



Concordia Student Union - Council Of Representatives

CSU Regular Council Meeting

Wednesday, September 20, 2023

H-711 OR via Zoom, 18h30 1

1. CALL TO ORDER

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

3. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

4. CONSENT AGENDA

- a) Approval of Previous Minutes
- b) Chairperson's Report
- c) Executive Reports
- d) Ratification of Committee Reports

5. APPOINTMENTS

- a) Senate (1)

6. PRESENTATIONS AND GUEST SPEAKERS

- a) Executive Annual Work Plan

7. APPOINTMENTS – CONTINUED

- a) Appointments Committee (1)
- b) BIPOC Committee (3)
- c) Clubs & Spaces Committee (1)
- d) External Committee (1)
- e) Fee Levy Review Committee (2)

- f) Finance Committee (2)
- g) Loyola Committee (3)
- h) Mental Health Committee (4)
- i) Policy Committee (1)
- j) Student Life Committee (3)
- k) Sustainability Committee (4)

8. NEW BUSINESS - SUBSTANTIVE

- a) Appointment of Councilor to the Sustainability Action Fund
- b) Appointment of Students-at-Large to BIPOC Committee
- c) Fee Levy Review
- d) AV Equipment for CSU Lounge
- e) Granting of Honorary CSU Membership to CSU Council Chair
- f) Councilor Honorarium

9. NEW BUSINESS – INFORMATIONAL

- a) Announcement of Health and Dental Plan Insurance Premiums
- b) Transfer of Student Information for the Purpose of Administering the Health and Dental Insurance Plan
- c) Class Action Lawsuit Regarding Student Health and Dental Insurance Plan
- d) CSU Student Centre Building

10. QUESTION PERIOD & BUSINESS ARISING

11. ANNOUNCEMENTS

12. ADJOURNMENT



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1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson calls 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

Chairperson: Michelle Lam

Council Minute Keeper: Kyla Jallow

Executives present for the meeting were: Harley Martin (General Coordinator), Alexandrah Cardona (Academic & Advocacy Coordinator), Tanou Bah (Student Life Coordinator), Hannah Jackson (External Affairs & Mobilization Coordinator), Kareem Rahaman (Finance Coordinator), Maria Chitiroaga (Sustainability Coordinator), Talya Diner (Loyola Coordinator)

Councillors present for this meeting were: Adam Mills (Arts & Science), Salma Bannani Khir (Arts & Science), Sona T Sadio (Arts & Science), Kareem Abdeen (Independent), Riley Cooke , Moad Alhjoog (Arts & Science) , Nassim Boutalbi (John Molson), Michael Lecchino (John Molson School of Business),

Executives absent for this meeting were: N/A

Councillors absent for this meeting were: Yanira Margarita Coulson (Arts & Science), Haru Noda (John Molson School of Business)

Harley motions for an exemption for Christian Taboada (Internal Affairs Coordinator)

Seconded by Maria Chitiroaga

3. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Nassim Boutalbi motions to add the Councillors Honorarium to the agenda

Secoded by Moad Alhjooj

Motivation:

Nassim Boutalbi: We were supposed to introduce this item a little bit earlier, but unfortunately we we got delayed. And for those who don't know that the council's honorarium is just on honoring that we provide for councillors at the end of the year. This is something that we provided to the other members of the Student Union, but we've got a little bit delayed this year.

Harley Martin motions to approve the agenda

Secoded by Maria Chitiroaga

4. CONSENT AGENDA

Alexdandrah Cardona motions to add the Academic and Advocacy September Report under Executive Reports

Secoded by Harley Martin

Chairperson: And now Alexandrah, I'll ask you to give an overview on what was written in your reports as it wasn't distributed to councillors before.

