



**CSU Regular Council Meeting
Wednesday, December 14th, 2016
VA-245, 18h30, S.G.W. Campus**

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. The Concordia Student Union 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.

1. Call to Order

Meeting called to order at 18h40.

2. Roll Call

Council Chairperson: *Caitlin Robinson*

Council Minute Keeper: *Caleb Owusu-Acheaw*

Executives present for the duration of the meeting were *Lana Galbraith* (Sustainability Coordinator), *Rachel Gauthier* (Student Life Coordinator), *Lucinda Marshall-Kiparissis* (General Coordinator), *Marcus Peters* (Loyola Coordinator), *Sophia Sahrane* (Academic & Advocacy Coordinator) and *Rami Yahia* (Internal Affairs Coordinator).

Executives absent for the duration of the meeting were: *Aloyse Muller* (External Affairs Coordinator)

Councillors present for the duration of the meeting were *Thomas David-Bashore* (Arts & Science), *Jason Poirier Lavoie* (Arts & Science), *Rowan Gaudet* (Arts & Science), *Robert Young* (Arts & Science), *Julia Sutura Sardo* (Arts & Science), *Christina Massaro* (Arts & Science), *Agunik Mamikonyan* (Arts & Science), *AlexanderMilton* (Arts & Science), *Sara Beinjaneh* (Arts & Science), *Veronika Rydzewski* (Arts & Science), *Marie-Maxime Gélinas-Delisle* (JMSB), *Louis Arrou-Vignod* (JMSB) *Artem Mikhalitsin* (ENCS), *Mikaela Clark-Gardner* (Fine Arts)

Councillors absent for the duration of the meeting were *April Tardif-Levesque* (Arts & Science), *Armani Martel* (Arts & Science), *Brittany Jackson* (Arts & Science), *Bronte Macfarlane* (JMSB), *Omar Riaz* (JMSB), *Alaa Alkirbee* (ENCS), *Ahmed Badr* (ENCS), *Mugisha Kakou* (ENCS), *Meissa Thiam* (ENCS).

R. Young moves to excuse A. Tardif-Levesque, B. Jackson, M. J.-C. Kalou, A. Badr, O. Riaz, B. Macfarlane and M. Thiam from this meeting. Seconded by A. Mamikonyan.

The previously mentioned names have sent him reasons of excusal in accordance with the Standing Regulations pertaining to next-day examinations.

For: 12 Against:0 Abstain:0

R. Young moves to excuse A. Muller from this meeting notwithstanding Standing Regulation 392.
Seconded by A. Mamikonyan

For: 12 Against:0 Abstain:0

A. Muller excusal is warranted since he has provided a letter detaining his absence for personal reasons.

C. Robinson states that A. Martel has announced his resignation from Council due to his acceptance in studying in Brazil a part of a student foreign exchange program next semester.

3. Approval of the Agenda

R. Young moves to approve all items in the agenda including the consent agenda. Seconded by A. Mamikonyan

For: 12 Against:0 Abstain:0

R. Young moves for a 10-minute recess. Seconded by J. Sutura Sardo.

For: 12 Against:0 Abstain:0

Meeting called back to order at 19h15

4. Consent Agenda

- a) Approval of minutes
- b) Reports from Commi5ees
- c) Executive Reports
- d) Chairperson's Report
- e) Positions Book
- f) Finance Coordinator Report

5. Presentations & Guest Speakers

UTILE

Laurent Levesque is a representative from UTILE, one of the CSU's non-profit development partners in the CO-OP Housing Project.

Firstly, the purpose of his presentation is to provide an update about the status of UTILE's work as well as the future of the COOP Project. Secondly, he provides details about the housing project itself. On the financing, the money has originally come from the CSU as well as outside partners. In addition, a new investment fund is in the works to start a new housing project for students in Quebec. Thirdly, on the building itself, there will be 160 rooms with an average rent of 450\$ per month. However, even though that the land has been purchased, some details about its location still remain secretive pending regulatory and administrative approval from outside bodies. Fourthly, on the design front, many suggestions have been considered to include an inner courtyard, a rooftop

garden for agriculture, a common room on the first year, and the assurance to have at least 10% of the rooms to be accessible for people of reduced mobility.

