe 200 people throughout the night. For the Clubs Street Fair, this should have been more organized but the attendance was super high anyway with people running around trying to find tables. For Swing Night, our recommendation is do not try and compete with Frosh. This was an amazing event, but there were four (4) other events happening at the same time. We decided to promote to the Beach Party people but they were getting off the buses and throwing up and we did not want them at our event. So many people showed up for the Open Mic event, it was great and people played music until 23h00. I attribute this to advertising free lunches and the residences. For the Act Against Austerity event, around forty (40) people showed up, but it just got buried. For VA Day, we were criticized for forgetting about the Visual Arts (VA) Building. Not that many people showed up, but tons of people walked by and then left because there was a \$1 fee. The Electronic Music Association of Concordia (EMAC) organized all of these rad bands and attendance super good. For the final concert, we assumed that it would be super exciting and it did not necessarily work out. We had about 600 people at the event but the capacity was 750. Pop Montreal was happening when Orientation ended so we were not able to book any venues in the city. I think that the lack of hype was because we had Modest Mouse on the first day and then this was just the final day. Everyone was drained by the fact that this was after Orientation week, on September 25th, but everyone who went had a really great time. The Orientation information booths were great and we gave away tote bags. Loyola was not as well organized, however, because we had staff running it. Our recommendation is to have people at the booths who actually know Concordia and CSU things. At the final concert, the local artist just stole the show.

Lucinda Marshall-Kiparissis: DJs actually do enjoy doing the work, but thank you for asking for respect. For the Community Street Fair, I know that it is unavoidable when rain happens, but could you foresee any alternatives? For some groups this is the only chance at exposure they have. This is their loss of exposure.

John Talbot: We also booked the EV atrium as a backup, but they said we could not. We thought about moving to the seventh floor of the Hall building, but logically it was absurd and would have taken three (3) hours to move everything. More collaboration with other clubs and events would be good so that these groups have more than one day to showcase themselves.

Lucinda Marshall-Kiparissis: I agree to minimize cross-over with other student group events, but if it is the first few weeks of school there will be something happening every day. I think that it is more about not choosing when a really popular event is happening, or just doing it when fewer events are being held.

John Talbot: We chose to do our first big event when other events were. Every single one of these had overlap, but our recommendation is to not compete with the huge ones.

Marcus Peters: I do not see any line for closing down MacKay street. Did it cost anything?



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John Talbot: The street closure is a huge process and costs money.

Marcus Peters: For recommendations saying that Orientation's length should decrease by one week and that there should only be one concert, you are already a lot under-budget. Do you think that this is what the budget should be?

John Talbot: I think it is what our team's vision was. We did not think that it was necessary to spend extravagant amounts of money on events. I do not think that they need to cut it down, but \$100 000 is a lot of money to plan events. I would recommend the same amount, or if they cut Orientation down to a week, to but the budget cut it in half. I have no idea how past executive teams went 75% over budget.

Geneviève Nadeau-Bonin: About decreasing the length of Orientation to one week, you said that a lot more students come to the open air pubs on the second week because they knew about them then. Many more students come to events on the second week because they are more organized. Do you think that it would hinder attendance to have this?

John Talbot: I see how that could happen, but with all the hindrances we faced and the fact that Reggies will be open, I think that you could do it or space things out. The process would be easier and less hectic, especially focusing the brand on new and returning students and the community at large rather than another Frosh place. As for inventory, we needed a freezer on the seventh floor of the Hall building and then another one, and we had to go into Reggies while building it. Hospitality Concordia is not hospitable during this time of year. They helped us get through things though. We did not get the eleventh floor of the EV-building booked. We were not able to get alcohol permits until super late. We had to go six (6) times throughout Orientation to the Régie des alcools office to ask for it physically because only two (2) people in Quebec distributing permits like this. This type of year all of the student groups are applying for them and they do not look at them until you call them and they give it to you. We ran out of pickles and sauerkraut. The beer was St-Ambroise and we it at \$0.80 a bottle. We said that we did not want a sponsorship but they gave us the discount price anyway. Radios are expensive. For the car and truck rentals, in past years they had multiple vehicles. The mugs were super difficult and the people we went with were a Sierra Club approved organization. Frisbees were 100% union-made with recycled plastics. The university was helpful in setting up the banner. We went with a no corporate sponsorship vision and the CSU logo and "Take Action" was there with no other logos. From the general community, we needed a petition from local residents approving this. Booking the final concert, this agency group was super nice because we wanted to book one of their artists, but when they made a mistake they started being not so nice. When we refused, they were not super nice to us. It was a frustrating process and we learned that Pop Montreal monopolized the city on this date. The artists we originally booked had to cancel because we changed the date. We booked local acts and they stole the show. There were ten (10) logistics staff members, seven (7) bar staff members and five (5) food staff members, along with an internal and ext coordinator, and then me. Having the three (3) separate groups made them all learn about each other and be more of a unit. Their availabilities kept on changing until Orientation started though, and that was hectic. We had all of the staff leaders send out questionnaires to all of the staff about the CSU as an organization and how their time was working for the CSU, and there were some critiques like not having bottled water. Overall they were very reflective and positive in nature though. Some people were trolling us, saying there were too many man-buns. These documents are all available for next year's team to better prepare themselves. That drive has all of the contents of last year and the