Alexandrah Cardona: So this report goes over the summer months, so I give a brief overview. I will try to keep this as short as possible for the sake of everyone's time tonight. So in this overview, I talk about a little bit about what the position does emphasize, kind of what the daytoday position looks like in terms of staff, collaborations, working with staff, managing staff, onboarding and hiring. There was quite a bit of that this summer and quite a lot of that is outlined in this report. Also the types of meetings that I may have had with administrators just briefly go over that. I also touched briefly on orientation, primarily just working making sure to work with the service managers to see that we have a kind of outreach and engagement plan, which there was. And I touch on that both in the September report but also in the annual plan. I touch on the mental health portfolio as well. And then I get into academic affairs. I kind of talk about the progression of academic affairs with the hiring of our two new academic researchers and our outgoing academic researcher who has over five years of research experience at the CSU, kind of give a brief outline of some of the research projects we've worked on. This list is not exhaustive, but it does go over some of the major ones we've worked on this summer. So notably, academic freedom policy, EDI services, and mental health services, cross comparisons with in different higher education institutions and student associations, Sustainability, curriculum implementation, Moodle user interface improvement. These are just some examples of the projects that can answer questions on any one of them. And I also outlined my e-mail in here if you have any questions or suggestions for the researchers. We also took a look at BoG and Senate bylaws compared to other universities, just making sure we're all up to date. Then I do a breakdown of each of the services, how they've been doing over the summer. The advocacy has had a lot of staff turn around, but numbers are looking great in terms of cases. They did excellent work with orientation. They presented to just around 50 classrooms so far in the last few weeks, which gives them visibility for hundreds of students. So we're very happy with that. HOJO

has been active at a number of ways. They've been very active this summer. There was the Bill 31 project that was announced by the Quebec government jeopardizing lease transfers and they were quick to act on that and in collaboration with our campaigns department they have also been helping to oversee the transitional housing project in collaboration with sustainability coordinator. Advocacy, I also forgot to mention is moving into Loyola for the first time in a while. Notably, our legal information clinic was primarily online this summer, but they are back on campus both at Loyola. And as for George Williams and the clinic, just yesterday we, myself two international students and the legal information clinic manager travel to Quebec City to consult/lobby the Quebec government regarding international students and the proposed changes from the government to change the ability for non francophone international students to qualify for permanent residency within the PEQ program. It's a little bit complex, so it's hard to kind of go over all the details right now, but it's a huge, huge deal and will completely change how international students integrate into Quebec. And just giving you an idea of the numbers, we have around 11,000 international students at Concordia, that's around 25% of our total student population. The RAWCC office has been closed over the summer. It's being renovated by the university, but we plan on having onboarding a new manager later this fall and opening in the early winter. I also touch on that in my annual plan and then I talk a little bit about what we've been doing in EDI, primarily just internal consultations. Senate does not convene regular meetings over the summer, but just kind of touching on the research that was done pertaining to Senate with the academic researchers.

Harley Martin motions to ratify all items under consent agenda

Seconded by Maria Chitiroaga

- a) Approval of Previous Minutes
- b) Chairperson's Report
- c) Executive Reports
- d) Ratification of Committee Reports

5. APPOINTMENTS

- a) Senate (1)

Harley Martin motions to appoint Michael Lecchino to the Senate

Seconded by Nassim Boutalbi

Motion passes unanimously

Michael Lecchino accepts nomination

Motivation:

Michael Lecchino: I'd like to continue the work that I did last year and I think that sums it up pretty well.

6. PRESENTATIONS AND GUEST SPEAKERS

a) Executive Annual Work Plan

Harley Martin: In fall semester, in the winter semester, the executives have to present their work plan. It's just mostly a point form detail of what you intend to do in a timeline and then the details on that stuff is to be provided in the annual report or in their executive reports. But this is to lay them so that people can see it ahead of time. So we each will send our specific ones that has a bit more detail and then in this presentation that it lays them out in bullet points. So we're not going to talk at length on on many of them just because it's laid out in the document that we have to make. But we'll give a short presentation, maybe a couple minutes from each of us.

Harley Martin (General Coordinator): The purpose of the Annual Work plan is to offer council insight into the activities I have engaged in over the course of my mandate to date, as well as to provide an overview of the various portfolios I will be overseeing as General Coordinator for the 2023-2024 year. These portfolios are in addition to the regular everyday activities and council responsibilities that I already take on as an executive. Please do not hesitate to contact me for any further clarification or with any questions.