As for the next steps, L. Levesque hopes to break ground for construction in July 2017 and to have it opened in a year's time. Another next step is to give the project a unique identity heading into the final round of the project in time for its opening.

In talks with the CSU, L. Levesque hopes for council input in marketing and advertising and updates on the term sheet. Essentially, it is the collaboration that he stresses for the long lasting future for the site. On the term sheet, suggested clarifications are to add an external property manager, add more services to make rent more affordable for student residents.

L. Galbraith wonders at the amount of square footage per person. L. Levesque states that there is not a precise number, but rather equity will be stressed considering apartment design.

L. Levesque, in a reply to M. Peters question, states that a third investor was required for "quasi-entirety" per the new investment fund. Effectively, the purpose of the new investment fund was to pool more financial resources into an investment account rather than directly owning equity in the project itself. This would allow having more of a chance to have all investors to have a say in financing new housing projects. The fund would work in synergy with the existing PUSH fund already established by the project.

M. Clark-Gardner wonders as to the 10% requirement and not higher for disabled students. L. Levesque answers that the project does not have the financial capacity for elevators, but positively states that there will be some budgetary manoeuvring to include such resources.

6. Appointments

a) Appointments Committee

M. Peters mentions that a seat is now open due to the resignation of T. David-Bashore's Arts & Science Council seat to elevate to Finance Coordinator position. Even though that most of the work has already been done in early September, M. Peters believes that there will be issues that might come up. It is better to complete to take on potential items in the future.

S. Sahrane stresses on councillors who nominate themselves to committees to ensure that they can attend those committee meetings.

b) Policy Committee

S. Sahrane states that a seat is now open due to T. David-Bashore's elevation as Finance Coordinator. The committee meets once a week. The current discussions happening at meetings involve the inconsistencies with current CSU policy as well as having discussions on new topics such as electronic voting.

J. Sutera Sardo moves to nominate herself to the Policy Committee. Seconded by R. Gaudet.

J. Sutera Sardo values her past work with other committees on the Concordia campus as well as reviewing policy in ensuring that the clauses are non-oppressive, respectable, and consistent with her methodological approach.

R. Gaudet moves to nominate himself to the Policy Committee. Seconded by R. Young.

R. Gaudet admits his lack of policy experience, but provides insight value about his approach in tackling the pressing issues. Like J. Suetra Sardo, he would take a methodological review of policy.

R. Gauthier moves to nominate M.- M. Gélinas-Delisle to the Policy Committee. Consented by herself.

R. Gauthier, representing on the behalf for M. - M. Gélinas-Delisle, mentions that since her Winter 2017 semester is relatively light in addition to her not being employed during that time. Even though she may lack the experience, M. - M. Gélinas-Delisle remains committed and interested in the learning opportunity from this committee.

S. Sahrane states that previous experience is not required for writing policy as long as the interest is there and that anybody can bring a fresh set of eyes to different points of view. T. David-Bashore echos her sentiments and values on creative insight with policy.

A. Milton, in knowing the current faculty membership on the committee, motivates for M.- M. Gélinas-Delisle to have more student participation outside from Political Science and Fine Arts students already present on the committee

Through a roll-call vote, M. - M. Gélinas-Delisle is appointed to the Policy Committee.

c) Sustainability Committee

L. Galbraith values the committee in the work it does in reviewing sustainability policy of the CSU and the university as well as the inter-sectionality involved with promoting and encouraging feminism.

