



Concordia Student Union - Council of Representatives
CSU Special Council Meeting
Thursday, October 27, 2021
Via Zoom, 18h00

1. CALL TO ORDER

The chairperson calls the meeting to order at **18h17**.

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: Malcolm Asselin (Student Life Coordinator), S Shivaane (Loyola Coordinator), Hannah Jamet-Lange (Academic & Advocacy Coordinator), Eduardo Malorni (General Coordinator), Harrison Kirshner (Internal Affairs Coordinator), *Aria* Khaksar (Finance Coordinator)

Councilors present for the meeting were: Christopher Vaccarella (Arts & Science), Lily Charette (Arts & Science), Lauren Perozek (John Molson School of Business), Calvin Clarke (Arts & Science), Edel Kilkenny-Mondoux (Arts & Science), Nathaniel Ouazana (Arts & Science), Olivia Lafreniere (John Molson School of Business), Anais Gagnon (Gina Cody School of Engineering), Ikrame Housni (Arts & Science), Tzvi Hersh Filler (Gina Cody School of Engineering),

Executives absent for the meeting were: Camina Harrison-Chéry (External Affairs & Mobilization Coordinator), Faye Sun (Sustainability Coordinator)

Councilors absent for the meeting were: Ariane Drouin (Gina Cody School of Engineering), Marissa Profetto (Gina Cody School of Engineering), Paula Colmenares (Independent), Jeremy Deneault (John Molson School of Business), Nick Bonneau (John Molson School of Business), Emmanuel Gaisie (John Molson School of Business), Samuel Thibodeau (Fine Arts), Shania Bramble (Arts & Science), Howard Issley (John Molson School of Business), Noah Mohamed (John Molson School of Business), Alina Murad (Arts & Science), Benjamin Harvey (Arts & Science), Brandon Grimaldi (Arts & Science), Boutaina Chafi (Arts & Science)

3. BYLAW AMENDMENT REFERENDUM QUESTION

Hannah Jamet-Lange presents the following motion. Seconded by **Calvin Clarke**. Motion passes.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the following bylaw amendments be sent to referendum.

9.1. The Student Union shall hold a minimum of 2 elections per year for the purpose of electing Representatives, Executives and Senators, and for holding referenda.

9.2. The three types of Elections shall be Annual General Elections held in March, Byelections held in November, and Special Elections which may be called by a 2/3 majority vote of Council. Any election may only be held during the Fall and Winter academic sessions on days when regular classes are held and the polling phase may not be held on a day defined as a holiday with work restrictions within a religious calendar.

9.2.1. Representatives, Executives, and elected Senators shall be elected in the Annual General Elections which take place in the month of March.

9.2.2. Vacant seats on the Council of Representatives shall be filled in Byelections which take place in November.

9.2.3. Special Elections may only be held for the purpose of Bylaw Amendments and Questions of Importance following a 2/3 majority vote by the Council of Representatives.

9.3. The following dispositions shall apply to the election of positions

9.3.1. Candidates for the Executive run individually for the positions of Academic and Advocacy Coordinator, External Affairs and Mobilization Coordinator, Finance Coordinator, General Coordinator, Internal Affairs Coordinator, Student Life Coordinator, Sustainability Coordinator and Loyola Coordinator, but may campaign together.

9.3.2. *Candidates for the Council of Representatives and Senate run individually and independently.*

9.3.3. *No candidate for any position in Annual General Elections or Byelections shall be elected by acclamation. In the case of an uncontested candidacy, the candidate shall only be declared elected upon obtaining a majority of votes in a ratification poll held during the Annual General Elections or Byelections the candidacy was submitted for.*

9.3.4. *Representatives and Executives elected at the Annual General Elections, shall take office on June 1st following said election. The elected executive members will start working on May 1st following the elections for a transition period of one month. During that month they shall be given training, have access to the documents related to their portfolios and will have the right to be present at all closed sessions of the Council of Representatives. They will also receive a salary equal to 50% of one month of the salary of an executive member in office for that fiscal year.*

9.3.5. *Representatives elected in the Byelection shall take office upon the Council of Representatives receiving the final results.*

9.3.6. *Elected Senators shall start their term in accordance with the University Bylaws.*

9.4. *The Quorum for Annual General Elections, Byelections, Referenda, and Special Elections shall be 450 members.*

9.5. *Elections shall be overseen by the Chief Electoral Officer, who shall be appointed by the Council of Representatives. The Chief Electoral Officer shall be charged with the supervision of the said elections, ensure Student Union regulations on Elections and Referenda are followed, and shall report the results of such elections in accordance with the by-laws and regulations.*

9.5.1. *The Annual General Elections and any referenda held concurrently, and the Chief Electoral Officer's report of such shall be deemed to form part of the proceedings of the Annual General Meeting.*

9.5.2. *The Chief Electoral Officer's report of the Byelections and any Special Elections shall be received at the first succeeding meeting of the Council following said Byelection or Special Election.*

9.6. *The following procedures shall be complied with:*

9.6.1. *The Chief Electoral Officer must file the results of an Election or Referenda with the Chairperson of the Council of Representatives on the day following the*

expiry of the deadline to contest same, indicating whether such a contestation has been filed.

