



Concordia Student Union - Council of Representatives

CSU Regular Council Meeting – Minutes
Wednesday, September 18, 2019
MB14.250, 18h30, S.G.W Campus

Updated Agenda

- 1. Call to Order**
- 2. Roll Call**
- 3. Approval of the Agenda**
- 4. Consent Agenda**
 - a) Approval of Previous Minutes
 - b) Reports from Committees
 - c) Executive Reports
 - d) Chairperson's Report
 - e) Executive Work Plans
- 5. Presentation and Guest Speakers**
 - a) Indigenous Bursary Project
 - b) Concordia Stingers Presentation
 - c) Engineering Student Space Restoration Proposal (SSAELC Fund)
 - d) 2019-2020 Mindfulness Meditation Project Funding Proposal
 - e) Food Reduction Program Referendum Question Presentation
 - f) SEIZE Conference Proposal
 - g) Mental Health Week
 - h) Health and Dental Plan Presentation
- 6. Appointments**
 - a) Library Services Fund Committee
 - b) Senate (closed session) & Appointments Committee Minutes
- 7. New Business – Substantive**
 - a) Sustainability Coordinator
 - b) Election Dates
 - c) Mental Health Ad-Hoc Committee
 - d) Budgetary Impact
 - e) CSU Purchase Policy
 - f) Academic & Advocacy Minutes
 - g) Loyola Committee Minutes
 - h) Clubs & Space Committee Minutes
- 8. New Business – Informational**
 - a) Mental Health Community Center (MHCC) Plan
 - b) CSU Jobs – Campaigns Coordinator Position & Hiring Committee
 - c) Bursary Distribution
- 9. Question Period & Business Arising**
- 10. Announcements**
- 11. Adjournment**

1. Call to Order

Meeting is called to order at 1847h.

We would like to begin by acknowledging that Concordia University is located on unceded Indigenous lands. The Kanien'kehá:ka Nation is recognized as the custodians of the lands and waters on which we gather today. TiohEá:ke/Montreal is historically known as a gathering place for many First Nations. Today, it is home to a diverse population of Indigenous and other peoples. We respect the continued connections with the past, present, and future in our ongoing relationships with Indigenous and other peoples within the Montreal community.

2. Roll Call

Council Chairperson: Caitlin Robinson

Council Minute Keeper: S Shivaane

Executives present for the meeting were: Patrick Quinn (Academic & Advocacy Coordinator), Isaiah Joyner (External & Mobilization Coordinator), Désirée Blizzard (Finance Coordinator), Christopher Kalafatidis (General Coordinator), Marin Algattus (Internal Affairs Coordinator), Melize Ferrus (Loyola Coordinator), Eduardo Malorni (Student Life Coordinator)

Councillors present for the meeting were: Nicholas Hamel (Arts & Science), Hannah Jamet-Lange (Arts & Science), Christiane Sakr (Arts & Science), Ahmadou Sakho (Arts & Science), Leigh Kusaj (Arts & Science), Elias Huckel-Fidalgo (Arts & Science), Maha Siddiqui (Arts & Science), Victoria Pesce (John Molson School of Business), James Hanna (Gina Cody School of Engineering & Computer Science), Salman Fahim Syed (Gina Cody School of Engineering & Computer Science) Elizabeth Tasong (Arts & Science), Amman Houara (Arts & Science), Esther Morand (Arts & Science), Naomi Barney Purdie (Arts & Science), Lindsay Surerus (Arts & Science), Arad Andrew Banis (John Molson School of Business)

Councillors absent for the meeting were: Jarrad Haas (Fine Arts)

Elias Huckel-Fidalgo moves to excuse **Jarrad Haas** from meeting.

Seconded by **Salman Fahim Syed**.

Motion carries.

3. Approval of the Agenda

Salman Fahim Syed moves to switch The Mindful Project Funding Proposal and the Engineering Student Space Restoration Project Funding Proposal.

Hannah Jamet-Lange pulls Academic & Advocacy Minutes from agenda.

Leigh Kusaj moves to place Indigenous Bursary Project to the top of speaker presentations.

Hannah Jamet-Lange pulls Loyola Committee Minutes.

Patrick Quinn pulls Appointments to merge with Senate.

Victoria Pesce pulls Clubs & Space minutes.

Salman Fahim Syed moves to approve agenda.

Seconded by **Arad Andrew Banis**.

Motion passes.

5. Presentations and Guest Speakers

a) Indigenous Bursary Project

Irmak Bahar: We are proposing additional bursaries for three indigenous undergraduate students. Many of our students are from up North, the West or the USA. A lot of them come with their children, but don't have enough resources and their children end up staying with their parents. These students don't get to see their young children. The CSU puts their money where their mouth is and justifies their pledges to indigenous students. The CSU holds many mandates including feminism, indigenous rights amongst others, and this would be another one. This proposal is for a four-year pilot project. Quebec subsidises a little based on income. Everything is grant-based, and it's not within ASRC budget to help with daycare. In all, we propose that the best route is the Student Endowment Fund. We would start as soon as it is approved, and this project would last either 50 months or until the last child graduates from daycare. Students would be chosen at random. Some children might currently be three years old, or in part-time daycare so the price listed in the proposal is set at the maximum for flexibility.

Marin Algattus: Are we allowed to give free spots at daycare? Does the CSU have to pay?

Irmak: It would be more expensive for us. Government subsidies are very beneficial. If we pay directly, as a non-profit, we can't pay that. Grants will cost more.

Marin Algattus: To my understanding, if it's \$35, you get the money back from taxes?