J. Suter Sardo moves to nominate herself to the Sustainability Committee. Seconded by A. Mamikonyan.

J. Suter Sardo's motivates herself as a candidate seeing her interest with environmental and feminist issues.

For: 9 Against:0 Abstain:3

d) Library Services Fund Committee

L. Galbraith states that the purpose of the committee is to provide library services for the students at Concordia University with the 1 dollar per credit fee levy. The committee meets once every two months.

J. Suter Sardo nominates A. Mamikonyan to the Library Services Fund Committee. Consented by A. Mamikonyan.

A.Milton moves to nominate himself to the Library Services Fund Committee. Seconded by R. Young.

A. Mamikonyan sees the value that the library has given to students like her at Concordia

A. Milton's attendance at Concordia has an English and History student (as well as a member of the University Senate strengthens his involvement not only in the academic sphere of books and literature, but the administrative dimension of the school.

J. Sutera Sardo motivates for A. Mamikonyan as being helpful and passionate. J. Sutera Sardo cites A. Mamikonyan's current positions in the Arts & Science Faculty as evidence for what she is able to bring to this committee as well as being a School of Community & Public Affairs student.

Through a roll call vote, A. Mamikonyan has been appointed to the Library Services Fund Committee.

7. New Business – Informational

Nil

8. New Business – Substantive

a) HOJO

L. Marshall-Kiparissis presents the following motion. Seconded by R. Young.

Whereas the CSU Student Space, Accessible Education and Legal Contingency (SSAELC) Fund may be used for the "renovation of, and/or repairs to, such lands and buildings (or parts thereof) located at one or more sites considered suitable by the Council of Representatives of the CSU to serve as student centres," as stated in Special Bylaw I;

Whereas additional professional services related to the perimeter wall of the new Off-Campus Housing and Job Bank (HOJO) offices were not previously taken into account within the scope professional services related to the renovation and relocation of said space;

Whereas the quote related to these services provided by contractor Aedifica is \$4280.00;

Be it resolved that Council approves an amount of \$4280.00\$ for professional services related to the perimeter wall of the future HOJO offices, to be expensed from the SSEALC fund in accordance with Special By-Law I.

L. Marshall-Kiparissis states that the motion is to make up for the financial mechanisms not previously mentioned in past motions. In her eyes, it is just to make sure that all is accounted for in the process of renovation.

For: 12 Against:0 Abstain:0

b) Call to Resist & Disrupt Trump State Visit to Canada

M. Peters presents the following motion. Seconded by R. Young

Whereas the Concordia Student Union has the following positions:

- *"That indigenous sovereignty over their territories, and their veto power over resource extraction projects, is recognized.*
- *That the CSU supports the efforts to institutionally address the issue of refugees and the adoption of policies at the provincial and federal level that would increase the openness of our borders in times of crisis.*

- *That the CSU calls for respect and kindness towards all religious minorities in our community.*
- *Be it further resolved the CSU call on the Concordia university community to foster a safer and more inclusive space for people of all cultures and religions as an act of solidarity internationally.*
- *That the CSU oppose the Energy East and Line 9 pipelines as well as any form of tar sands development.*
- *That our society transition towards being fossil fuels free by 2050.*
- *That the emission of dangerous levels of greenhouse gases into the atmosphere be recognized as a crime against our environment, and against humanity.”*

Whereas the Council of Representatives adopted at the occasion of its last Regular Meeting the following position:

“Be it resolved that the CSU recognise that intersectional identities create different marginalized experiences and that different women and gender non-conforming people experience different barriers based upon class, ability, race, gender expression, religion, ethnicity, etc.

Be it resolved that the CSU respect the perspectives and value the representation of women and gender non-conforming folks who are Black, Indigenous, and People of Colour;

Be it resolved that the CSU add power and visibility to the voices of women and gender non-conforming folks who are Black, Indigenous, and People of Colour;

Be it resolved that the CSU encourage an intersectional feminist approach towards all future endeavours;

Be it resolved that the CSU recognises the importance of listening and recognising all identities and the different barriers that each face.”

