



Concordia Student Union - Council of Representatives  
CSU Special Council Meeting  
Wednesday, February 10, 2021  
Via Zoom, 18h30

## 1. CALL TO ORDER

The chairperson calls the meeting to order at **18h32**.

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**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.**

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## 2. ROLL CALL

Council Chairperson: Caitlin Robinson

Council Minute Keeper: Michelle Lam

**Executives present for the meeting were:** Isaiah Joyner (General Coordinator), Sarah Mazhero (Academic & Advocacy Coordinator), Eduardo Malorni (Student Life Coordinator), Victoria Pesce (External Affairs & Mobilization Coordinator), Amy Nguyen (Sustainability Coordinator), Holly Mark-Hilton (Finance Coordinator), Malcolm Asselin (Loyola Coordinator), Daniel Amico (Internal Affairs Coordinator)

**Councilors present for the meeting were:** Tzvi Hersh Filler (Gina Cody School of Engineering), Christopher Vaccarella (Arts & Science), Sarah Bubenheimer (Arts & Science), Jarrad Haas (Fine Arts), Nicole Nashen (Arts & Science), Brandon Grimaldi (Arts & Science), Shlomo Tanny (John Molson School of Business), Phineas Ambrose Savchenko (Fine Arts), Harrison Kirshner (John Molson School of Business), Diana Lukic (Fine Arts), Lauren Perozek (John Molson School of Business), Wyatt Niblett-Wilson (John Molson School of Business), Howard Issley (John Molson School of Business), S Shivaane (Arts & Science), Alexander

Stojda (Gina Cody School of Engineering), Sean Howard (Gina Cody School of Engineering), Debra Irabor (Arts & Science), Marlena Valenta (Arts & Science), Chelsea Okankwu (John Molson School of Business), Shaun Sederoff (Arts & Science)

**Executives absent for the meeting were: N/A**

**Councillors absent for the meeting were:** Jeremy Deneault (John Molson School of Business), Anais Gagnon (Gina Cody School of Engineering), James Hanna (Gina Cody School of Engineering), Roman Zelensky (Arts & Science), Arieh Barak (Independent)

**Tzvi Hersh Filler** motions to excuse all those not currently present. Seconded by **Sean Howard**. Motion passes.

### **3. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

**S Shivaane** motions to approve the agenda and all items under consent. Seconded. Motion passes.

### **4. CONSENT AGENDA**

### **5. PRESENTATIONS AND GUEST SPEAKERS**

### **6. APPOINTMENTS**

#### **a) Loyola Committee**

**Malcolm Asselin:** We are working on a speaker event in addition to previous work we are doing.

#### **b) Policy Committee**

**Sarah Mazhero:** We look at CSU policies such as SR and by-laws, we make policies that will better the operations of the CSU.

**Marlena Valenta** nominates themselves. Seconded by **Tzvi Hersh Filler**.

**Sean Howard** nominates themselves. Seconded by **Tzvi Hersh Filler**.

**Lauren Perozek** nominates themselves. Seconded by **Tzvi Hersh Filler**.

**Marlena Valenta** rescinds their nomination.

**Sean Howard:** I have written policies before for other organizations, I am familiar with CSU policies. I find policy interesting and believe that I can help.

**Lauren Perozek:** I've been on numerous CSU councils, I'm one of the most senior councillors here with 1 and a ½ years of experience. I have a good understanding of the CSU and have institutional knowledge.

**Shaun Sederoff:** How many committees are you both in?

**Sean Howard:** I'm not on any committee at the moment.

**Lauren Perozek:** I'm on Sponsorship, Student Life, and Loyola committee. I would excuse myself from Student Life if I were to be appointed to Policy.

**Lauren Perozek** has been appointed to the **Policy Committee**.

#### **c) Student Life Committee**

**Eduardo Malorni:** We grant funds to students, managing the special projects fund. You can look forward to giving out money and buying supplies.