Irmak: No one gets 100% of the money back. If you're in a subsidised program, it gets paid back to daycare. Not all daycares are approved.

Chris Kalafatidis: On voting procedure, we could go one by one hearing presentations, or we can do them all and then vote.

Victoria Pesce motions to hear all the presentations first before voting.

Seconded by **James Hanna** and **Salman Fahim Syed**.

There are oppositions.

VOTE

For: 10

Opposed: 2

Abstentions: 2

Motion Carries.

Nicholas Hamel: Is it based if they have one kid? Or will it cover all kids?

Irmak: It's for three spots. If there are more kids, the cost will be lowered. It's either for three spots or three kids, depending on how council votes.

b) Concordia Stingers Presentation

Kathleen DiCaprio: This fee levy covers three main things -- Stingers, Le Gym, Recreation. The current fee levy hasn't changed in the last 9 years. The demand for more activities has increased, but we don't have the costs to support them. With the increase, the fee levy would come up to a total of \$5/credit. According to surveys, students want more recreation and a cheaper gym membership. Working out should not be a luxury. We want to be the first university in Quebec to charge nothing for sporting games. Concordia could start that new trend for the sake of accessibility. This would also create a lot of student jobs. We are the department that hands out the most jobs. We will also be working with Health and Wellness.

Arad Andrew Banis: Is there a list of priorities or a timeline?

Kathleen: We'll have the timeline by September 30th. The gym fees can be applied as soon as its approved.

Melize Ferrus: What about Loyola?

Kathleen: There are the intramural sports like badminton. It's a performance centre, not a gym. But there are plans to integrate.

Darcy: We're planning for a future expansion of facilities. If there's going to be a new gym, there'll be new space for that as well.

Patrick Quinn: This is an informational session. They will be applying through policy to decide if this should go to referendum.

Désirée Blizzard: On student jobs, what are your numbers?

Kathleen: We don't have exact numbers, but jobs would include refereeing, timekeeping, floor monitors, receptionists, facilities staff, rentals, and night shifts.

Elias Huckel-Fidalgo: You mentioned board games? How is that different from the Concordia Games Club?

Kathleen: It would be university driven. Le Gym activities would be integrated with the extra space. We will consider working with that club. And our ideas include big chess games with big chess pieces.

Elias Huckel-Fidalgo: Would the free tickets be for Concordia students only?

Kathleen: Yes.

Victoria Pesce: For the free summer gym membership, is it only for students enrolled in summer classes?

Kathleen: Even if not enrolled in summer, if students have an active student ID, they can get it.

Melize Ferrus: At Loyola, what if I just want a gym space to lift weights?

Kathleen: You could use the open space and dome to do it. Performance centre has equipment. We can talk about what we can do.

Victoria Pesce: Would it be free summer gym and \$35 memberships at both Loyola and SGW?

Kathleen: Performance centre is not under us. So, it would be just for Le Gym. We are working to facilitate that relationship with Loyola.

Leigh Kusaj: Does this plan include costs from other things or just the fee levy?

Kathleen: We do advertising on field, and sponsorships. The plans we set today are from the fee levy.

Victoria Pesce: I went to stringers game two weeks ago and there weren't a lot of students. How do we ensure students know about games and go?

Kathleen: The main problem is the separation of We've been working on outreach, and our communications department. We have made efforts, and student attendance is up.

Alex, ECA: Wouldn't it be difficult to get more space? You mentioned an alternative recreation centre?

Kathleen: We're not aiming to create more space, but to use the space we have. We want to use the common space that exists, like the hall mezzanine and the JMSB lobby.

Darcy: We have the space above gym, as well.

c) Engineering Student Space Restoration Proposal

Hannah J.H. and Alex L.: We're talking about the maintenance and restoration of spaces for engineering students at Concordia. The current space isn't appropriate for the needs of our students. We represent most of the active student body. We create communities and enhance student experiences. More than that, anyone can get involved. Our projects keep getting more and more advanced, but to keep up, our facilities need to be kept up as well. Our biggest problem is reliable equipment. We can't use these machines overnight without getting kicked out. We're proposing a restoration project that would take around \$53,000. We plan to ask for this from the SSAELK fund which is for improving student spaces. Using this, we would fund 19 lab workstation computers, 3 servers, 1 simulation, and other smaller office fixtures. To cut costs, we will be buying computer parts in bulk and assembling them individually. This makes them future proof so we can update them. As things get invented, we can still use them. This is a full breakdown of our budget lists. As student organisations, we rely on the student body and the CSU.

Chris Kalafatidis: It's amazing to see how many people came out. The SSAELK fund is for student building. If there's anyone who needs the SSAELK fund, it's the people in this room.

Désirée Blizzard: It's really cool to see this many engineering students. We encourage engineering students to run for council. I want to ask if you've asked money from other organizations.

Alex Stojda, ECA President: We want to keep fee levies as low as possible. It is in our plans to do a fee levy increase. But that still wouldn't cover the money we need. We try to find funding, but sponsorships are hard to come by. The student space fund is what I think will help these societies.

Arad Andrew Banis: People need this fund. We need to take this as seriously as we can.

Salman Fahim Syed: Apart from the CSU, what other funding are you are planning to reach?

Alex L.: The operating budget we requested was \$350,000. We might be getting \$30-40k. The rest of our budget will be from reaching out to organisations. In the past, we've turned to other students. There's not a lot of support for these clubs and activities. The experiences we provide make you a better engineering student but there's not enough support.

Hannah J.H.: The money doesn't include discounts. This is a worst-case scenario budget. We paid a couple thousand grand for the rocket trailer, and it costs half a million dollars.