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year before that's Orientation. **Gabrielle** and the Sustainability Coordinator spearheaded an initiative where they had waste-buster volunteers and had a coherent vision. We had our sustainability person do all of the merchandise purchases to make sure that they fell within our sustainability framework. They did waste audits too.

Gabrielle Caron: Each volunteer who did over fifteen (15) hours will get this on their co-curricular record. Jeremy worked really hard with me and the whole team and the waste audits were quite successful as well. We looked at what last year's staff did and the waste audits they did and compared and contrasted. The numbers were quite good, especially with the clubs fair.

John Talbot: Although Jeremy's portfolio was Sustainability Coordinator, our External Coordinator got into law school and clocked out and he took on full-time shifts and managed both of the roles.

c) Fall Reading Week

Marion Miller:

WHEREAS most Francophone post-secondary institutions in Quebec include within their Academic Calendar a Fall semester Reading Week;

WHEREAS a mid-term break can be beneficial to the mental health and academic success of Concordia students;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Policy Committee, in consultation with Academic Caucus, review the merit of implementing a Fall Reading Week at Concordia and bring their recommendation to Council.

Seconded by **Sanaz Hassan Pour**.

Marion Miller: We can discuss whether this is of interest to be investigated further by the Policy Committee and Academic Caucus. I am bringing this forward because several individuals have contacted me, including representatives from ASFA. Since this came up a few times I thought that I would bring it forward. Many students coming from Francophone CEGEPs are surprised because francophone CEGEPs do have a Fall reading week and several Ontario schools do as well.

Lucinda Marshall-Kiparissis: If a reading week were to be added, would the semester start earlier or the course loads be shortened?

Marion Miller: At certain institutions like Université de Montréal and UQAM, they start a few days earlier than we do as we usually start after Labour day. I do not think that it would be up to us to see where the days were made up, it would depend on the academic calendar and how it could be shifted.

Michael Wrobel: Has Concordia ever expressed a reason for why we do not have this?

Marion Miller: This is something that we should investigate if it goes through the Policy Committee. I have not yet dug into exploring this.



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Geneviève Nadeau-Bonin: This is really great that others have commented on this. Out west, most universities and colleges have a reading week in the Fall. I think that it would be worth it. Logistically speaking, a lot of other universities start and end earlier than Concordia but have a reading week.

Marion Miller: Just to note, I did not put a timeframe on the motion that the committee bring a recommendation by a certain date. We do have a couple of things on our plate at the Policy Committee already.

Marcus Peters: Whatever the discretion of Policy Committee is in terms of timeline should be fine.

VOTE

In favour : 14

Opposed: 0

Abstentions: 0

Motion carries.

d) Unist'ot'en Solidarity

Gabriel Velasco:

WHEREAS Wet'suwet'en territory, including Unist'ot'en territory, is sovereign territory which has never been ceded to the colonial Canadian state;

WHEREAS the Wet'suwet'en are not under treaty with the Canadian government, and therefore their territory is and always will be free, and belongs to the Wet'suwet'en people alone;

WHEREAS free, prior and informed consent is a living breathing assertion of the Traditional Laws of the Wet'suwet'en and is written into today's United Nations Declaration of the Rights of Indigenous Peoples;

WHEREAS Chevron, Trans Canada and Enbridge Inc. are actively pursuing pipeline projects to transport Tar Sands and fracked gas through Unist'ot'en territory in spite of failure to gain consent from Unist'ot'en;

WHEREAS according to article 2.3 of the positions book, the CSU recognizes "indigenous sovereignty over their territories, and their veto power over resource extraction projects";

WHEREAS according to article 8.5 of the positions book, the CSU recognizes that "emission of dangerous levels of greenhouse gases into the atmosphere are recognized as a crime against our environment, and against humanity";

WHEREAS the Unist'ot'en Camp has sent out a message letting their supporter know that they are on high alert of an impending RCMP attack, and have multiple sources of information that indicate towards police escalation and/or other forced trespass;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the CSU stand in solidarity with the Unist'ot'en Camp and emphatically support their efforts to resist any pipeline project that crosses through their territory without free, prior and informed consent.