Portfolio: Student Centre Building **Target Start Date:** 01/06/2023:

The building that the CSU bought in two years ago on Bishop St.. So we're hoping to begin construction 2024.

Portfolio: Reggie's Student Bar **Target Start Date:** 01/06/2023

I have the CSU seat on the Board of directors and the working group we've created to oversee the financing package that council approved in the summer.

Portfolio: Department of Applied Human Sciences (AHSC) Internship Supervision

Target Start Date: 14/08/2023

The Department of Human Sciences is going to have some of their students coming to intern at CSU starting probably next week. We have 3 proposals that we submitted to them and they accepted all of them. So that's going to give something to their students and also to the CSU as an organization.

Portfolio: Document Filing, Template Creation, and Process Development **Target Start Date:** 14/08/2023

That's a rather big point about document filing and all that because the CSU attempts to recreate the wheel every year on a bunch of things that are like documents we need to send out every year and all that stuff. So I'm working with various people on the team to kind of clarify that and filed more effectively so we can be more efficient on that.

Portfolio: Elections and Recruitment **Target Start Date:** 14/08/2023

Elections, we need to do better even though it's the greatest turnout we've seen so far. We need to have more councillors. And then so it applies to the November by elections and the annual elections in the spring when the council and executive will get elected.

Portfolio: CSU CUPE 4512 Job Re-evaluation Committee **Target Start Date:** 14/08/2023

This job reevaluation comes from the QP agreement that we last signed with QP and it's to reevaluate the positions within the union and just make sure that they're at the right pay scale and letting the people within that are at the right level. So I'm on that committee and I'll go on throughout the year.

Portfolio: Student Health and Dental Insurance Plan RFP **Target Start Date:** 04/12/2023

Student Health mental plan, our plan comes to an end at the end of this academic year, 2024. So we'll have to begin negotiating a new one, putting out an RFP probably in January. We'll actually start doing doing real work on that.

Portfolio: Appointments Committee Chair **Target Start Date:** 14/06/2023

Yep, we're working on that. We're doing pretty good. All the CSU students that large seats have been built. We just have a couple outstanding ones on the judicial board and the university committees.

Portfolio: Board of Governors **Target Start Date:** 14/08/2023

Board of Governors, me and Nassim will be there this year and that starts very soon.

Portfolio: Senate and Academic Caucus **Target Start Date:** 14/08/2023

Same thing with Senate and Academic Caucus.

Portfolio: CSU Mental Health Services **Target Start Date:** 01/06/2023

As you know the CSU signed contracts last year. We're implementing them starting this fall. So just kind of overseeing that process and then reviewing if we need to in the winter semester.

Portfolio: Human Relations Working Group **Target Start Date:** 17/07/2023

Another thing, we have a working group in the executive to try and work out a human relations department within CSU because we need one. So that's an ongoing project that will be throughout the year.

Maria Cholakova (The Link): When it comes to Reggie's, from what I have read in document, the CSU is going to give up to \$120,000. Considering from what I know and you can correct me if I'm wrong, Reggie's had about \$200,000 of debt from what I'm aware of last year.

Harley Martin: It would be like \$70,000

Maria Cholakova: So is there a financial plan that you're going to implement so they don't fall again and they don't just continue going down the spiral.

Harley Martin: We created a MoU we passed it I believe at the August SCM and what that is it to accompany the funding of up to 120,000. We don't want to have to give them 120,000, but up to and in there it's just like it's quite detailed. It's a list of things that they need to be doing and adhering to for us to have approved the funding in the first place. But then for them to ever get any more funding. We assume they're going to need more funding. For examples, they have things going on and they say okay, we're still not at a break even point. And they say, we're still not at a breakeven point, but we've hit those financial targets. We'd like some money to have more training because we're seeing this is a problem. But yeah, so any sort of funding request has to come with that adherence to the MoU and we meet biweekly with Reggie's management to ensure like just to check in and then to ensure that we don't get the things too late, you know, like every two weeks when all the payments go out, then we have a meeting with them.

Adam Mills: So I know that, I mean MoU has like a lot of depletions, but for those depletions have you started to implement them.