Elias Huckel-Fidalgo: The usage of equipment, is it only for members?

Hannah J.H.: It depends on the society and group. For Space Concordia, we work on specific projects, so the material is for those projects.

Alex L.: The main restrictions are for safety purposes. You'd need training. We prioritise our own projects but there are no preventions.

Elias Huckel-Fidalgo: What about your license prices?

Hannah J.H.: I can send them to you. Students get student licenses from Concordia then they put it on the computers.

Alex L.: We hope companies can sponsor some of them.

Arad Andrew Banis: To clarify, they don't need licenses because they're buying pieces in bulk.

Melize Ferrus: If you do need to replace something, what happens?

Hannah J.H.: Replacements would be in our budget.

Melize Ferrus: At Loyola, what are you doing for us?

Hannah J.H.: We don't have a space at Loyola.

Alex L.: Our projects are open to everyone who's not in the program. Space Concordia has a lot of people from Science who participate in those programs. We explicitly recruit them on Loyola. We do reach out to Loyola, but we don't have a space to use there because the faculty is here.

Melize Ferrus: If someone on Loyola needs a specific computer, would you let me use it?

Hannah J.H.: We prioritise our own projects, but different clubs will review them case by case according to their mandates

Victoria Pesce: Legally, associations can be registered with Québec.

Alex Stojda, ECA: Each club is under the jurisdiction of the Engineering Department.

Victoria Pesce: If you legally register, Concordia and Quebec have to give you a space.

Désirée Blizzard: How old is the equipment you currently have?

Alex L.: The most recent pieces are 10 years old. Concordia replaces hardware 5 years at a time. But they get passed around and we end up getting the scraps. Our hardware is so old that Microsoft will not support them anymore.

Isaiah Joyner: How do you ensure equipment is secure?

Hannah J.H.: We have a members list. Only the members on the list can open the space. Before everyone leaves, it has to be locked.

Alex L.: Security has the names of members, and they have the key.

Leigh Kusaj: This proposal only affects seven clubs? Are the other five not active?

Hannah J.H.: We reached out to all. The seven societies are the ones who need the hardware.

Adriana: Even though spaces are reserved, I've been able to use some equipment. There's inter-organisational support. We've asked for facilities from Space Concordia. We don't stop projects, we help them.

Hannah Jamet-Lange: If you go under budget, what happens to the rest of the budget?

Alex L.: If SSAELK approves it, we would get the bill.

Amman Houara: Have you asked Concordia for funds?

Alex L.: We sent a very polite letter to dean, and we were asked to leave them alone.

Hannah J.H.: Any other on-campus grants we apply for, we're in-debt to the Concordia community.

Alex L.: We tap into SSAF funds and into the CCSL. It goes to competition projects due to project-based grants.

Amman Houara: What are your long-term plans?

Hannah J.H.: This is our long-term plan.

Alex L.: It's unfortunate that we've had to come here. But with this, we should be able to maintain infrastructure.

James Hanna moves to extend discussion by 15 minutes.
Seconded by **Arad Andrew Banis**. There are oppositions.

VOTE

For: 3

Opposed: 10

Abstentions: 2

Motion fails.

Leigh Kusaj moves to extend by 5 minutes.

Seconded by **Amman Houara**.

Carries unanimously.

Victoria Pesce: The CSU is here to support you. Is this a sustainable fund?

Hannah J.H.: Every year, we have an assigned budget line. We have detailed budget plans. We allocate maintenance funds every year.

Victoria Pesce: I think you should fight to make sure the school gives you the money for maintenance. It's part of the school name, and the school should be providing for you.

James: We compete against other universities. We drive to competitions while other universities have rental cars. This year we went to Maryland, and we went camping. All funds go straight to projects.

Maha Siddiqui: These are things that should be provided. The CSU had a networking event on how to make budgets and get sponsorships. We try to provide you with tools. Those are some networking events.

Hannah J.H.: We get a lot of sponsorships. That rocket trailer cost us \$10k, and it's valued at half a million dollars. We don't need extra education on how to do budgets, we've been running for decades. We need to talk to the faculty. Maybe we need help with that from the CSU but suggesting that it's because we don't know what we're doing is unfair.

James Hanna moves to extend for 5 minutes.

Seconded by **Amman Houara**.

Motion passes.

Isaiah Joyner: The decision on the table is not competency. They need equipment, and it's about whether it's within our capacity to give it to them so they don't need to be dependent on anyone else.

Alex Stojda, ECA: This is my third year with ECA. Engineering is expensive. We need labs with specialised equipment and these things comes with a cost. As much as the faculty wants to support us, we've put a lot of pressure, and the reality is that engineering labs take more precedence. The reason why we're here today is to get the extra push to put us in a more sustainable position from here on out. We don't have enough support.

Courtney: We had lunch with Dean of students, and he told us to ask the CSU for money.

William, UAV: I support what James talked about regarding schools. We look improper. We face horrible conditions at competitions, compared to other universities. We'll be willing to share our resources for proper projects, but most of our equipment is very valuable. Missing a piece of equipment might cost of us in competition. There is equipment in other departments that we can't get because they prioritise their own projects, and we fully understand that.

Patrick Quinn: I've never seen a budget this detailed a budget before. It speaks to the transparency and passion of this proposal.

Victoria Pesce motions for a 5-minute recess.

