



Concordia Student Union - Council of Representatives  
CSU Special Council Meeting  
Monday, August 09, 2021  
Via Zoom, 18h30

## 1. CALL TO ORDER

The chairperson calls the meeting to order at **18h33**.

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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:** Eduardo Malorni (General Coordinator), Hannah Jamet-Lange (Academic & Advocacy Coordinator), Aria Khaksar (Finance Coordinator), Harrison Kirshner (Internal Affairs Coordinator), Faye Sun (Sustainability Coordinator), S Shivaane (Loyola Coordinator)

**Councilors present for the meeting were:** Christopher Vaccarella (Arts & Science), Ikrame Housni (Arts & Science), Lily Charette (Arts & Science), Lauren Perozek (John Molson School of Business), Calvin Clarke (Arts & Science), Tzvi Hersh Filler (Gina Cody School of Engineering), Samuel Thibodeau (Fine Arts), Alina Murad (Arts & Science), Shania Bramble (Arts & Science), Benjamin Harvey (Arts & Science), Howard Issley (John Molson School of Business), Edel Kilkenny-Mondoux (Arts & Science)

**Executives absent for the meeting were:** Malcolm Asselin (Student Life Coordinator), Camina Harrison-Chéry (External Affairs & Mobilization Coordinator)

**Councilors absent for the meeting were:** Brandon Grimaldi (Arts & Science), Nathaniel Ouazana (Arts & Science), Jeremy Deneault (John Molson School of Business), Nick Bonneau (John Molson School of Business), Paula Colmenares (Independent), Noah Mohamed (John Molson School of Business), Olivia Lafreniere (John Molson School of Business), Anais Gagnon (Gina Cody School of Engineering), Nicole Nashen (Arts & Science), Boutaina Chafi (Arts & Science), Sarah Bubenheimer (Arts & Science), Emmanuel Gaisie (John Molson School of Business), Ariane Drouin (Gina Cody School of Engineering), Marissa Profetto (Gina Cody School of Engineering)

### **3. Appointments to Sponsorship Committee**

**Aria Khaksar** motions to appoint **Jeremy Deneault and Howard Issley** to the Sponsorship Committee. Seconded by **Harrison Kirshner**. Motion passes

**Aria Khaksar:** They've been coming to the meetings, are involved, and want to help with sponsorships. It would be great to have them on board

**Howard Issley:** I would like to help out and contribute wherever I can

### **4. Reggies Grant**

**Nickolas Kisil:** Reggies was founded in 1977, located on the 7th floor of the Hall building. In 1994, Reggies moved to its current location. In 2013, Reggies' poor financial performance hit a breaking point, having accumulated a debt of 1.4M. In 2015, Reggies reopens after a two year closure, having gone through massive changes. In 2017, new Reggies G.M recorded a staggering six figure net loss at the end of the 2016-2017 fiscal year. In 2019, the GM from the 2017 stepped down and I became the GM. Why Reggies has failed in the past is due to zero transparency, zero accountability, and zero analytics. There was no documentation regarding cash flow, specifically regarding the safes. There were no calculations on pricing, costing, and margins. There was virtually no inventory tracking. The current state of Reggies is that we had to shut down on March 12th 2020, having been closed for 16 months if we open in September. Our requests to open were rightfully denied, due to the pandemic. Our current payables are \$84,203.95. Our startup costs are \$22,405. Our expected first year losses are \$58,659.14. This covers the first full year of operations, assuming 50% capacity as COVID capacity is extremely limiting. This is all based on historical data. Why invest in Reggies? We are an essential part of

the student-experience on campus and it contributes directly to the wellbeing of its students and the Concordia community as a whole. Now more than ever, students are craving a social hot spot after being confined to a year of virtual learning. In conclusion, this is truly a chance for a clean slate, with a qualified manager and even better board of directors.

**Eduardo Malorni** presents the following motion. Seconded by **Aria Khaksar**. Motion passes.

*WHEREAS* the pandemic has heavily damaged the foodservice industry including Reggies Solidarity Cooperative

*BE IT RESOLVED THAT* the CSU to transfer \$165,268 from the SSAELC fund to the Reggies.

*BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT* the CSU sends this motion to the Fund Committee for ratification, as per Special Bylaw J.

**Aria Khaksar:** Reggies is a crucial place at Concordia, it's a free space for clubs to utilize, CSU and Concordia have invested in Reggies and it was unfair for them to not be able to operate during COVID, not even for takeout. They're in a difficult situation but I have good faith in Nick and the Board to turn it around and build a strong foundation for the years to come.

**Lauren Perozek:** In terms of mismanagement, how do we put our trust in this Board and that they won't mismanage Reggies? How do we know the people on this Board are good people if the past hasn't reflected that?

**Nickolas Kisil:** Moving forward, we would like to keep track of all the financials and do it right off the bat. This will give us the data immediately and we will be able to communicate this with the CSU monthly. We will have a paper trail with receipts.

**Lauren Perozek:** I want to hold you accountable to that. Can we make it a clause that Reggies have to meet with us every month?

**Aria Khaksar:** This is feasible, Nick and I can update you all on the progress of how Reggies is doing. Realistically, there won't be a big difference right away. But this will show the difference in the management of Reggies.

**Lauren Perozek:** It should be a quick update during council. Since these meetings are accessible and available to students, this will let students be able to know what Reggies is up to. Monthly might be too much, maybe we can do quarterly or bimonthly.

**Nickolas Kisil:** I'm happy to come and present our progress and how our funds are being used. I want to build a foundation for Reggies to be a success after I'm gone

**Tzvi Hersh Filler:** We should change the wording to *contingent* rather than us mandating a Reggie's rep to come. We can't pass a motion requiring Reggie's to do something if they aren't a CSU subsidiary. This will say that the funding we provide is contingent on them showing up and giving us an update.

**Lauren Perozek** presents the following amendment. Seconded by **Christopher Vaccarella**. *BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED* that the disbursement be contingent on a Reggie's representative present financial updates to council on a quarterly basis.

**Lauren Perozek:** This will hold Nick and Reggie's accountable for the promises he made during the presentation.

**Ikrame Housni:** We need to make Reggie's still accessible. How significant will the price increase be?

**Nickolas Kisil:** This is a balancing act. I don't want it to be extremely profitable because if the margins are too high, we aren't being accessible to students. The dream scenario is that we are self-sustainable by breaking even, and potentially making a small profit. Reggie's is a space for the students.

**Lauren Perozek:** Can it be quarterly for two years? This reflects Nickolas' tenure of being the GM of Reggie's.

**Lauren Perozek** presents the following amendment. Seconded by **Tzvi Hersh Filler**. Motion passes. *BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED* that the disbursement be contingent on a Reggie's representative presenting financial updates to council on a quarterly basis for the next two years.

**Tzvi Hersh Filler:** Over what period is the cash being transferred from the SSAELC fund?

**Nickolas Kisil:** The sooner the better. We have vendors that we owe money to

**Aria Khaksar:** It would be transferred as a whole as soon as the SSAELC fund accepts this. There's an option to transfer it in multiple sums. Reggie's needs the money and it would be better if we transferred as a whole.

**Tzvi Hersh Filler:** The amendment states that their funding is contingent on them coming to council to present. Out of the 150,000\$, 100,000\$ is for outstanding costs. If the other 50,000\$ is dispersed over the next year, that is the maximum duration we can put for the quarterly reports.

**Lauren Perozek:** I get what you're saying but we can't do that based on how the SSAELC fund operates, but that doesn't take away from my amendment. If Reggies do not fulfil their obligations and come back to the CSU asking for more money, we have it in our records that they did not fulfil their obligations and we can deny their funding. It's in Reggies' best interest to maintain a good relationship with the CSU.

**Aria Khaksar:** It's a trust thing that we have with Reggies to ensure that they're using the money properly. These reports are for the CSU and councillors to have a record of the money and the results of what they're doing for it.

## **5. ADJOURNMENT**

**S Shivaane** moves to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by **Tzvi Hersh Filler**. Motion carries.

Meeting adjourned at 7:12 PM.