Harley Martin: Committees that are outside board, they analyse that kind of stuff. Green's been working on it, the outside advisors have one so far and they we haven't convened yet. And then on the more internal stuff, we're scheduled to have a Reggie's Finance Committee meeting next week in which our representatives are invited to set like to essentially translate some more broad things that are in the MoU into like concrete financial targets for Reggie's. They can tell us here's what we usually do, we can say okay, this is what we're looking for, what's possible kind of thing. So it's, it's moving along on that and on the hiring front as well.

Nassim Boutalbi: And I agree we'll speak more about the advisors

Maria Chitiroaga (External Affairs and Mobilization Coordinator): So the portfolios that I have this year is managing the **campaigns department**. For people who don't know, the campaign department is undergoing a major shift from the years previously where we used to have an annual campaign structure where we would vote on a single issue campaign and mobilize most of our resources towards it. Unfortunately, by the nature of the kind of work that we do, most of these campaigns roles can't really be achieved in a single year. So we found ourselves sort of grandparenting on last the previous year's campaign and continuing that work while trying to manage an annual campaign. And after a few years those campaigns started to stack up. So we found ourselves doing far more than a single campaign. We voted in council last year to dissolve the annual campaign structure in favor of a structure that would enable us to pursue multiple streams of campaigns work simultaneously in parallel with each other. It requires a lot of structural figuring out how we can best serve these campaigns, how they can be, how we can support student life campaigns and be directed as always by the physicians book. So we have our the campaign staff is working on series of campaigns, with some major projects happening this year, including divestment from fossil fuels, an initiative called the Gender Health Hub. There's a lot happening this year, and so a lot of my work is supporting the staff. But also the project of this year will be figuring out sustainable structures moving forward to reflect this new reality.

External and mobilization in this annual plan, this is the aspect of my job that involves representing the CSU to other student associations like the SSMU at McGill and to external community groups. So I've already been doing a lot of reaching out. A lot of the events that we're going to be doing this year are going to be partnerships, either with SSMU or with community groups. mobilization is the aspect of have a campaign and mobilize finances and energy to make it happen. So a lot of that again is going to be how do we figure out how to support multiple ongoing campaigns.

The **speaker series** is also undergoing a bit of a shift because in the past the speaker series was funding to bring in speakers and have panels to get radical annual class and all of that is in usually in service of serving the annual campaign. So due to the fact that we do not have an annual campaign anymore, we did a revisioning session of summer to look at multiple campaigns that we have going on and finding what are the common threads and what are some themes that we can center the speaker series around. So the theme that we are going through this year are Abolition and Migrant Labor Justice, which is very exciting. We are going to be having our first event of the Speaker series November 11th. It's going to be bringing activists from New York City who are migrant women of color who work in the home care industry, who are being forced to work 24 hour long shifts due to some nasty legislation in New York City causing major health problems with major human rights violations. So we're going to be bringing them into conversation with the Immigrant Workers Center and Migrant Labor Alliance for change for a panel.

Financial responsibilities are basically managing the finances of both the campaigns and speaker series budget lines but also managing the flow of committee funding. I chair the external committee and the CAF and there was a lot of financial issues last year that resulted in people not being paid their money out of those two funds on time.

Community Action Fund is a committee that gives funding to community initiatives and groups. We will be convening for the first time in late September to go over our summer session of applications and also sharing the external committee that we're going to be getting very soon.

Tanou Bah (Student Life Coordinator): Most of my summer was taken up by planning orientation, which just finished last week. I had the best time and happy to be done and in terms of like what I have planned for student life this year, I have like different events.

So first of all **Reggie's Themed events**. Essentially I'm trying my best to make sure to do a couple of events each semester. For orientation I did a paint and sip at Reggie's and that turned out really well. We sold out that event and so I was thinking like open mic nights, paint and steps, different things, karaoke maybe different things to essentially engage the student body and bring like I diverse student body to Reggie's and get them some more money.

BUYPOC Market: For orientation, we had one as one of our events. It was super successful. Students were really happy to be able to have a space to sell their products. Especially because like most popups you have to pay to be able to sell at them. This was completely free. It also made it possible for BIPOC students to engage with the student body. So this is something that I'm planning on doing on a monthly basis.