Meeting resumes **2038h**.

d) 2019-2020 Mindfulness Meditation Project Funding Proposal

Léa Homer: The most pressing problem for university students is mental health. We've integrated with the union's permanent services under the Mental Health Centre. A major finding shows how these issues affect academic and personal lives. Students reported that anxiety, depression, stress, and sleep difficulties are the most prevalent factors affecting academic performance. And there is a lack of adequate services responding to these concerns. From an individual perspective, mindfulness helped me deal with university stress. Studies show how mindfulness changes the structure of the brain over time. We are a small team with a lot of skills, experience and training to deal with issues. Our goal is providing students with tools to better manage academic stress to build autonomy and resilience that they can use beyond the program. This is not meant to replace therapy, but to support it. This year we want to expand the programme following increased demand. We want to formalise the project as a permanent mental health service under the CSU. This budget is for four programs in one year and includes our preparation during the summer. This is very cheap for the services given. Mental health is the biggest demand we face, mindfulness is the most affordable way to deal with this. Concordia is one of the only Montreal universities that hasn't done anything about this yet. Everything is set to go; we just need the money. We were unpaid over the summer. We also want a space so we can work toward smaller opportunities like drop-ins.

Chris Kalafatidis: Léa came into my office after we finalised the budget. Council meetings are the only way she can get money now. They want to create a structure that will outlive themselves. RRAWC was on table and then this came. Why don't we create a whole mental health service and then have wings with this project under it. So ideally, we can give them the money now, and we can create a fee levy. I support this project.

Désirée Blizzard: How much money did you get last year?

Léa: \$5000. We ran with CUPA money. We brought it to the CSU on a mutual understanding that we needed to figure out what this would be. It was run for free to test out under the CSU.

Désirée Blizzard: The budget has been proposed and sent out. We're running a small surplus now. We could look at the budget. There is some flexibility and we could see what cuts would have to be done. This was a product of miscommunication during the transition of teams. For us to finance it, we need to look at the budget.

Arad Andrew Banis: Is this a full year budget?

Léa: It includes the summer work.

Arad Andrew Banis: How much does the trainer charge?

Léa: Externally, it would be \$8000. For this, he charges \$4000.

Maha Siddiqui: How many people did you help in the last year?

Léa: It depended on year and campus. We've run five programs up till now. We catered to 70 students and we were either close to full, full or had a waitlist. We had groups of people over 20 and had people waitlisted.

Maha Siddiqui: The graph you showed is based on 70 people?

Léa: These are the google forms we used. We wanted to show the whole picture.

Maha Siddiqui: How many people answered this?

Léa: 12-18 per semester.

Désirée Blizzard: There should be some flexibility in the budget if we all look at where we can cut.

Léa: It's very strenuous that this is mid-September. But I don't know how much we can stay afloat. I hope if you think this is an opportunity, to support it and that it can be done today.

Chris Kalafatidis: I think we might have something to add to the motion. Where we push the responsibility to Fincomm to see where the money could be from.

Léa: This is kind of our maximum amount, but we can try to cut down where we can. Sometimes we were able to give money back.

e) Food Reduction Program

Megan: Concordia would be the first university to donate its leftovers to various organisers like homeless and refugee centres. We have a passion in sustainability. We want to do more beyond People's Potato. Composting is not the greatest thing to do. We should first reduce, feed people, feed livestock and then do composting and disposal. 300 pounds of food thrown yearly by Concordia. We compost 100 tons a year. I've been working with La Table des Chefs who redistribute food to various organisations. I'm looking at getting a Food Donation Coordinator to do 30 semester events. I need volunteers and minimal equipment. I'd like to issue a referendum question: Do you think the CSU should support a university-wide policy to reduce food waste and donate all eligible leftovers to those in need?

James Hanna: My one concern is in referendum question. I suggest that you give us a mandate to do something.

Salman Fahim Syed: Are you focussing on feeding students or people outside Montréal?

Megan: Both. Right now, I'm working with zero-waste departments, food coalitions, and working with Mother's Hubbard and People's Potato to have food redistributed.

Salman Fahim Syed: After events, where do you take the leftovers? How will it directly affect students?

Megan: At La Table de Chef, if it's a large event, they'll call people a day before to get someone to come regardless of the time. If the food is not large enough to have someone to pick up, there will be somewhere to store food for people to pick up.

Naomi Barney Purdie: If you needed help, policy committee can help with question.

Victoria Pesce: Were you thinking of reaching out to grocery stores?

Megan: That was the first thing I did. I also went to all the property managers under the CSU. A lot of them are corporate-based, and it's a long process to get hold of corporate managers. I'm hoping to have this instilled by 2021.

f) SEIZE

Ben and Chloe: We are working on community involvement. Reggie's, HIVE, Woodnote, and Daycare all came about at the same time by students for students. After we did our transitions conference, that led the momentum for Daycare. What do we do with that momentum? We want to disrupt and democratise our economy. Quebec is one of three international hubs for co-op classrooms. We want to help fill the Anglo void in Montréal development. There's a lot of support on the Francophone side but not so much on the Anglophone side. It's surprising that there aren't any co-op classes in JMSB. Part of the reality about co-ops, is that they aren't supported by the government on the anglophone side. Investors have no idea who the co-op is, or who's liable because there are so many names. Hence, co-ops tend to rely on social movements. These conferences are not always accessible to students, but this one would be free for students. This would be good for networking.

Melize Ferrus: So, you got \$80,000 from different sources?

Ben: CSU gave us around \$8000.

Melize Ferrus: Why is it you're asking for \$37,000 now?

Ben: This was the number the students came up with that they thought was necessary for the conferences.

Chris Kalafatidis: How will you select the students who go to conference?

Ben: We'll change the number based on how much money we get. But we have no selection process. Usually we have 15 student-volunteers. We have money in mobilisation to hire people. People come if they register. We could fill around 1100.