Whereas the Trump campaign and the upcoming Trump administration have validated repeatedly actions and discourses going directly against the CSU’s position;

Be it resolved that the CSU endorses the call-out titled: “Trump, you’re not welcome! A Call to Resist & Disrupt Trump’s State Visit to Canada.”

M. Peters call this motion a non-brainer considering the presidential election win of Donald Trump and his upcoming administrative policy directions. Hopefully, the mandate of this motion will mobilize the CSU to help out other associations and groups in fighting against President-elect Trump.

For: 9 Against:0 Abstain:2

J. Poirier-Lavoie, for future reference, would like for motions pertaining to positions, be structured in paragraph form to

A. Mamikonyan wonders as to why the motions are not being electronically-projected even though the Council has the capacity to do so.

L. Marshall-Kiparissis and S. Sahrane respond to A. Mamikonyan concerns in replying that it is every councillor’s responsibility to either know the motions beforehand or during the session of the meeting.

c) Gender Neutral Minutes

L. Galbraith presents the following motion. Seconded by R. Gaudet.

Whereas, the Concordia Student Union is currently trying to become more accessible and gender inclusive.

Be it resolved, that the council minutes be general neutral as of the first council meeting in January.

L. Galbraith deems this motion worthy to better reflect and understand the gender identities of any or all councillors.

L. Arrou-Vignod would prefer individually asking counsellors about inputting their personal gender identities rather than collectivizing and generalizing neutrality. L. Galbraith acknowledges his point, but finds it inefficient because it would slow down the meeting in individually asking each councillor on their specific gender pronouns.

T. David-Bashore favours neutrality since some councilors are possibly still in the process of discovering their gender identity and it wouldn't be fair for them in particular.

J. Poirier-Lavoie mentions that the most part the council minutes are gender neutral since it councilors names are highlighted. Any mention of gender is done on the basis of presenting and demonstrating action and not to purposely offend any single councilor.

For: 11 Against:0 Abstain:1

d) Feminist Position

L. Galbraith presents the following motion. Seconded by A. Milton.

Whereas the CSU respects the perspectives and value the representation of women and gender non-conforming folks who are Black, Indigenous, and People of Colour;

Whereas the CSU add power and visibility to the voices of women and gender non-conforming folks who are Black, Indigenous, and People of Colour;

Be it resolved that priority in that role would be given to someone who has lived experience at the intersection of different systems of oppression.

L. Galbraith values this motion as one required to further enforce the feminist position of the CSU with the hopes of institutionalize a global association policy.

Many counsellors find some difficulty with the "role" portion as to how to prioritize or to give preference with individuals that seem to fit that "role. L. Galbraith states that it is a position to globally consider individuals from marginalized groups.

J. Suter Sardo makes the consideration that the motion should be amended to properly specify the definition of the role itself.

J. Poirier Lavoie tries to end the difficulty with this motion to say it should be viewed as abstract and global. This motion should not viewed as an regressive attack, but rather as a general progressive front forward.

J. Suter Sardo S. S. moves to amend the motion to input "any" in replace of "that" in the last bullet point of "...role would be given to anyone". Not seconded

A. Mikhailitsin M. moves to amend the motion to include “that the CSU prioritizes the voice of persons with lived experience...” per the last line of the original motion. Not seconded.

S. Sahrane finds that limiting this motion to exclusively limits CSU would only hinder the suggestive approach with this motion per J. Poirier Lavoie’s point of view. She recommends for Council for not amending the motion. It is proposed to reflect the continuing growing mandate of the CSU to protect and advocate for gender and socioeconomic rights

R. Young moves for the call to question. Seconded by J. Poirier Lavoie.

For: 6 Against: 5 Abstain:1 → Motion fails the two-thirds requirement per Robert’s Rules of Order

L. Galbraith stresses that this platform presented in this motion to reflect on the inter-sectionality of feminism and to downplay on the “All Lives Matter” vibe.