Finals Brunch: We all know finals time comes around, we're all stressed, and I thought it'd be really nice to like maybe have a day where students can just come to the 7th floor in the hall building, grab some food, it'll be free.

Black History Month: Black History Month, which happens in February. I have a lot of plans for this.

I'm collaborating with NouLa, which is the new open Black Student Center and essentially the other Black Association. I'm going to be working with them and see whatever plans they have and how CSU can help that instead of just like creating things on my own and going from there, but essentially like trying to bring us all together to do that .

Winter orientation: I feel like I just finished fall orientation, but it's so close that I have to now start thinking about merch for that and events for that. I am getting in contact with Joey who is our merch person soon to get some items like on the roll to get it.

Student Life Committee is a committee I chair, If anyone else wants to join it, please join it. And we're essentially going to be looking at like different groups and different things that we can fund that are related to student life.

BIPOC Committee: I cochair this with Christian and similar things to student life but pretty much like dedicated to BIPOC students.

Communications Team: I'm also working with the communications team, so the Student Life Coordinator essentially manages the communications team. I was in the communications team for the past two years.

However, I really would like to do some restructuring to see if it's possible to like, make it a little bit easier where there's not always this dependency that the Student Life Coordinator knows everything about communications. Also the yearly turnover of a new manager is a lot on the team and so there's a way to make it more easier. I'm pretty much wanting to do this project and hopefully have it done by the time I am done with my mandate.

Riley Cooke: Once the Student Life Committee meets quorum, we are going to start talking about like winter orientation like those events?

Tanou Bah: Probably I'll send you an e-mail about it.

Alexandrah Cardona (Academic & Advocacy Coordinator): In essence like a large part of my mandate is working with the **services / managing the services**. How hands on I am with the services depends on the different times of the year, depends on how staffing is going. It can really depend on a lot. It can depend on managers availability, etcetera. But I kind of break down the major of the projects are undertaking outside of regular programming. That's the wording I use in the report, which is to say that the services kind of always operate independently, especially with the entry level staff doing regular student intake and something that happens all the time. So of course, I don't include that type of stuff in the annual report that's more of a daily thing. But what I did include is like significant changes, significant projects. What we know is taking up a lot of time and resources, but is making progress and is outside of the regular programming.

So moving on to **academic affairs**, what we've done, what we're doing this year luckily it's already been finalized in terms of hiring the new academic researchers. We currently have a

team of three researchers, but once our long term researcher is done with their contract this month, it'll be two for the rest of the year. But I'm still very positive about that change because two-part time researchers allows us to take on to have more flexibility with the type of academic research we're doing. And so the projects are year long and I gave some of those examples in the September report earlier. There's also the Academic programs Committee and Academic Planning and Priorities committee. These have not started yet. These are university committees, but they will start up and due time.

I chair the academic caucus, which is the usual part of the job. So those of you who are on that caucus will be receiving a lot of information and regular meetings soon. Also a part of our academic affairs thing is meeting with the administration outside of the bigger meetings. So we have some smaller one-on-one meetings. I think that kind of sums it up for the academic specific thing, but there's extra little things that didn't make it into the end report, like the little Moodle feed user interface feedback that we're doing right now. And then they included a little spot for initiatives, which is things that we're just trying to aim for, to do a little bit extra if possible. So that includes getting the CSU services at Loyola from Monday to Friday.

Currently that's working out. Hopefully we're able to keep up the staffing throughout the year. This is also thanks to the new Loyola Landing that has opened. So we have some extra office space now outside of the main CSU Loyola office. But as it currently stands, Monday to Friday, our services are available for intake for students who exclusively want services at Loyola as opposed to downtown. I mentioned earlier that we worked on a little promotion and outreach, engagement plan, classrooms, presentations, workshops, tabling there as it is now there's been like weekly tabling but as things as the semester progresses, you can maybe expect more like monthly or bimonthly tabling at different places on campus. One thing that we'll see depending on the collaboration of faculty or member association is the if we can have a little cherry on top for the end of the year would be developing an academic conference for undergraduate. So you can expect some updates based on how collaboration progresses and then committees of working groups. Policy Committee and mental health committee which I chair and cochair respectively I taking part this year library services fund, campus security advisory committee, CCFL. And I think that just about summed it up and I kind of give you an idea of how frequently those occur during the year in the plan. I also occasionally assist in some intraassociation meetings as it pertains to advocacy.