Isaiah Joyner: Is this the total expense?

Chloe: No, the total would be \$68k.

Isaiah Joyner: Where else is the money coming from?

Ben: From various other groups. It's in the document.

Chloe: Once we have big funding, it'll be easier to get more funding. For the CSU to support this would be good for its image.

Leigh Kusaj: What's the Student Endowment Fund?

Ben: The Dean of students oversees it, and if the CSU asks for it, the Dean will probably give it.

Désirée Blizzard: The amount we have right now doesn't get replenished. Last year, they used \$50,000 of it for clubs' maintenance.

James Hanna: Looking over the budget, I noticed the keynote speaker section. The only person I can recognise is Yanis Varoufakis. You included notions of inviting organizations, but I don't know who's coming and what they're presenting. Can you elaborate who's presenting?

Ben: It's an issue with scheduling. And also, these organisations stand for very interesting things. We're going to see how much funding we get and if we get enough, we can dream as much as we are now. If less, we would need to recalibrate. Varoufakis represents the kind of mentality that we might invite. It's less so about big names and more so about big ideas.

Victoria Pesce motions to extend discussion for 5 minutes.

Seconded by **James Hanna**.

Motion passes.

Désirée Blizzard: On the endowment fund, in the past, there weren't any big initiatives. We had Waste Not, Want Not, the Annual Survey. I think this is a good way of using this money. There isn't a real guideline on what we should use this money for. It would be a good look. Has there been anything like this in Montreal?

Ben: No.

Ahmadou Sakho: How many people do you think will attend this, and how relevant do you think this would be for a long-term vision? What impact are you expecting?

Ben: 400 attendees, hopefully. It can be hard to see long-term impacts. Over the time, we expect to see a lot of ripple effects. I'm confident that it'll be very effective. We've had a lot of copycats. We did the HIVE and then after we had Woodnote and Daycare.

Melize Ferrus: Is this only for Concordia students?

Ben: No, half Concordia and half others.

Melize Ferrus: Why would non-Concordians not pay if it's going to be CSU money?

Ben: It'll be Pay What You Can. This will be free, with daycare on site. We want to talk to people.

Melize Ferrus: What visibility would the CSU get?

Ben: We could present you as the largest sponsor. It would be a great sponsor because it would be democratic.

Elizabeth Tasong: And how will you get funding in the future?

Ben: In the future, I'm focussed on fundraising and to get long-term funding that's not capital-based but from grassroots.

James Hanna moves to finish speakers list.

Seconded by **Victoria Pesce**.

Opposed by **Amman Houara** and **Arad Andrew Banis**.

VOTE

For: 8

Opposed: 4

Abstentions: 3

Motion passes.

Victoria Pesce: This is a big event, and the price of keynote speakers is written to be \$7000. If you are having these speakers, maybe pay them less? You could also charge everyone \$5, so if they come it's fine and if they don't, it's still a profit. Do you think you would be able to reduce speakers' pay?

Ben: It depends on the opinions of the students.

James Hanna: Is it the same organisation as last year? Has your executive team turned over?

Chloe: I wasn't involved in it last year. With student groups, its constantly changing.

Ben: It's imperative for people to stick around after their mandate is over. So, some figures will stay, but we're always involving more people.

Patrick Quinn: How many students do you aim to get at conference. What happens if you didn't get all the money?

Ben: We're aiming for more than 20 students involved in volunteering and internships. Also, we'll be working with student organisations, and getting food from the HIVE. We're used to adjusting as we need to if it means that it is good for the community at large.

Marin Algattus: The Endowment Fund is not replenishable. Now we have \$100k left.

Désirée Blizzard: It's more than \$100k.

6) Appointments

a) Library Services Fund Committee

Isaiah Joyner moves to ratify the appointments of **Esther Morand** and **Hannah Jamet-Lange** for library services fund committee.

Seconded by **Elias Huckel-Fidalgo**.

There is a motion to go into closed session.

VOTE

For: 5

Opposed: 8

Abstentions: 2

Motion Fails.

5. Presentations and Guest Speakers

a) Indigenous Bursary Project

Hannah Jamet-Lange reads the following motion. Seconded by **Arad Andrew Banis**.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the CSU allocate \$6851.25 per year or \$28,546.88 over the next 4 years and 2 months to fund 3 bursaries for Indigenous student parents, as presented in the pilot project proposal document;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the funds from the endowment fund be freed for this project;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT no later than 6 months prior to the projected project completion date, the CSU Finance Committee, in collaboration with the CSU Daycare & Nursery Director and the Aboriginal Student Resource Centre Coordinator, evaluate the project and make recommendations for the future.

Hannah Jamet-Lange: I think it's a great project that we should support.

Marin Algattus: I'd like to amend the motion to remove the three student spots and replace it to include how if we can afford it, we can do more. I'd like to fund more than three.

Chairperson: Any oppositions?

There are oppositions.

Chairperson: We will now discuss the amendment.

Melize Ferrus: I don't see how it would work if we increased the number of people since they have a set budget.

Hannah Jamet-Lange: There was a lot of research done for this project already. It's just to test this out. I think it's good to not restrict it. I think we should just go with this and then make it more accessible afterwards.

Isaiah Joyner: Instead of removing the three, I'd say at maybe edit it to say at least three spots.

James Hanna: My reservation about this is that the Endowment Fund isn't infinite. I'm not comfortable voting until I know how much is left in the endowment fund.

Désirée Blizzard: Around \$148k.

James Hanna: Limiting it to three would give us space to get word out about this.