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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the CSU donates an amount of \$500 to the Unist'ot'en Camp, to be taken from the External & Communications budget line.

Seconded by **Sanaz Hassan Pour**.

Gabriel Velasco: We talked at the External & Campaigns Committee about adding a financial contribution showing our solidarity. After we looked at the budget and the fact that a major part of our campaigns have been around pipeline issues we thought this a good act of solidarity. They are building the pipelines from the tar sands through the Unist'ot'en territory and the final point is where the camps are. It seems like in the next couple of weeks there will be a conflict or escalation because of the timeline of how the pipelines are being built. Just a couple of months ago there was an RCMP breach of the Unist'ot'en camp and it seems very likely that this is one of those moments similar to the Keystone XL where the tar sands will bust or make it through. This is a major project and there are essentially three (3) major avenues – the Kinder Morgan, Keystone and EnergyEast line. This is a pretty major aspect of issues like pipelines and Aboriginal solidarity. With respect to funding, they make several requests for funding. They have maintained three (3) or four (4) different campsites throughout and this is resource draining. If you could spare a few dollars as an individual or as a group with these mandates, we felt it important to do this.

Michael Wrobel: What is the difference between the Wet'suwet'en and the Unist'ot'en?

Gabriel Velasco: The Wet'suwet'en is the larger collective of the tribes and the Unist'ot'en is one of the tribes.

Aloyse Muller: What was the rationale behind the amount of money? It does not seem like a lot for a multimillion dollar organization.

Gabriel Velasco: For us it is coming out of the mobilization budget line. We do not want to give thousands of dollars because it will take away from other campaigns. It is more than a regular individual could give but will not hinder other campaigns.

Marcus Peters: Obviously there is a lot of precedence set for this kind of donation through our organization so it might seem like we are taking a semi-conservative stance, but it is also because this is supporting an initiative in British Columbia and there are many other groups we could establish ties with more locally. The \$500 donation seems like a decent amount but I would be amenable to an increase. Realistically, we should take a look at supporting more local initiatives.

Terry Wilkins: It is not unprecedented for organizations to give donations in solidarity and I remember in 2012 the coalition of labour unions and student organizations gave \$10 000 to the CLASSE, the ASSÉ spinoff resisting the tuition hikes.

Michael Wrobel: Do we have any contact with people in the camp beyond through social media?

Gabriel Velasco: Our main contact is through press releases and their website. We have not made contact with anyone in the camp, but have been following their Twitter account and website. In terms of making contact, it is on their website.



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Michael Wrobel: I did a bit of research online reading the content in British Columbia newspapers and truthfully I feel incredibly ill-informed given the contradictory information circulating and not a lot of information from people directly in the camps. Thank you for clarifying the difference between the larger and smaller territories, but I feel that there is internal conflict within the Wet'suwet'en peoples. From what I can tell, there are elected officials in the camps who had forced approval based on the fact that local communities would get compensation. This is a more localized effort within people in the community, not the elected band council. I feel that we are without some sort of tangible information from the community. I have some concerns about how informed we are, though I do feel comfortable saying that the RCMP should not move into a civil disobedience. I just wanted to voice a couple of concerns.

Gabriel Velasco: We would be providing funding to the Unist'ot'en camp and that is through the hereditary chief of the Unist'ot'en territory.

Terry Wilkins: As progressive movements becoming more globalized, there has been a lot of debate about these kinds of things. At Concordia, we will not always be informed of nuances of things taking place in the world. However, when showing solidarity we are showing a degree of good faith on behalf of those resisting and take what they are saying at their word. Though I understand your hesitance, I think that it is important to take a position on this. We do not have access to all of the information, but I encourage Council to consider this an appropriate form of showing solidarity.