Talya Diner (Loyola Coordinator): This year I have the CSU seat on the Hive Cafe and I'm on the HR committee for the Hive, which generally needs a bit of work. So I'll be helping them just like sort out organize their Google Drive, their HR like complaints and systems. I'm also working on implementing with other execs in HR department at the CSU and basically continuing the work that's been done over the past couple of years in order to get that service for CSU employees. So I helped draft the MoU and will be basically on on the kind of Reggie's committee to ensure accountability and to make sure that Reggie's is basically like staying accountable to those measures that we put into the MOU and monitoring their kind of achievement, their success and making sure it's remains like kind of a viable student run co-op.

I'm also the **Loyola committee chair**. So we finally have a full committee and the Loyola Committee will be working on approving like grants, kind of bursaries to student groups that are Loyola based and also generally the Loyola Budget and Loyola Student Life initiatives.

So for the moment, I'm working specifically on **food security** initiatives in collaboration with the **Sustainability Coordinator**. So we're planning on having like food sovereignty workshops about Loyola and downtown. And I do believe that we're going to have the first one at Loyola in November.

And of course, I was also working on some orientation events and like coffee kiosks at Loyola as well and I will be doing the regular coffee kiosks and tabling at Loyola this year. But I am also hoping to do like other student life kind of initiatives at Loyola. So just engaging that campus through like swaps, clothing swaps, book swaps and like other events that have been done in the past like movie nights.

I also am we're going to be working this year to get like a couple of pantries, CSU pantries or community fridges at the at the Loyola campus as well as I'm trying to start kind of getting the ball rolling or build the momentum for the revival of the old Hive space. There's some people involved in like the CFC and the Hive currently who are thinking about making a new project with the old Hive space at Loyola. It's kind of in the works of a grocery store slash restaurant slash bar, student bar at Loyola. So that's kind of my biggest vision goal for that in terms of like food security and sovereignty at Loyola. And also the regular tabling will be able to not only inform people about the CSU, but also provide snacks and coffee for free. And then another main major thing that I want to work on at Loyola this year is just improving the **CSU's visibility** because that is actually the fullest definition of my mandate.

Kareem Rahaman (Finance Coordinator) : So first up, we got the **grant writer project**. Naturally, as the person who has to oversee the budget, it's within my best interest to make sure that we're always within our means and that people who want to have certain projects throughout the year can have that without having to worry about the financial impact. As a result, we've hired a grant writer on contract, so it's not a unionized position. But what they're doing for us right now is they're compiling a master list of all possible grants that were entitled to, and they're also applying for some grants. Right now, I believe we're just about a month in and we've applied to over \$200,000 in grants already. And we expect to hear back from those grants within the next couple of months and we're fairly certain that we're going to get them. They're project based, so we're looking at research grants. So all the researcher positions that are within the CSU qualify for a grant. So he's looking into that as well as any other project, for example, temporary housing, the AI project and other things. He's meeting with all the departments.

CSU News Letter: So I suppose this all ties back to being the person in charge of the budget and making sure everything runs smoothly. I noticed a little inefficiency in the way we were handling the newsletter, not in terms of management or anything like that, just in terms of the software we were using. So I know a bit about newsletters. So I know a bit about newsletters. So I switched us over to a superior platform which would save us \$5500 per year going forward as well as because the stats on our newsletter are actually very good in terms of marketing and stuff like that. I think we can actually monetize the newsletter within the CSU positions book of course. By that I mean we're going to sell ads, not charge students to view the newsletter. The goal like success in this would simply be having the newsletter fund the person that is writing it. So if we have one job that's being paid for from our budget, if the newsletter itself can subsidize that job, that would look like success to me. Because then we

freed up an additional how much ever 10s of thousands of dollars to be spent on student projects, which is the main focus of my mandate.