Leigh Kusaj: It changes the spirit of this being a pilot project if we change their proposed number.

Chairperson: The room looks to be in agreement.

Maha Siddiqui: I'd like to see recommendations for something else. I'd like to see if someone else gets a free semester, so more students get to benefit from this pilot. We could try to give as many families a chance.

Marin Algattus: I still really don't see how three is enough. There are about 26 families and we're only giving out three spots. Potentially, we may not even need that full amount.

Irmak: This project wasn't done overnight. We played around with different numbers and possibilities. A lot went into proposing this specific thing. The idea is for it to be a pilot project. And it gives the CSU some flexibility. And also, it's for the child's mentality.

Victoria Pesce calls to question. Seconded by **Maha Siddiqui**.

VOTE

For: 0
Opposed: 15
Abstentions: 0
Amendment fails.

Maha Siddiqui: I support.

James Hanna: I support this, as well. Four years is a good time.

Isaiah Joyner: We would need to keep that amount allocated every year.

Marin Algattus: Having '3 limits us if we have the money. And if we do have extra money, we can't give that money. I'd like to amend the motion to include at least three spots.
There are no seconds.

Salman Fahim Syed: How are they selected? Shouldn't there be an application?

Irmak: We could make it income-based, but that becomes an issue if they're supporting their parents and five other kids. There are a lot of consideration at play. And it's not really necessary to ask invasive questions.

Salman Fahim Syed: So, it's just on a basis of random selection?

Irmak: We will select out of the people who apply.

Leigh Kusaj calls to question. Seconded by **Victoria Pesce**.

Salman Fahim Syed: Can we do secret ballot? Seconded by **Amman Houara**.
Moves to secret ballot. Councillors write in their votes. Chairperson and Minute Keeper leave room to count votes.

Chairperson: This motion was voted in favour of.

Victoria Pesce: I want it noted in the minutes that I'm opposed to closed session. When we ran, we ran on the basis of accountability.

Chris Kalafatidis: I want it noted in the minutes that it's stressful to put someone in that position where they might be hated.

Victoria Pesce: But that's why we ran.

c) Engineering Student Space Restoration Proposal

Elias Huckel-Fidalgo reads engineering motion. Seconded by **Leigh Kusaj**.

WHEREAS The engineering member associations provide a vital service towards improving education at Concordia and provide a safe and inclusive space for students;

WHEREAS There is a need for improvements of their equipment in order to improve safety and competitiveness;

WHEREAS CSU Special By-Law I states: "The annual interest accrued on the Student Space, Access to Education and Legal Contingency Fund from the previous fiscal year may be used, not subject to the approbation of the Fund Committee as established by Special By-Law J, to:

C. to grant funding to initiatives or organizations aligned with the CSU Position Book, following the procedures outlined in the CSU Standing Regulations;

D. to accommodate costs needed by a Concordia University undergraduate student association in case of a binding strike mandate voted by said association;

E. for the provision of additional resources and to accommodate costs needed in case of a binding strike mandate approved by the membership at a duly convened Special General Meeting.

Fifty thousand (50,000) dollars of the abovementioned annual interest shall be set aside for the purpose of Sections C) and D). In the event that the annual interest were to be lower than fifty thousand (50,000) dollars, the entirety of said annual interest shall be set aside for the purpose of Sections C) and D). This amount shall be cumulative from year to year for a maximum of seventy five thousand (75,000) dollars. In the event that Section E) is invoked, the provision of section C) and D) shall take precedence.”

WHEREAS the Positions Book Section 2.1 holds that CSU supports high quality, universally accessible postsecondary education as a human right.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT CAD 52498.59 from the SSAELC fund shall be granted to the Engineering and Computer Science Association (ECA) of Concordia University;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the ECA allocate the grant as detailed in the ESSRP Letter of Intent, signed by the President of the ECA;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT to show recognition for its support, each Engineering member association involved will give recognition to the CSU equivalent to the highest tier sponsor in each society.

James Hanna: This is a great way to support them. They’ve made their case quite well. I want to add that the CSU should work with the ECA on anything that should be added to motion.

Arad Andrew Banis: I request the next person to call to question.

Désirée Blizzard: Real quick, I want to add that this is what the fund is for. And we should further relationships with this department.

Maha Siddiqui: It is ridiculous that the school doesn’t give them money but then profits off of the rewards. Councillors and senators that can help bridge the gap between faculties.

Leigh Kusaj: We should support this.

Salman Fahim Syed calls to question.
Seconded by **Victoria Pesce**.

VOTE

For: 15

Opposed: 0

Abstentions: 1

Motion Carries.

d) 2019-2020 Mindfulness Meditation Project Funding Proposal

Isaiah Joyner reads the following motion. Seconded by **Arad Andrew Banis**.

WHEREAS the CSU has funded the Mindful Project for one year and has expressed interest in being integrated into a CSU service.

WHEREAS the 2019-2020 Executive was elected on a platform that centred on Mental Health projects.

WHEREAS stress and mental health is the number one issue that the CSU has to address on campus and affects all students.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the CSU dedicate \$22,000 to the execution of 4 Mindful Project programs for the 2019-2020 mandate.

Isaiah Joyner: It's a great project. One thing all faculties have in common is mental health. Some need more support than others and this can bring Concordia together.

Arad Andrew Banis: Where are we getting the money from?

Désirée Blizzard: Maybe the Student Endowment Fund?

Arad Andrew Banis: We can figure it out.

Désirée Blizzard: I think it's a great project. It's a shame we weren't able to include it in the budget. I suggest we refer it to Fincomm and find where the money can come from.