**Alexander Stojda** nominates themselves. Seconded by **Tzvi Hersh Filler**.

**Shlomo Tanny** nominates themselves. Seconded by **Tzvi Hersh Filler**.

**Alexander Stojda:** It's relevant to the experience I've had at Concordia. I've organized a lot of student events, giving me perspective on analyzing requests.

**Shlomo Tanny:** It sounds like fun. I'm in BTM and like analyzing this type of stuff

**Tzvi Hersh Filler** motions to appoint **Alexander Stojda** and **Shlomo Tanny** to the **Student Life Committee**. Seconded by **S Shivaane**. Motion passes.

#### **d) Mental Health Ad Hoc Committee**

**Eduardo Malorni:** We brainstorm ways to help students on campus, we are going to hold a town hall later this semester. We meet as issues arise and come up with solutions when they do.

**Shaun Sederoff** nominates themselves. Seconded by **Tzvi Hersh Filler**.

**Shaun Sederoff:** It's an important committee, we should be helping students during these trying times.

**Harrison Kirshner** motions to appoint **Shaun Sederoff** to the **Mental Health Ad Hoc Committee**. Seconded by **Tzvi Hersh Filler**. Motion passes.

#### **e) Library Services Fund Committee**

**Eduardo Malorni:** We are a University committee, we manage the fund and our goal is to improve the library.

#### **f) Fee Levy Review Committee**

**Eduardo Malorni:** We review applications from student groups who want to become fee levies.

#### **g) Sponsorship Ad Hoc Committee**

**Victoria Pesce:** We try to find sponsorships with companies who want to work with us

**Sean Howard** nominates themselves. Seconded by **Tzvi Hersh Filler**.

**Sean Howard:** I've dealt with sponsorships before for clubs and organizations. I believe I would be helpful.

**Tzvi Hersh Filler** motions to appoint **Sean Howard** to the **Sponsorship Ad Hoc Committee**. Seconded by **Shaun Sederoff**. Motion passes.

#### **h) Student Mobilization Ad Hoc Committee**

**Eduardo Malorni:** We work on improving student involvement with the CSU. We are currently targeting first year students

#### **i) Signing Officer**

**Isaiah Joyner:** Signing authority would work with me and Holly to ensure that all expenses are approved.

**Alexander Stojda** nominates themselves. Seconded by **Tzvi Hersh Filler**.

**Alexander Stojda:** I've been a signing officer before.

**Christopher Vaccarella** motions to appoint **Alexander Stojda** as the **CSU Signing Officer**. Seconded by **Tzvi Hersh Filler**. Motion passes.

## **7. RETURNING BUSINESS**

## **8. NEW BUSINESS - SUBSTANTIVE**

### **a) International Student Health Plan Committee**

**Isaiah Joyner** presents the following motion. Seconded by **Tzvi Hersh Filler**. Motion passes  
*WHEREAS* the University is starting the Request for Proposal (RFP) for the international student health plan;

*WHEREAS* the CSU has negotiated to have three seats on the committee;

*WHEREAS* the General Coordinator will hold one of those three seats;

*WHEREAS* the CSU believes that international students should have a say in this issue;

*WHEREAS* Senators were elected to represent students on the highest academic body at the university;

*BE IT RESOLVED THAT* senators Hannah Jamet-Lange and Colin Long be approved to work with the General Coordinator on this portfolio;

*BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT* the budgetary Impact of this motion is nil.

**Isaiah Joyner:** The University is starting the process of finding a new provider for the international student health plan, and are asking for three undergraduate students to consult on it. I will be one with them

**Tzvi Hersh Filler** motions to strike the last *WHEREAS* clause. Seconded by **Isaiah Joyner**. Motion passes.

**Tzvi Hersh Filler:** Colin was not elected, he was appointed. For technical accuracy we should strike it.

**Lauren Perozek:** I love this motion. I highly recommend to join the Parents Page as a resource

### **b) Student Building Referendum Question**

**Isaiah Joyner** presents the following motion. Seconded by **Tzvi Hersh Filler**. Motion passes.

*WHEREAS* the executive team has been working to acquire a student building.

