



Concordia Student Union - Council of Representatives
CSU Special Council Meeting
Monday, July 12, 2021
Via Zoom, 18h30

1. CALL TO ORDER

The chairperson calls the meeting to order at **18h34**.

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: Eduardo Malorni (General Coordinator), Hannah Jamet-Lange (Academic & Advocacy Coordinator), Malcolm Asselin (Student Life Coordinator), Camina Harrison-Chéry (External Affairs & Mobilization Coordinator), Harrison Kirshner (Internal Affairs Coordinator), Faye Sun (Sustainability Coordinator), S Shivaane (Loyola Coordinator)

Councilors present for the meeting were: Ariane Drouin (Gina Cody School of Engineering), Marissa Profetto (Gina Cody School of Engineering), Christopher Vaccarella (Arts & Science), Nathaniel Ouazana (Arts & Science), Ikrame Housni (Arts & Science), Lily Charette (Arts & Science), Brandon Grimaldi (Arts & Science), Lauren Perozek (John Molson School of Business), Emmanuel Gaisie (John Molson School of Business), Calvin Clarke (Arts & Science), Nick Bonneau (John Molson School of Business), Tzvi Hersh Filler (Gina Cody School of

Engineering), Samuel Thibodeau (Fine Arts), Paula Colmenares (Independent), Edel Kilkenny-Mondoux (Arts & Science)

Executives absent for the meeting were: Aria Khaksar (Finance Coordinator)

Councilors absent for the meeting were: Jeremy Deneault (John Molson School of Business), Noah Mohamed (John Molson School of Business), Olivia Lafreniere (John Molson School of Business), Benjamin Harvey (Arts & Science), Anais Gagnon (Gina Cody School of Engineering), Shania Bramble (Arts & Science), Howard Issley (John Molson School of Business), Nicole Nashen (Arts & Science), Boutaina Chafi (Arts & Science), Sarah Bubenheimer (Arts & Science), Alina Murad (Arts & Science)

3. SSAELC Fund Grant

Eduardo Malorni presents the following motion. Seconded by **Harrison Kirshner**. Motion passes

WHEREAS the topic of Food Options on Campus has been an issue of great importance to the student body

WHEREAS Food Justice has been a central goal to the CSU during the past decade

WHEREAS the CSU has funded numerous food initiatives on campus such as the Hive, Reggies, and Café X

WHEREAS the Food Contract offered by Concordia University is being renegotiated this year

WHEREAS it is crucial to begin planning early for future renegotiations planned for 2025

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of Representatives recommend to the SSAELC Committee to authorize a grant up to 50,000\$ to be used to create and propose a new food system on campus

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

Eduardo Malorni: Currently, food contracts are given for five years by Concordia. It is currently overseen by Aramark, the contracts are both residential and retail. Generally, it had been multinational corporations granted these contracts, and these corporations often try to minimize costs by providing low-quality food. Our current student-led food options are Hive, Reggies, People's Potato, etc. These are ranked better as food options by students. Retail locations mean that they are open to the public, residential are cafeterias such as Grey Nuns and Hingston Hall. The residential is the most valuable part of the contract for multinationals. At other universities, they have different models of operations. At the University of Winnipeg, the students and University created their own organization to supply the food. At McGill, they have smaller organizations that are responsible for their own space. We are currently in the last year of

the contract with Aramark. Concordia is exploring new food systems, especially local sources. The goal is to have all food on campus either all student-run or an organization dedicated to student needs. There is a ginormous amount of support from students and Professors for this.

4. Mural Festival Motion

Christopher Vaccarella presents the following motion. Seconded by **Lauren Perozek**. Motion passes.

WHEREAS art festivals contribute to the vitality of the communities they are present in.

WHEREAS art festivals help create a stronger sense of community, belonging and fosters new relationships.

WHEREAS art festivals improve the mental health of students and the community at large.

WHEREAS art festivals give a platform and space for creative expression and welcoming space for all.

WHEREAS Concordia University has never had a festival of this capacity before and it is needed to strengthen the school and surrounding community.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the CSU create a student-led mural festival located on Concordia campuses.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the festival uses the available wall and street surfaces, with the relevant permits if city property is also used.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the festival also showcases non-mural artists by setting up tables for artists to sell their work (i.e. paintings, handcraft items, clothing, etc.).