Navi AI Chatbot: This motion was passed in the September 13th SCM. But the long and short of it is that Navi will be an AI chat bot that's trained on Concordia, the CSU and Student Care database in order to answer student's questions quickly and efficiently as well as accurately. The reason we are going out to create this is because various surveys have indicated that this is a problem that students face and as a CSU we obviously don't want certain stuff problem. So this is the solution that I've come up with and of course we're looking at getting a grant for it. We actually are in the process of talking with the people who give out the grants right now and it's looking somewhat positive so far, but I'm sure there is a weeks of negotiation to go through before we get to that point.

International Student Committee chair: Well, there's an International Student Committee and we deal with issues that affect international students. We work with the ISO, to carry out surveys. The main goal of the committee is to sort of press the university on the data that they have regarding international student that they're not using. So for example, the ISO carries out surveys and they find certain things. They would share that with this committee and this committee's purpose would be to then press them like, hey, this solution that you came up with, what are we doing? Or hey, you identify this problem. Here's a solution that we think is feasible or even just carrying out our own research to come to them with recommendations. The goal there is just to carry out the best wishes of the international student community of Concordia.

Reggie's Working Group: Where my focus is on their finances, and I guess streamlining their operations. So, I do manage the Advisory Board. Right now we only have one, well two people technically sitting on the board. They're the owners of Mandy's. The goal with that Advisory Board is that we can have different advisors to the board and each advisor would serve a different role. So for example, Mandy's would serve the role of inventory efficiency , which is a huge problem that Reggie's has. Obviously, Mandy's has superior production line compared to a lot of other restaurants around downtown Montreal and it's something that Reggie's can benefit from as well as just the input on how to cultivate the right culture, how to actually do costing, how to market, how to connect with distributors, things like that. I'd be sitting on the **Finance Committee** of Reggie's on the vibe committee. So the vibe committee is as it sounds, we help the vibe of Reggie's. Regarding that I've been looking into getting affordable/upcoming DJ's to perform at Reggie's for a very very low rate. So they kick start their careers at Reggie's as long as they can bring X amount of guests. That's the model we're going with, which is I guess like the hotel club type model.

Finance Committee Chair and Fee Levy Review Committee Chair: I'm the chair of those two committees. The fee-levy review committee is going to be convening sometime this week as the fee levy deadline for the November by elections is on Monday and then we'll be convening sometime in December, maybe late November even to finalize stuff for the other election.

Maria Chitiroaga (Sustainability Committee Chair): So first thing first, I'm the **sustainability committee chair**. Now my committee, hasn't convened yet because it's not enough members. But what the sustainability committee usually does every single year is it overlooks first series applications and project funding for students that have sustainability related projects and overlook planned events.

Transitional Housing Pilot Project: So since last time that we talked about it, the project went from a theoretical project to an actually practical thing. So since July, we've been getting tenants in our unit and we've actually managed 5 cases already, three of which were actually four of which were students and all of them were either homeless or at risk of homelessness. So we've already done five since July. This is a year long project because it's supposed to be finished in November, but because of the success of it, I want to push it forward and I want to continue it.

Board Member Positions: The mental health working group, which some other members have already mentioned. I'm also on the PUSH fund. Which is who we collaborated with to create Wood Note and who we're collaborating with to create Wood Note 2. And the PUSH fund is the fund that it still goes to get their funding and get their money to realize their project. So I am directly involved in making decisions and seeing all of the other student project housing up around Montreal and Quebec. I'm also on Sustainability Action Fund, which is a Concordia organization that gives out funds to projects that students or staff members are taking on that are sustainability related and that could be environmental, sustainability, community or just like longevity wise. I'm also on the Library Service Fund which is a small committee, doesn't meet too often but there will be a meeting soon. I also look over the sustainability initiatives budget line which encompasses the transitional housing, the bursary, the sustainability scholarships, all of the projects, all of that. And I'm also on the menstrual equity finance budget line, so I also manage that which is leading to my next point, menstrual equity.