*WHEREAS* the University is willing to help the CSU achieve this goal.

*BE IT RESOLVED THAT* the following question of importance be place on the ballot for referendum during the Winter 2021 General-Elections:

#### QUESTION:

The Concordia Student Union has been dedicated and committed for over two decades to build and operate its own student center/building. A fee levy was established in 1990's to make this project a reality. Several universities in North America have already acquired similar student spaces such as UBC and University of Toronto, Talks and negotiations have been ongoing with Concordia University to develop such a center in the SGW area. The land area cannot be divulged at this time due to confidentiality agreements. However, this site is outstanding. The center would provide Concordia undergraduates with their own dedicated space for events, social gatherings, and new services. Included, would be new quality spaces for Clubs and Associations, an auditorium and additional state of the art study spaces. The space would provide the CSU with an additional 40,000 sq/feet of space for undergraduates.

Do you agree to mandate the CSU to continue to negotiate with Concordia for the realization of this generational project?

**Isaiah Joyner:** This has been a longstanding project, this would allow us to take the next steps to work with the University to achieve this dream.

### **c) Strategic Plan Committee**

**Isaiah Joyner** presents the following motion. Seconded by **Tzvi Hersh Filler**. Motion passes.

*WHEREAS* the CSU currently has no set strategic planning processes;

*WHEREAS* there was a committee in the past to discuss the matter;

*WHEREAS* preliminary research has been done to provide the CSU with a Vision, Mission, Strategic objectives, and Strategic imperatives;

*BE IT RESOLVED THAT* a strategic planning ad hoc committee be created;

*BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT* the committee be tasked with finalizing the strategic plan of the CSU;

*BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT* the composition of this committee be the General Coordinator as chair (voting), and four councilors;

*BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT* this committee create the groundwork to have a strategic planning standing committee in future years.

*BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT* the budgetary Impact of this motion is nil.

**Isaiah Joyner:** The CSU currently does not have a set strategic planning processes. This is important for achieving goals and to give structure to the union. The committee would help tighten up the work I've been doing during my mandate

**Tzvi Hersh Filler** presents the following amendment. Seconded by **Jeremy Deneault**. Motion passes.

*BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT* the composition of this committee be the General Coordinator as **non-voting** chair, and four councilors;

**Tzvi Hersh Filler:** We should add another member to this committee, either a councillor or a student-at-large, in case there is a tie.

**Lauren Perozek:** I agree, if we're revoking the rights of the Chair then we should add another member in case there is a tie. We could either add another seat or give the Chair a vote in tiebreaking situations.

**Victoria Pesce:** More people doesn't make it better, having more members would make it harder to reach quorum

**Chairperson:** The Chair is allowed to vote in the event of a tie.

**Harrison Kirshner** nominates themselves to the committee. Seconded by **Jeremy Deneault**

**Alexander Stojda** nominates themselves. Seconded by **Sean Howard**

**Wyatt Niblett-Wilson** nominates themselves. Seconded by **Tzvi Hersh Filler**.

**Jeremy Deneault** nominates themselves. Seconded by **Tzvi Hersh Filler**.

**Harrison Kirshner:** I want to be involved in how the CSU can better ourselves, our mission, and our vision. I have experience working on mission statements.

**Alexander Stojda:** I am interested in strategic planning processes. I hope to bring innovation to this committee

**Wyatt Niblett-Wilson:** I will consider rescinding my nomination in the event that anyone identifying as a Woman wants to nominate themselves.

**Jeremy Deneault:** I want to try strategic planning to get some experience, and I would personally like to work more closely with Isaiah. If a female councillor that wants to nominate themselves, I will consider rescinding.