Seconded by **Amman Houara**.

Désirée Blizzard: I want to see if we can figure out where the money can come from.

Léa: We'd like an answer.

Isaiah Joyner: I know CAF runs operational grants. Until then, you can apply to certain lines in the CSU so we can chip away that \$22k from other active grants. I'm sure Fincomm can find a solution.

Eduardo Malorni: She doesn't need the \$22k for next week. We can roughly divide it into four parts. We could temporarily approve just that smaller amount. Fincomm can find the rest of this.

Arad Andrew Banis: Can the next person call to question?

Chris Kalafatidis calls to question. Seconded by **Elias Huckel-Fidalgo**.

VOTE

For: 10

Opposed: 2

Abstentions: 2

Motion passes.

Désirée Blizzard: I'd like to amend the new motion to have \$5000 allocated to them and then for Fincomm to figure out the rest of the money for later.

Maha Siddiqui: Where will it be coming from? Where in operational?

Désirée Blizzard: An unused line?
Seconded by **Elizabeth Tasong**.

Désirée Blizzard: I think adding to student-led initiatives is less stressful.

Léa: Can I clarify? You're voting for whether the \$22k will happen or not? Right now, we're getting \$5000. Is the \$22k guaranteed?

Chairperson: Not yet.

Arad Andrew Banis: \$5000, if passed, you will get immediately. The rest of the \$22k will be found in the budget. Is that amount enough?

Léa: I have to calculate this in my mind. Time isn't an issue, it's more of being sure of if it's okay.

Marin Algattus: I believe we can make motions under Community Action Fund?

Désirée Blizzard: No, that's from SSAELK. It's a by-law.

Marin Algattus: Can we pass to CAF?

Isaiah Joyner: CAF is \$50k for the year. \$10k is a strike mandate. If we took on the Mindful Project, that'll be half the CAF budget. I don't think they can support the full thing.

Marin Algattus: I'd like to amend the motion, so it'll come out of the internal grants budget line. And so, it'll be taken out of external affairs.

Désirée Blizzard: We do have a built-in surplus in operational that's around \$30k. We do have the funds to take the \$5k. If it does come out of operational, we have the funds to do it.

Chris Kalafatidis: Fincomm will search for the rest of the money.

Amman Houara: I support the motion.

James Hanna: I think there's a general consensus that we want to give you the money we just have to figure out where. I don't think you have to be worried.

Léa: Does everyone feel that way? I'm just worried about our future plans.

Chairperson: It's not how it usually happens. We need to cut the meeting short or run over time.

Naomi Barney Purdie wants to call to question here as it is.

VOTE

For: 15

Opposed: 0

Abstentions: 1

Motion carries.

Maha Siddiqui: I need to leave soon. I want to motion to extend the meeting to 15 minutes longer. Seconded by **Nicholas Hamel**.

f) SEIZE

Arad Andrew Banis presents motion. Seconded by **Naomi Barney Purdie**.

WHEREAS the CSU has been mandated to support the development of a solidarity economy incubator via a referendum of the student body in November of 2015:

Do you as a member of the Concordia Student Union (CSU) support the CSU employing its resources, including a portion of the Student Space, Accessible Education, and Legal Contingency Fund, to establish an autonomous Concordia based solidarity economy incubator that will primarily engage students through the support, development, study, and promotion of democratic enterprises?

[Adopted November 26th, 2015]

WHEREAS the group Solidarity Economy Incubation Zone (SEIZE) has formed on campus as a mix of student and community organizers to create such an organization through promotion of the solidarity economy on campus

WHEREAS SEIZE and its organizers have a successful track record of developing solidarity economy initiatives and conferences on campus to that effect, with a history of support and funding from the CSU

WHEREAS the group is now requesting funding to the amount of \$37,000 for a conference on the solidarity economy to be held in March of 2020, to be expensed from the Student Endowment Fund

WHEREAS the Student Endowment fund is overseen and administered by the Dean of Students office of Concordia, which is in full support of this initiative, as represented by the letter of support from the Dean of Students Andrew Woodall (made available to councillors prior to the meeting)

BE IT RESOLVED THAT CSU council approve a mandate to the Dean of Student's office for the Student Endowment Fund to fund the SEIZE conference to the amount of \$37,000.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT CSU council affirm their support for the development of democratic economic organizing in the solidarity economy as represented by the mandates from the student body

Arad Andrew Banis: Let's do this.

Melize Ferrus: Why are we giving this money this year? It's weird to spend a quarter of this fund already.

Naomi Barney Purdie: I want to state my support of this conference. It's a business model that is missing in Montréal. We should concentrate on where the funding is coming from. The Dean of students himself is in good faith with it. It will be good for communities and for students to be more aware of it.

Hannah Jamet-Lange: Why are they asking us for this whole amount. The \$7000 salary for one speaker is a lot. I think it would be important to give money to this conference, but maybe less. We only have a limited amount in the Endowment Fund.

Chris Kalafatidis: I agree with Hannah and Melize. I like SEIZE's general idea. I've never liked their approach to council. They've never done this before, but they want money. We can invest a little less, maybe \$5000, and let them figure it out. I think they're asking for \$35k, hoping we give them a little bit.

James Hanna: I have conflicts with certain advocates of them. I don't agree with their opinions on the economy. I don't think we should give them all of that money, but I think we can allocate some money for their speakers. We can allocate that out of external budget.

Patrick Quinn moves to amend the motion of the \$37,000 to \$20,000. Seconded by **Lindsay Surerus**.

Patrick Quinn: I think that's a good starting point.