VOTE

In favour : 11

Opposed: 0

Abstentions: 3 (**Michael, Adrian, Sanaz**)

Motion carries.

e) Rideau Institute - Asbestos Report

Terry Wilkins:

WHEREAS the Luc Beauregard Centre of Excellence in Communications Research released a case study in June 2015, titled *Lessons from the Quebec Asbestos Industry: Can there be meaningful dialogue and consensus when facts come up against feelings?*;

WHEREAS the author of the study, John Aylen, is a lecturer at Concordia who has also repeatedly spoken and written in favour of the asbestos industry – specifically as a proponent of the Jeffery Mine expansion – as well as a paid spokesperson for Baljit Chadha, the founder and President of Balcorp limited;

WHEREAS John Aylen's conflict of interest was not disclosed in the production of the case study and was released under the name of Concordia University;

WHEREAS the study actively dismisses the overwhelming conclusion of numerous health organizations, including the WHO, on the matter of harm caused by chrysotile asbestos;



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WHEREAS Concordia University, as a result of an internal investigation, has removed the URL to the document and is refining its conflict of interest disclosure procedure at the Luc Beauregard Centre of Excellence in Communications Research;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the CSU call upon Concordia University to completely disassociate itself from the case study and formally retract the document from the public domain.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the CSU call upon the University to disclose the outcome of their internal investigation with regard to false information in John Aylen's case study, and communicate what steps are being taken to ensure that future reports under the name of Concordia University eliminate gross factual errors.

Seconded by **Leyla Sutherland**.

Terry Wilkins: This is the result of various conversations that I have been having. The reason that the wording was not provided to Council until today is due to how it was an ongoing situation with new information coming in and I felt uncomfortable coming to a formal position without having the adequate information necessary. The documents provided were media articles. What they have talked about is this report. The Beauregard is an institute within the John Molson School of Business (JMSB) and it talks about communication practices around asbestos targeted to the global south. The specific type of asbestos talked about is chrysotile asbestos which has been overwhelmingly researched and concluded to be dangerous, and much like climate science, there are fringe groups of scientists saying otherwise. I just think that when the academic integrity of this institution is being put into question we need to address this in an open manner and not being as communicative as we could be with the outcome of this internal report does not satisfy this need. Given that there is a high amount of caution placed around the branding of the university, as our name is associated with this, it is in our name as students to rectify and clarify this as best as we can. There is credence behind some of the claims made, and the university has pulled the study from their website. Individuals in the industry have access to this document. Having the university retract this case study in a formal sense will allow advocates and people elsewhere to point to it and say that the host institution which produced this is no longer calling it valid. This empowers people trying to raise awareness on this issue. The number of organizations saying that this type of asbestos is not safe for humans is overwhelming, and I cannot see how we would do the same for climate science. We are not doing the same rigour. The Rideau Institute has brought this to the attention of the university and myself. This institute has been around for decades, is based in Ottawa and are human rights watchdogs.

VOTE

In favour : 13

Opposed: 0

Abstentions: 0

Motion carries.

8. QUESTION PERIOD & BUSINESS ARISING

No questions or business arose from this meeting of council.



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9. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Terry Wilkins: I was asked to make this announcement by someone we all know. CUTV is having an annual general meeting on November 23rd between 17h00 and 20h00 in the Grey Nuns building. If folks are interested in being on the board of directors of a broadcasting student group, this would be good experience.

Geneviève Nadeau-Bonin: There will be an anti-colonial dinner happening on November 18th at the Native Friendship Centre. There are many flyers about this around the school.

Chairperson: During the break, **Ben** sent his regrets.

Marion Miller: For community engagement within Montreal, I just wanted to invite you on November 23rd and they are doing this at the Centre for Teaching and Learning. The session is on teaching values at Concordia. I will keep you updated on the other public consultations coming up.

Aloyse Muller: There will be another public consultation this week.

Sanaz Hassan Pour: The Hive Cafe has an annual general meeting on November 23rd at 18h00.

Adrian Longinotti: This Friday, November 13th from 14h00 to 18h00, the Electronic Music Association of Concordia (EMAC) is having an open house and has acquired their new office space. You can meet and greet the whole team.

John Talbot: There is still a small amount of beer left from Orientation and we are going to sell it to student groups for cheap.

Michael Wrobel: Today happens to be Remembrance Day so I propose a brief moment of silence. I think it is appropriate to commemorate this.

Council observes a minute of silence.

Marcus Peters: I think that it is equally appropriate to think of all of the lack of peacekeeping and aggression that we are supporting in order to honour our veterans so that they do not sacrifice their lives for neocolonial reasons.

