



Concordia Student Union - Council of Representatives
CSU Annual General Meeting
Wednesday, April 27, 2022
Via Zoom, 18h30

1. CALL TO ORDER

The chairperson calls the meeting to order at **18h44**.

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: Michelle Lam

Executives present for the meeting were: Faye Sun (Sustainability Coordinator), Camina Harrison-Chéry (External Affairs & Mobilization Coordinator), S Shivaane (Loyola Coordinator), Eduardo Malorni (General Coordinator), Harrison Kirshner (Internal Affairs Coordinator), Malcolm Asselin (Student Life Coordinator)

Councilors present for the meeting were: Hassan Nabeel (Gina Cody School of Engineering), Nathaniel Ouazana (Arts & Science), Caleb Woolcott (Arts & Science), Calvin Clarke (Arts & Science), Lauren Perozek (John Molson School of Business), Wan Hua Li (Fine Arts), Ariane Drouin (Gina Cody School of Engineering), Jeremya Deneault (John Molson School of Business), Christopher Vaccarella (Arts & Science), Tzvi Hersh Filler (Independent)

Councilors absent for the meeting were: Alina Murad (Arts & Science), Lily Charette (Arts & Science), Olivia Integlia (Arts & Science), Boutaina Chafi (Arts & Science), Ikrame Housni

(Arts & Science), Noah Mohamed (John Molson School of Business), Katherine Bellini (Gina Cody School of Engineering), Paula Colmenares (Independent), Samuel Thibodeau (Fine Arts), Brandon Grimaldi (Arts & Science), Shania Bramble (Arts & Science), Emmanuel Gaisie (John Molson School of Business), Marissa Profetto (Gina Cody School of Engineering), Edel Kilkenny-Mondoux (Arts & Science)

Executives absent for the meeting were: Hannah Jamet-Lange (Academic & Advocacy Coordinator), Aria Khaksar (Finance Coordinator)

Harrison Kirshner motions to appoint **Caitlin Robinson** as **Chairperson** and **Michelle Lam** as the **Minute Keeper**. Seconded by **Eduardo Malorni**. Motion passes unanimously.

Jeremy Deneault motions to approve the agenda. Seconded by **Eduardo Malorni**. Motion passes unanimously.

3. PRESENTATION OF CHIEF ELECTORAL OFFICER'S REPORT

Damon Goncalvez (CEO): There were four senate positions available, and only 1 ran. There were 8 executive positions available, 8 candidates ran but 2 ran for the same position. The election saw 3887/31749 votes, resulting in a 12.24% voter turnout. The success is greatly due to the email blast. Some voters were unaware of not being subscribed to Simply Voting and wanted to vote. Many did not know what the CSU election was. Some voters found the email blast to be repetitive and annoying. I recommend better outreach strategies by the CSU to reach students, advertising earlier in the semester for the election, and further/additional information should be distributed on voter confidentiality and election integrity. I recommend creating other social media pages and making elections more engaging and fun.

Malcolm Asselin motions to approve the CEO report. Seconded by **Eduardo Malorni**. Motion passes unanimously.

4. PRESENTATION OF AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Eduardo Malorni: The CSU's fiscal year ends May 31. Since the 2021-2022 fiscal year has not ended, we can only review the previous year.

The Non-Consolidated Statement Of Operations

The CSU ended the 2019-2020 fiscal year with a \$295,892 surplus and the 2020-2021 fiscal year ended with a \$1,235,434 surplus

Summary of changes from 2019-2020 to 2020-2021

Student fees increased by \$204,009

For the insurance plan, Increased Revenues (\$1,194,116) and Increased expenses (\$1,556,088)

For the SSAELC Fund, Decreased Revenues (\$82,233) and Decreased Expenses (\$89,483)

Note 5: Long-term debt (CEBA)

The CSU took on a CEBA Loan given during COVID to businesses. This loan will bear no interest if paid back before December 31st, 2022 and a 25% write-off will be granted if paid back before this date. The CSU is aiming at paying back this loan before December 31st, 2022.