A. Mamikonyan moves to refer this motion to Policy Committee. Seconded by S. Betinjaneh

S. Sahrane finds that referring this motion would negatively impact the motion considering the cis-male make-up of the committee. S. Sahrane would prefer an ad-hoc committee.

R. Young finds that the nit-picking is a bit unnecessary seeing as the intended purpose of the motion is to be abstract as it can to include all aspects with intersectionality. A. Mikhailitsin echos R. Young sentiments and stresses on the importance of passing this motion as soon as possible on agreed upon wording by council.

L. Galbraith eludes that this motion is supposed to strengthen the intersectionality of feminism as suggested by the Center for Gender Advocacy with her communication with them.

Many councillors state that this motion should not be referred to Policy Committee mostly for timing and the valued importance of it. J. Sutera Sardo finds favour in potentially referring this to the future BIPOC committee.

R. Young moves to call the question of the motion. Seconded by A. Mamikonyan

For:11 Against:0 Abstain:0

For: 2 Against:8 Abstain:2

J. Sutera Sardo moves to call the question on the motion. Seconded by J. Poirier Lavoie.

For:9 Against:0 Abstain:1

For: 9 Against:1 Abstain:2

e) Budget reallocation

T. David-Bashore presents the following motion. Seconded by R. Young.

Whereas No money was allocated to the “Food & Clothing Bank” budget line (5905) at the beginning of the fiscal year,

Whereas The CSU has traditionally made food vouchers available to students in case of emergencies,

Be It Resolved That \$1,250 be allocated to the “Food & Clothing Bank” budget line (5905) from the Operations surplus.

T. David-Bashore does not know exactly why any money was not allocated for this good cause earlier in the academic year, but feels that this motion would correct this past mistake.

For:10 Against:0 Abstain:0

f) Financial Presentation

T. David-Bashore presents the following motion. Seconded by R. Young.

Be it resolved that Council approves the CSU Operations Budget as presented by the Finance Coordinator on Wednesday December 14th 2016.

As the Finance Coordinator, T. David-Bashore presents the Winter 2017 operations budget in line with past and current expenses. In the long run, David-Bashore states that CSU finances are in a healthy position albeit a few unbudgeted unexpected expenses such as consent training and overspending on elections and referendums. As a consequence, the original planned surplus laid out earlier this mandate year has been reduced.

For:10 Against:0 Abstain:0

h) BIPOC Committee Budget

S. Sahrane presents the following motion. Seconded by A. Mamikonyan

Whereas Council approved the allocation of a 15, 000\$ budget for the current Academic Affairs and Advocacy Coordinator.

Whereas this budget is meant for Black, Indigenous, and People of Colour initiatives and is not binding to the position of the Academic Affairs and Advocacy Coordinator, and will be allocated each year to a racialized member of the Executive team.

Be it resolved that an article 16. (j) be added to the CSU Standing Regulations as follows;

(j) Black, Indigenous, Peoples of Colour (BIPOC) Committee: The BIPOC Committee is responsible for helping and facilitating the planning, preparation, execution, and financing of BIPOC events and initiatives supported and/or organized by the CSU. The BIPOC Committee is a non-mixed committee for Black, Indigenous, and Peoples of Colour exclusively.