10. ADJOURNMENT

Marcus Peters moves to adjourn.

Seconded by **Geneviève Nadeau-Bonin**.

VOTE

In favour : 10

Opposed: 0

Abstentions: 0



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Motion carries.

Meeting is adjourned at 21h15.



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**CSU Special Council Meeting
Wednesday, November 11th, 2015
H-767, 18h30, S.G.W. Campus**

Summary of Motions Carried

2. ROLL CALL

A motion was carried to excuse Michael Giesbrecht's absence.

– *Chloë Williams (Terry Wilkins)*

A motion was carried to excuse Anas Bouslikhane's absence, and to waive the \$100 penalty.

– *Aloyse Muller (Jason Poirier-Lavoie)*

7. NEW BUSINESS - SUBSTANTIVE

a) Chairperson's Report

A motion was carried to support Mat Forget's application to the position of Arts & Science Federation of Associations (ASFA) chairperson.

c) Fall Reading Week

The following motion was carried:

WHEREAS most Francophone post-secondary institutions in Quebec include within their Academic Calendar a Fall semester Reading Week;

WHEREAS a mid-term break can be beneficial to the mental health and academic success of Concordia students;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Policy Committee, in consultation with Academic Caucus, review the merit of implementing a Fall Reading Week at Concordia and bring their recommendation to Council.

– *Marion Miller (Sanaz Hassan Pour)*

d) Unist'ot'en Solidarity

The following motion was carried:

WHEREAS Wet'suwet'en territory, including Unist'ot'en territory, is sovereign territory which has never been ceded to the colonial Canadian state;



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WHEREAS the Wet'suwet'en are not under treaty with the Canadian government, and therefore their territory is and always will be free, and belongs to the Wet'suwet'en people alone;

WHEREAS free, prior and informed consent is a living breathing assertion of the Traditional Laws of the Wet'suwet'en and is written into today's United Nations Declaration of the Rights of Indigenous Peoples;

WHEREAS Chevron, Trans Canada and Enbridge Inc. are actively pursuing pipeline projects to transport Tar Sands and fracked gas through Unist'ot'en territory in spite of failure to gain consent from Unist'ot'en;

WHEREAS according to article 2.3 of the positions book, the CSU recognizes "indigenous sovereignty over their territories, and their veto power over resource extraction projects";

WHEREAS according to article 8.5 of the positions book, the CSU recognizes that "emission of dangerous levels of greenhouse gases into the atmosphere are recognized as a crime against our environment, and against humanity";

WHEREAS the Unist'ot'en Camp has sent out a message letting their supporter know that they are on high alert of an impending RCMP attack, and have multiple sources of information that indicate towards police escalation and/or other forced trespass;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the CSU stand in solidarity with the Unist'ot'en Camp and emphatically support their efforts to resist any pipeline project that crosses through their territory without free, prior and informed consent.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the CSU donate an amount of \$500 to the Unist'ot'en Camp, to be taken from the External & Communications budget line.

– Gabriel Velasco (Sanaz Hassan Pour)

e) Rideau Institute - Asbestos Report

The following motion was carried:

WHEREAS the Luc Beauregard Centre of Excellence in Communications Research released a case study in June 2015, titled *Lessons from the Quebec Asbestos Industry: Can there be meaningful dialogue and consensus when facts come up against feelings?*;

WHEREAS the author of the study, John Aylen, is a lecturer at Concordia who has also repeatedly spoken and written in favour of the asbestos industry – specifically as a proponent of the Jeffery Mine expansion – as well as a paid spokesperson for Baljit Chadha, the founder and President of Balcorp limited;

WHEREAS John Aylen's conflict of interest was not disclosed in the production of the case study and was released under the name of Concordia University;

WHEREAS the study actively dismisses the overwhelming conclusion of numerous health organizations, including the WHO, on the matter of harm caused by chrysotile asbestos;



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WHEREAS Concordia University, as a result of an internal investigation, has removed the URL to the document and is refining its conflict of interest disclosure procedure at the Luc Beauregard Centre of Excellence in Communications Research;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the CSU call upon Concordia University to completely disassociate itself from the case study and formally retract the document from the public domain.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the CSU call upon the University to disclose the outcome of their internal investigation with regard to false information in John Aylen's case study, and communicate what steps are being taken to ensure that future reports under the name of Concordia University eliminate gross factual errors.

– Terry Wilkins (Leyla Sutherland)