The Non-Consolidated Statement Of Changes in Net Assets

The CSU's ending balance is \$14,840,794; which increased by \$1,235,434 compared to the 2019-2020 fiscal year

Summary of changes from 2019-2020 to 2020-2021

| SSAELC Fund 2019-2020 | SSAELC Fund 2020-2021 |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Increase of \$255,590 | Increase of \$1,378,754 |
| General Fund 2019-2020 | General Fund 2020-2021 |
| Increase of \$244,164 | Increase of \$164,077 |
| Capital Asset Investments 2019-2020 | Capital Asset Investments 2020-2021 |
| Decrease of \$203,862 | Decrease of \$307,397 |

Note 8: SSAELC Loan

The repayment of the total SSAELC loan was in the 2020-2021 fiscal year and totalled \$207,197

The Non-Consolidated Balance Sheet And Statement of Cash Flows

The CSU's Net Income for the 2020-2021 fiscal year is \$15,824,495 which increased by \$1,407,867 compared to the 2019-2020 fiscal year.

The CSU's ending cash totals \$1,074,062 which is \$107,796 more than the 2019-2020 fiscal year

Reconciliations and the Cumulative Result from 2015-2021

\$252 of discrepancies were recorded when the audit was reconciliated with the CSU's operational budget and actuals for the 2020-2021 fiscal year

The Cumulative result from 2015 to 2021 totals a \$477,494 surplus

Eduardo Malorni presents the following motion. Seconded by **Malcolm Asselin**. Motion passes unanimously.

WHEREAS an auditor's opinion on the state of the CSU's finances for the 2020-2021 fiscal year has been produced by MNP SENCRL.

WHEREAS the auditor's report was produced in accordance with the generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP) and accounting standards.

WHEREAS the financial statements accurately reflect the CSU's financials.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the CSU Council approves the CSU's audited financial statements completed by MNP SENCRL

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT MNP SENCRL be retained as auditors for the 2021-2022 fiscal year.

Lovina Brown: Do you have any plans for the surplus?

Eduardo Malorni: We spent most of that surplus already since these numbers are from last fiscal year on various projects throughout this year. In the future, the incoming team will make decisions on how they want to use it.

5. PRESENTATION OF OUTGOING EXECUTIVE'S REPORT

Eduardo Malorni: We are Brick by Brick, we survived the craziness of the past year and here is a snippet of what we've done in our mandate.

Camina Harrison-Chery (External and Mobilization Coordinator): The annual campaign was well-being through solidarity, which focused on mental health on campus. We held peer-sharing and resource-sharing workshops, we held town halls, we had over 40 events from the campaigns department, we provided goodie bags with BIPOC businesses, and we collaborated with RAWCC for a lot of workshops. Students had the opportunity to participate in many of these free activities. We supported a few groups on campus for Black History Month. We supported the occupation of democratizing education at Concordia. We distributed masks to students. We also had a voter awareness campaign. The campaigns department has gone through many changes this year as well. We did a diversify faculty campaign. We held a mural festival in the fall with over 400 students participating in total. We have a community action fund available for projects.

Harrison Kirshner (Internal Affairs Coordinator):

Clubs YouTube channel and Discord

We created a YouTube channel with how-to videos on how to do day-to-day tasks as a club at Concordia. We wanted to do this to replace standard orientations. We also created a Discord channel to increase the ways that clubs can communicate with us, in addition to the Facebook group.

Return to Campus Transition

We informed the clubs of the ever-changing health and safety rules and regulations

Clubs Portal Creation.

This will be ready on June 1st and will be a new way for the department to manage over 90 student clubs. Clubs can submit reimbursement forms and ask us questions here.

Clubs Culture Fair and Award Ceremony

This will be an event where cultural clubs can share their culture and then an award ceremony/gala, partnering with the IEAC

Executive/Council Training

We facilitated training on topics such as 2IALGBTQ+, Islamophobia, sexual violence and disclosure, anti-oppression, and anti-semitism

We also revamped the special club's funding. We created two new funding streams, the diversity and sustainability funding and the small club's support fund. We also held a clubs fair. The Clubs & Spaces Committee gave \$200,000 in clubs funding

Academic and Advocacy Coordinator

Eduardo Malorni: Hannah is unable to attend tonight but this is an overview of their work. Hannah managed the services that we offer and oversaw the creation of the RAWCC, a service that no other University offers. Senate and subgroups were a place where Hannah dedicated their time, these committees shape student experiences at the University. Hannah worked on trying to reinstate pass/fail options but the administration blocked that from happening. Hannah fought diligently on giving students the ability to discontinue their courses at the end of the semester, which the administration granted. Hannah wrote an open letter that had over 3000 signatures to the administration for safety measures for the summer semester, which Hannah has won. In the CSU, there were 11 policies and 1 bylaw change made by Hannah. Hannah has written more policies than the past three of her predecessors combined.