9.6.2. If a contestation is filed, the Chief Electoral Officer must immediately file a copy of the decision rendered thereon with the Chairperson of the Council of Representatives.

9.6.3. The Judicial Board must immediately file with the Chairperson of the Council of Representatives a copy of any appeal of the decision of the Chief Electoral Officer.

9.6.4. Similarly, the Judicial Board must immediately file a copy of its decision on the appeal, or a notice of discontinuance, with the Chairperson of the Council of Representatives.

9.6.5. Upon the delays to contest or appeal having expired without the filing of a contestation or appeal, or upon a final decision being rendered or a notice of discontinuance being received, the reception of the final results shall be added as the very first agenda point of the next regular meeting of the Council of Representatives.

9.7. Referenda on the Student Union Fee or the introduction, change, or removal of a non-CSU fee-levy may be called to be held during the Annual General Elections and Byelections. Referenda on amendments to these Bylaws or on Questions of Importance may be called to be held during the Annual General Elections, Byelections and Special Elections. Referenda must be called a minimum of 5 days before the beginning of the campaigning period. The Chief Electoral Officer's report on such referenda shall be submitted concurrently with the report on the Election during which they are held. The procedures set out in 9.6. shall apply mutatis mutandis to referenda.

9.7.1. The Council of Representatives shall have the sole authority to bring to referendum a change in the amount of the Student Union Fee.

9.7.2. A referendum concerning the creation, modification, or removal of a non-Student Union fee levy may only be called to be held during the Annual General Elections and the Byelections and must follow the dispositions of these Bylaws and the regulations of the Student Union. Referenda on the creation or removal of said fee-levy may be called by a petition of at least 3000 members presented to the Chairperson of the Council of Representatives alongside any other dispositions laid out in the regulations of the Student Union, ratified by the Council of Representatives a minimum of 5 days before the beginning of the campaigning period. The promoters of a petition for the calling of a referendum are responsible to come and present their petition to the Council of Representatives prior to circulating it on campus. The purpose of such a

presentation is only to allow for discussion between Council and the promoters and to solicit feedback on the proposed question. The Council of Representatives shall have no decision-making power over the ability of the promoters to pursue their petition.

9.7.3. The Council of Representatives may choose to call referenda on amendments to these Bylaws by a 2/3 majority vote.

9.7.4. Referenda on Questions of Importance may be called by the Council of Representatives or by a petition of at least 750 members presented to the Council of Representatives a minimum of 5 days before the end of the Campaigning period. The promoters of a petition for the calling of a referendum are responsible to come and present their petition to the Council of Representatives prior to circulating it on campus. The purpose of such a presentation is only to allow for discussion between Council and the promoters and to solicit feedback on the proposed question. The Council of Representatives shall have no decision-making power over the ability of the promoters to pursue their petition, nor over the ability of the promoters to pursue their petition, nor over the putting of that question to referendum. Questions of Importance shall be defined as anything falling under the scope of the Student Union umbrella or any matters deemed important by the student body.

9.7.4.1. Notwithstanding this, should the Council of Representatives think that the proposed question is in contradiction with the current Bylaws or CSU Regulations, it shall send a request for a reference decision to the Judicial Board. The Judicial Board shall issue a report containing an interpretation of whether the proposed question is in contradiction with the CSU Bylaws or Regulations to the Council of Representatives and to the promoters of the petition. If the Judicial Board's report concludes that the question is in contradiction with the Bylaws or Regulations, the Council of Representatives shall have the power to remove the question from ballot by a simple majority. Until such a removal from ballot is voted upon by the Council, the promoters of the petition shall have the same rights to collect signatures and campaign as any other promoter of a petition.

Hannah Jamet-Lange: We did the amendment temporarily since we received the fee levy applications and didn't want to complicate it. We're changing that temporary amendment from a few weeks ago so that the petition for fee levy applications is 3000. We've discussed this at the Policy Committee and hope this will encourage more student engagement.

4. ADJOURNMENT

Hannah Jamet-Lange moves to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by **S Shivaane**. Motion carries.

Meeting adjourned at 6:22 PM.