Melize Ferrus: I'm still confused on the format. I think \$20k is a better format and more reasonable. I would like to amend it if I can, the things in their budget like wine. It makes sense to pay for speakers, because that benefits students.

Naomi Barney Purdie: I think \$20k is a good compromise. Clearly these people are experienced with HIVE and the like. They're not amateurs. I think it's inappropriate to characterise how these people present.

Leigh Kusaj: I think reducing to \$20k is a good amount. I think they need the money as a show of support.

Victoria Pesce: \$20k would cover design and speakers. I think \$25k would be good. We could ask them to add the CSU logo and add us as a sponsor.

Désirée Blizzard: I think it'd be a good look for the CSU especially if we have the logo. I'm comfortable with \$25k.

James Hanna: I would like to add to end of that motion, that the money be used for speakers' fees and reserve \$7000 for Yanis Varoufakis.

Ahmadou Sakho calls to question. Seconded by **Victoria Pesce**.

VOTE

For: 2
Opposed: 10
Abstentions: 1
Motions fails.

Elizabeth Tasong motions to amend to \$25k. Seconded by **Victoria Pesce**.

Elizabeth Tasong: \$25k is a very solid amount. This kind of economic model is innate to how the CSU works. It would be ridiculous not to push this model to a bigger stage. I think saying that they're not a reputable service is a disservice.

Isaiah Joyner: It helps that the co-op model is built into it. We are going to support them, and we're probably going to get requests for more conferences, as well. We need to be open minded.

Chairperson: Can someone motion for an additional 15 minutes?

Maha Siddiqui motions to extend meeting by an additional 15 minutes.
Seconded by **Naomi Barney Purdie**.

Danielle Beaudin: How many of you have ran an event at Concordia? It didn't cost me more than \$10k. This is an awesome event and they're transforming Montréal. I don't believe this amount of money is for the CSU to give.

Lindsay Surerus: I support this event. They're also planning for daycare and accessibility.

Salman Fahim Syed: We need to take note of who are the attendees and if they are benefitting Concordia students. After giving them whatever is approved, we have to see if they do what they aim to do. We have to making them accountable and transparent with the students coming.

Victoria Pesce: Educating our students is educating the whole province. You're helping something that'll be helping the economy as a whole. The money for speakers should be reduced. Daycare is something we can do. Communications too. We should write in our motion that they need to write in these expenditures. We want to pay exactly what we want to pay for these specific things.

Eduardo Malorni: Can someone add to the motion that we will become an official sponsor.

Naomi Barney Purdie: It's an event for students. Concordia thrives on co-ops and I don't see why we wouldn't have an issue sponsoring this. It would be counter-productive to not support this.

Elias Huckel-Fidalgo: If the CSU is going to pay that amount, I'd like to see priority given to Concordia students. I think \$25k is a little high.

Arad Andrew Banis: I hosted a 535-guest conference with two UN speakers under \$15k with a strong volunteer team. I think they have a lot of support. I'm annoyed by the number I'm seeing. It's at the expense of other events. I will be voting no.

Ahmadou Sakho calls to questions. Seconded by **Elias Huckel-Fidalgo**.

VOTE

For: 9

Opposed: 5

Abstentions: 1

Amendment carries.

Maha Siddiqui: Be it further resolved that the amount granted shall be upon the condition that the CSU is a main sponsor and shall be publicised as such, and main priority will be given to Concordia students and we get a post-mortem report on how money was spent, and what the turnout is, so we can analyse better ways to give this money out in the future. Be it further resolved that the priority of this \$25k goes to securing keynote speakers and communications. I am open to all and any friendly amendments.

Seconded by **Marin Algattus**.

Maha Siddiqui: I think this is a great initiative. \$25k seems like a lot but this is a unique event of this magnitude. We also sell tickets for other events. But this is in the spirit of accessibility to all. Since we will have a report on this, we should all be comfortable.

Salman Fahim Syed: We were still going to give the money?

Patrick Quinn: The concern about this room, is that if this passes, we would have spent 40% of our remaining endowment. \$20k I was okay with but \$25k is a lot of money for a 3-day conference. Will we have spent a fair amount of money for students tonight?

James Hanna motions for another 15 minutes. Seconded by **Naomi Barney Purdie**. Opposed by **Arad Andrew Banis**.

VOTE

For: 9

Opposed: 4

Abstentions: 2

Amendment passes.

Désirée Blizzard: POI, now we're discussing the amendment?

Chairperson: Yes.

Naomi Barney Purdie: I think the amount here is making the meeting for really long. I originally didn't agree with \$20k and I will agree.

Danielle Beaudin: I am a student, and if I told people that we spent 25% of our student endowment, they'd laugh. Especially with the CSU not having a lot of money.

Maha Siddiqui calls amendment to question.

VOTE

For: 13

Opposed: 0

Abstentions: 2

Amendment carries.

Naomi Barney Purdie: I'd like to motion to change \$25k to 20k.

Seconded by **Melize Ferrus**.

Melize Ferrus: Dean should give them money through CCSO if he approves of it.

Victoria Pesce calls to question. Seconded by **Ahmadou Sakho**. Opposed by **Elias Huckel-Fidalgo**.

VOTE (*for calling to question*)

For: 11

Opposed: 2

Abstentions: 0

Passes.

VOTE

For: 10

Opposed: 2

Abstentions: 3

Motion carries.

Maha Siddiqui moves to table everything. Seconded by **Arad Andrew Banis**.

12. Adjournment

Leigh Kusaj moves to adjourn.

Seconded by **Elias Huckel-Fidalgo**.

Meeting adjourned at **2357h**.