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the festival has a balance between local artists in Montreal and artists who attend Concordia University, with at least 50% of artists being registered Concordia students.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT that 50% of mural artists and art vendors of the festival be from BIPOC communities, with at least one Indigenous identifying artist. LGBTQ+, persons with disabilities and other marginalized groups that are often not invited to other festivals in the city will also be prioritized.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT artist expression is not hampered and that artists have the freedom to choose what to spray paint/engage in.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the festival respects and follows the current and changing COVID-19 guidelines administered by the government of Quebec.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT this festival takes place during the first week of the fall semester.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the festival has a two-year pilot and if it proves to be successful, for it to become a yearly festival for the foreseeable future.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the budgetary impact is \$6,000.

Christopher Vaccarella: We can showcase artists at Concordia, underrepresented artists in the community, and this will help with mental health and community building. We would be the first school to do this.

Lauren Perozek: Will there be indoor murals? There's a bunch of staircases in the Hall building that could use this

Christopher Vaccarella: I'm open to both

5. Creation of Mental Health Standing Committee

Christopher Vaccarella presents the following motion. Seconded by **Harrison Kirshner**.

Motion passes.

WHEREAS The Covid-19 pandemic has hampered the mental health of students. WHEREAS Concordia University services are inadequate, and students are often waiting weeks or months to see specialists.

WHEREAS the Concordia Student Union has an obligation to offer students the best resources and make the university a better place for all.

WHEREAS students have demanded more services and mental health resources to be offered both by the administration and student union.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Policy Committee gets tasked to make the Mental Health Committee a permanent standing committee, starting in the 2022-23 mandate.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Mental Health committee help fill the missing gaps and offers students more services, activities and alternatives to help with mental health.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT The budgetary impact is nil.

Christopher Vaccarella: This ad-hoc committee was created to fill in the gaps of mental health services offered at Concordia, we should continue this work by creating this standing committee.

Nick Bonneau: Do you have any plans or ideas for the day-to-day operations of this committee? This is an issue I also thought about but I haven't thought of any ideas that can be done

Christopher Vaccarella: The day-to-day would be to help out the needs of students where the administration is lacking.

6. Appointments to Mental Health Standing Committee

Harrison Kirshner: We want to make the mental health services better for students during this period where students are transitioning back to on-campus. We need at least one more member to reach quorum. We are currently planning a town hall.

Faye Sun: Students aren't receiving the services they need and we want to provide more consistent service at Concordia. We meet biweekly.

Ikrane Housni nominates themselves. Seconded by **Tzvi Hersh Filler**

Ikrane Housni: Mental health affects every student and I would like to help.

Harrison Kirshner motions to appoint **Ikrane Housni** to the Mental Health Committee. Seconded by **Tzvi Hersh Filler**. Motion passes.

7. Rescinding Previous Motion (Bylaw 21.2)

Hannah Jamet-Lange presents the following motion. Seconded by **Eduardo Malorni**. Motion passes.

WHEREAS a motion passed on April 14th, 2021 hinders the Council of Representatives from using Bylaw 21.2 for any necessary Bylaw amendments until criteria for the use of the Bylaw be added by Policy Committee and passed in the Fall 2021 referendum;

WHEREAS this causes many problems for the use of the Bylaws and makes it difficult for Policy Committee to operate;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of Representatives rescind the motion entitled Use of Bylaw 21.2 passed as point 8. b) on the agenda of the Regular Council Meeting of April 14th.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT that Policy Committee be tasked with reviewing Bylaw 21.2;

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

Hannah Jamet-Lange: This was passed in April to ensure that there are guidelines on how to amend bylaws. The reason why I want to rescind that motion is that it is now causing issues with the Policy Committee. At the second SCM tonight, we would like to change that. We will create guidelines for amendments in general, but for the time being, we want to be able to make changes to the bylaws without any issues.

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

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT council recommend to the policy committee that the threshold for using bylaw 21.2 be changed from 2/3 to $\frac{1}{2}$.

Tzvi Hersh Filler: In this particular clause, there is a legitimate concern of abuse. Multiple SCMs are a waste of money. I don't want to see Bylaw 21.2 put to use going forward, but on the other hand, I would like to see the original motion rescinded.

8. ADJOURNMENT

Eduardo Malorni moves to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by **Christopher Vaccarella**. Motion carries.

Meeting adjourned at 7:13 PM.