**Marlena Valenta** nominates themselves. Seconded by **Tzvi Hersh Filler**.

**Chelsea Okankwu** nominates themselves. Seconded by **Tzvi Hersh Filler**.

**Marlena Valenta:** This sounds interesting and I would like to get involved

**Chelsea Okankwu:** I would like to bring a more diverse opinion.

**Harrison Kirshner** rescinds their nomination.

**Alexander Stojda, Marlena Valenta, Chelsea Okankwu, and Wyatt Niblett-Wilson** are appointed to the **Strategic Planning Ad Hoc Committee**.

#### **d) Letter of Apology – Racism**

**Eduardo Malorni** presents the following motion. Seconded by **Tzvi Hersh Filler**. Motion passes.

*WHEREAS* the CSU is committed to creating a safe environment for all students;

*WHEREAS* the CSU has had accusations of racism levied against it in the past;

*WHEREAS* one of the main components of the accusation is that it led to an unsafe environment for students of the BIPOC Community;

*BE IT RESOLVED THAT* the CSU write a letter of apology to the BIPOC Community for any past trauma it has caused directly or inadvertently;

*BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT* within the letter of apology there is included actionable steps taken by the CSU to prevent actions of racism from occurring again;

*BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT* this letter of apology be completed by the end of February to coincide with the end of Black History Month;

*BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT* the budgetary impact of this motion is nil.

**Eduardo Malorni:** Across the world we have seen injustice against the BIPOC community. The CSU has faced accusations as well every few years, leading to a bad reputation to the BIPOC

community. We need to acknowledge that these things have occurred in the past, and we should write a letter of apology and strive to do better.

#### **e) Letter of Apology – Antisemitism**

**Isaiah Joyner** presents the following motion. Seconded by **Shaun Sederoff**. Motion passes.

*WHEREAS* the CSU is committed to creating a safe environment for all students;

*WHEREAS* the CSU has had accusations of anti Semitism levied against it in the past;

*WHEREAS* one of the main components of the accusation is that it led to an unsafe environment for students of the Jewish Community;

*BE IT RESOLVED THAT* the CSU write a letter of apology to the Jewish Community for any past trauma it has caused directly or inadvertently,

*BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT* within the letter of apology there is included actionable steps taken by the CSU to prevent actions of anti Semitism from occurring again;

*BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT* this letter of apology be completed by the end of March to coincide with the holiday of Passover;

*BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT* the budgetary impact of this motion is nil.

**Isaiah Joyner:** This year, discrimination has been on the rise. It is not easy to see the rise of White Supremacy. This year has been a learning experience for me in regards to anti Semitism in the Concordia community. The CSU should always take steps to repair the damage that it has inflicted on the community.

#### **h) Letter of Apology – Sexism**

**Eduardo Malorni** presents the following motion. Seconded by **Tzvi Hersh Filler**. Motion passes.

*WHEREAS* the CSU is committed to creating a safe environment for all students;

*WHEREAS* the CSU has had accusations of sexism levied against it in the past;

*WHEREAS* one of the main components of the accusation is that it led to an unsafe environment for women and femme-presenting folks;

*BE IT RESOLVED THAT* the CSU write a letter of apology to women and femme-presenting folk for any past trauma it has caused directly or inadvertently;

*BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT* within the letter of apology there is included actionable steps taken by the CSU to prevent actions of sexism from occurring again;

*BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT* this letter of apology be completed by mid- April to coincide with Sexual Assault Awareness Month;

*BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT* the budgetary impact of this motion is nil.

**Eduardo Malorni:** Sometimes there is a genuine disregard for the opinions of women and femme-presenting folx, which is something that has deterred them from participating with the CSU. We need to acknowledge when these things happen and acknowledge these mistakes, this can help slowly mend the bridges that have been broken so that we can strive for a more inclusive CSU.