Faye Sun (Sustainability Coordinator): We reopened Ben's scholarship, we provided funding for various student-led projects that applied to our committee. We had a project on menstrual equity where we offer free sustainable menstrual products. We had the sustainability curriculum

initiative. We held environmental policy workshops. The mental health committee worked on campaigns on passing the mental health services referendum which passed.

S Shivaane: First, as a funding body, BIPOC Committee approved several grant applications and is still reviewing a few more. These funds are used to support community or student initiatives meant to highlight various BIPOC issues and/or uplift those communities. We also launched BIPOC bursaries earlier this month, 14 individual bursaries of \$500 for BIPOC students who are in financial need. The deadline for this is May 1. BIPOC Therapy reconvened for the 2022 Winter term, designed for Black, Indigenous and students of colour who may require mental health support with culture, systemic discrimination and community issues in mind. Bringing on various BIPOC mental health professionals who are adept at discussing those issues. That'll be ending in early May. The most time-consuming initiative for Fall was the creation of an EDI Advisor position and DSO. After meetings with CUPE, Equity Office, Indigenous Directions Office, Otsenhákta Student Centre, Black Perspectives Office, and various CSU staff, conducting interviews we created this role and have onboarded Sandra Mouafo, the EDI Advisor, in Fall 2021. At the 2021 by-elections, we attempted and succeeded in establishing a Diversity Service Office (DSO) to focus on tackling anti-oppressive, anti-racist goals in the short and long-term, and uplifting various community issues. This is managed by the EDI Officer, and while some projects have been started like cultural healing services and The Diversity Faculty Campaign, the first official year will be starting in the summer. We consulted our Academic and Advocacy Coordinator to provide feedback on certain policies and definitions related to discrimination, equity/diversity/inclusion, and Designated Groups. We are currently in the process of planning an event series to round up the academic year and further uplift community figures and artists from across all racialized groups, in parallel to Asian and Jewish Heritage months.

Malcolm Asselin (Student Life Coordinator):

Orientation

We held coffee kids, an art market, a club fair, a community fair, rap battles for social justice, pins and poetry, Concordia's Got Talent, and we brought 500 students to LaRonde.

Academic Week

This just happened two weeks ago where we held online events about job search and career development.

We held a Black History Month panel, in collaboration with ASFA and McGill. We hosted Chris Boucher, a Toronto Raptor, and the founder of BLM Toronto. We're hoping to have a Career Fair and offer students both options to attend in-person and online. We had an in-person town hall on extreme inequality and climate breakdown, with 200 people in attendance. We collaborated with McGill on an event at Muzique, we're happy to be collaborating with another university. We held a virtual event with Georges St-Pierre on mental health and this was one of our most engaging events. For Halloween, we had an event at Reggies that was lots of fun. We're hosting a Student

Leadership Conference with all the student associations, it is a 12-hour event on May 9th. We provided agendas for free to students and secured 6 sponsors for this. The Yellow Curtain was started last year and is a podcast about the CSU, this year it wasn't as engaging but we set up a podcast room for future mandates. We distributed \$30K to 22 groups/projects related to student life

S Shivaane (Loyola Coordinator): The role is described as duplicating CSU presence at Loyola and addressing Loyola-specific concerns. Observing and receiving news of campus issues in regards to the building itself: Shuttle Bus, Toilets, Accessibility and giving them to the relevant parties. Especially since there was a report done with over a hundred recommendations that the university should be following, a lot of this process is asking for updates on that bureaucratic process. For Pandemic-based student life support, with persisting COVID fatigue and changing student life and the nature of Loyola, we moved towards spending that money in ways that benefit in the short-term - food, career talks, study support, etc. Funding Applications - end of year MA event. Sat on various bodies with consultative or representational responsibilities. Some Events to highlight: End-of-Year Relax Events, MuralFest, Academic Week, and G-Lounge. And now, like most of my teammates, is wrapping up projects and preparing for our handovers.

Eduardo Malorni (General Coordinator): The Woodnote project started in 2015 and came to completion in 2020, this project met the majority of its expectations. We're now working towards a second student housing project near Loyola. We acquired a building for a student center, pending due diligence. We managed to negotiate with the University to secure late DISC for students. We received a commitment from the VP of Services to put \$25K on a business plan on how the campus can manage without the presence of a multinational food contract. I'm very proud of the work this team has done this year.

Eduardo Malorni motions to approve the executive year-end report. Seconded. Motion passes unanimously.

7. ADJOURNMENT

Eduardo Malorni motions to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by **Nathaniel Ouazana**. Motion passes unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 8:14 PM