Be it further resolved that article 17 and 177 be changed accordingly, as follows, to accommodate for the racialized non-mixed committee operating that budget;

17. Each standing committee with the exception of the academic caucus **and of the BIPOC committee** shall be composed of a maximum of six (6) voting members, as follows:

- (a) Four (4) Representatives, appointed by Council
- (b) One member of the Executive, designated by the By-Laws or the General Coordinator
- (c) One student-at-large, appointed by Council

17.1. **The BIPOC committee shall be composed as follow:**

- (a) **Two (2) BIPOC/racialized Representatives, appointed by Council**
- (b) **One (1) BIPOC/racialized member of the Executive**

- (c) Two (2) student-at-large, appointed by council
- (d) One (1) BIPOC/racialized Community member, appointed by Council

17.2. In the event that no member of the Executive is racialized, this seat shall be given to Representatives. In the event that there is not enough racialized councilors to fill in this committee's seat, those seats will be given to an additional racialized student at large member, and in the event there are not enough racialized student at large members applications to fill in this committee's seat, those seats will be given to an additional racialized community member.

17.3. Regulation 414 (Notwithstanding Clause) may not be used to notwithstand regulations 17.1 and 17.2.

177. The list below designates which budget-lines are associated with which committee:
- (a) The 'Campaigns' and 'Speaker Series' budget-lines are associated with the External and Campaigns committee.
 - (b) The 'Student Life Initiatives' and 'Special Projects' budget-line is associated with the Student-life committee.
 - (c) The 'Sustainability (green initiatives)' budget-lines is approved by the Sustainability committee.
 - (d) The 'Loyola Initiatives' budget-line is approved by the Loyola Committee.
 - (e) The 'BIPOC Initiatives' budget-line is approved by the BIPOC Committee.

177.1. In the event that the BIPOC Committee is not formed in any given year, due to the absence of any BIPOC Executive and Representatives, the amount budgeted the former year for the BIPOC Initiatives' budget-line shall be set aside in the current year, remain untouched, and added to the following year's 'BIPOC Initiatives' budget-line.

S. Sahrane provides the run-down of the establishment and financing of the BIPOC committee. S. Sahrane states that the structuring is what it is to strengthen and to empower radicalized minorities at Concordia University and the CSU.

For:9 Against:0 Abstain:0

g) Loyola Committee

M. Peters presents the following motion. Seconded by R. Young.

Whereas space renovations at Loyola have been pursued through the Loyola committee and by the Loyola Coordinator since May 2016, due to the need for upgraded facilities at the SC-200 space in hosting the Loyola Free Lunch program

Whereas Bernard & Associates has worked with the CSU in the past and developed a comprehensive workplan towards achieving these ends

Be it resolved that the CSU approve a maximum of \$8000 from the SSAELC fund to be put towards the Bernard & Associates workplan as presented in the additional documents of the December regular council meeting.

Be it resolved that this motion falls in compliance with Special By-Law I.

Be it resolved that the recent Loyola Committee minutes be approved.

M. Peters finds this motion reasonable to put in force a work plan for the Loyola Campus project.

For: 9 Against:0 Abstain:0

9. Question Period & Business Arising

J. Poirier Lavoie inquires as whether a definite resolution was enforced in reporting about the financial health of the SSALEC fund. C. Robinson states that no specific motion was passed, but was suggested.

10. Announcements

L. Galbraith states that there will be a mandatory consent-training workshop on January 18th 2017 for councillors that missed the previous mandatory one. S. Sahrane, from a Policy Committee point of view, is trying to make this actionable with consequences for non-attendance.

L. Galbraith highlights on the lack of proper decorum in the past few meetings and advocates for its return seeing as the Council is accountable to the students that elected them to office as well as to represent the association as a whole.

R. Gauthier wants to create awareness for the upcoming Winter 2017 Orientation activities so she implores to greatly share the event on social media.

L. Galbraith denotes on the lack of attendance at committees and favours on councillors to act accordingly with the CSU By-Laws and Standing Regulations.

C. Owusu-Acheaw states that all the past Council minutes have been edited in compliance with a closed motion and asks upon Council to review them and to offer him constructive criticism.

L. Galbraith mentions that the Board of Governors meeting to protest cohort pricing was successful. The board has decided not to go forward with the tuition project for now. L. Galbraith views it as a great success for the mandate of the CSU to fight for international students.

11. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 21h20.

Appendix of Documents