**i) Letter of Apology – LGBT2Q+**

**Eduardo Malorni** presents the following motion. Seconded by **Tzvi Hersh Filler**. Motion passes.

*WHEREAS* the CSU is committed to creating a safe environment for all students;

*WHEREAS* the CSU has had accusations of homophobia, transphobia and biphobia levied against it in the past;

*WHEREAS* one of the main components of the accusation is that it led to an unsafe environment for students of the LGBTQ2+ Community;

*BE IT RESOLVED THAT* the CSU write a letter of apology to the LGBT2Q+ Community for any past trauma it has caused directly or inadvertently;

*BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT* within the letter of apology there is included actionable steps taken by the CSU to prevent actions of homophobia, transphobia and biphobia from occurring again;

*BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT* this letter of apology be completed by mid- May to coincide with The International Day Against Homophobia, Transphobia and Biphobia.

*BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT* the budgetary impact of this motion is nil.

**Eduardo Malorni:** It is important to acknowledge these instances. It's important to identify these situations individually so that students know that we are accountable for them.

**S Shivaane:** I'd just like to express my appreciation for this sentiment because the past few years has been rough and upsetting and distressing for the groups listed, this environment has been hostile for a lot of those groups. With that there's been a lot of learning and I greatly appreciate these motions. Especially with the promise towards actionable things, this is amazing.

**Sean Howard:** This letter has actionable steps and is a great initiative

**Harrison Kirshner:** This is needed and I appreciate all of these letters of apology, I'm sure they will be followed with action

**Jeremy Deneault:** I'm looking forward to seeing the change based on the reception of this letter

## 9. RETURNING BUSINESS – INFORMATIONAL

**Holly Mark-Hilton:** Operational Budget: There is a significant decrease in student initiative expenses, a significant increase in council expenses due to JB honorariums, and a significant increase in financial and legal fees. The forecasted profit for the end of the fiscal year as of February is **\$65,385**.

Advocacy Budget: There is a significant increase in GSA revenues, salaries, and benefits. The forecasted profit for the end of the fiscal year as of February is a **deficit** of **\$8,450**.

HOJO Budget: There is a significant increase in salaries and benefits. The forecasted profit for the end of the fiscal year as of February is a **deficit** of **\$307**, which is not that significant.

LIC Budget: There is a significant increase in salaries and benefits. The forecasted profit for the end of the fiscal year as of February is a **deficit** of **\$8002**

Clubs Budget: The salaries and benefits have moved to the operations budget, there is a significant decrease in clubs' expenses, and a significant increase in events and administration. The forecasted profit for the end of the fiscal year as of February is **\$83,061**

Consolidated budget: There is an increase in advocacy revenue due to GSA contract, there is a decrease in the operation expenses due to student initiatives, an increase in services' expenses due to salaries, and a decrease in clubs' expenses due to inactive clubs. The forecasted profit for the end of the fiscal year as of January is **\$131,688**

## 10. QUESTION PERIOD & BUSINESS ARISING

**Tzvi Hersh Filler** presents the following motion. Seconded by **Isaiah Joyner**. Motion passes. *BE IT RESOLVED THAT* the motion previous adopted appointing **Alexander Stojda** and **Shlomo Tanny** to the **Student Life Committee** be amended to add “notwithstanding article 6.12.1.2 of the Policy on Council and Committees.

## 11. ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Daniel Amico:** Anti Semitism training will take place on February 24

**Eduardo Malorni:** Thank you for the smoothness of this council meeting. We've all had a tough year but tonight we saw some motions that could have been contentious but everyone has handled them smoothly. These apologies will help in the long term for the CSU. I would like to express my gratitude to council for how today went

**Debra Irabor:** It's Black History Month, check out different discussions and events happening.

**Lauren Perozek:** I am an executive at Concordi'Art and we are trying to promote Black artists, let me know if there is anyone that you know of

**Sarah Mazhero:** From the BIPOC committee, we have a movie night this Friday

**Nicole Nashen:** My group is organizing a panel discussion about systemic racism in Quebec

**Ahmadou Sakho:** This has been a very clean meeting today, I hope everyone is good

**Isaiah Joyner:** Thank you for gracing us with your presence

## **12. ADJOURNMENT**

**Isaiah Joyner** motions to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by **Jarrad Hass**. Motion passes.

Meeting adjourned at 8:10 PM