Menstrual Equity: So this year I'm planning some events. One of them is supposed to be in October.

And then there's one that I might be part of with Zen Den in May. So the goals this year for menstrual equity is to keep all menstrual products stocked. We started also giving out pregnancy tests and I'm really happy to say that it's been a success. I've ordered 250 in June and we've run out. I have placed another order. And another thing that's on my agenda for this year is to figure out a system of how to effectively give out underwear because as we know, sizing is an issue, flow like that. So yeah, I'll be trying to figure out a way to give it to students that need it without having them, like, come to the office and ask, like, whisper what size they are, what model they want.

Harley Martin motions to approve the executive annual work plan

Seconded by Kareem Rahaman

7. APPOINTMENTS – CONTINUED

a) Appointments Committee (1)

Harley Martin: Honestly, most of the hard work is already done because we dealt with most of the positions, but there's still going to be some outstanding ones and probably people will resign. So we'll meet from now on kind of on an as needed basis other than the next two weeks. We will approve all of the ones that come in for our last round of callouts past that as needed.

b) BIPOC Committee (3)

Tanou Bah: If you're BIPOC, you should join BIPOC committee. You approve funding for groups students.

c) Clubs & Spaces Committee (1)

Harley Martin: Clubs and Spaces is going to convene, I believe, Friday. There's a lot of things to review, but it's really important because the clubs need to get on with the things the clubs want to do.

d) External Committee (1)

Hannah Jackson: We would love to have anybody else who would like to join the external committee, this committee manages the external fund which means the organization within Concordia and outside of Concordia can apply for funding.

e) Fee Levy Review Committee (2)

Kareem Rahaman: Anything that has to do with fee levy's in terms of the approvals of questions for the elections, actually going through people's documents that all passes through this. It's a really cool way to get emerged in what's going on in the university because you get to see exactly how the money is being spent and where it's being spent and where they plan to spend it. It's also not that much of an intense committee because realistically we only have two deadlines for the entire year. So you're probably going to meet like once this week, like once this week just for this uh, September deadline and then two or three times max. So if you're interested in joining that, I highly recommend joining.

Nassim Boutalbi motions to nominate themselves to fee-levy review committee

Secinded by Kareem Rahaman

Motion passes.

Motivation:

Nassim Boutalbi: I'd like to make sure that the students money is being used wisely.

Maria Chitiroaga motions to appoint Nassim Boutalbi to fee-levy review committee

Seconded by Riley Cooke

f) Finance Committee (2)

Kareem Rahaman: So finance is fairly similar if you are looking at in terms of you're looking at expenditures versus revenues. However, I guess finance would be more project based, a lot of the expenses pass through the Finance Committee. The first line of defense for any project that wants to be passed through the CSU that exceeds, I believe it, it's \$10,000 in the policy. It is a committee that requires a certain level of commitment.

g) Loyola Committee (3)

Talya Diner: We just get to basically determine the Loyola budget, give out money to Loyola based initiatives that apply to sort of this kind of grant bursary and then also determine like student life initiatives and just other initiatives that are needed at Loyola campus.

h) Mental Health Committee (4)

Alexandrah Cardona: We've been mainly working in like our internal working group with around half of the executive to kind of make sure that the contracts with external partnerships are kind of coming to fruition. And what we'd like to do going forward is to meet with councillors and students-at large to have greater input and give broader updates on the work that's been going. It touches on like a lot of different things. Obviously you're helping students with getting access to mental health services. But I think it's also interesting if you're looking for like a committee that there's a lot of decisions and information and content here to go over. So please give this ad hoc committee a shot and join our committee.

i) Policy Committee (1)

Alexandrah Cardona: I have a full list of policy and regulations, but we need to look at an update and that to help the CSU to run better. One thing I'd also like to do this year, which I got approval from the exact core is kind of taking a like a closer look with I would say some sort of external partner or third party. And yes, these are things that need to be elaborated on in the context of the Policy Committee.

j) Student Life Committee (3)

Tanou Bah: We essentially like help, provide funding for people. But also if you would like to see some of the things I'm doing this year, you know, some of the things I said in that little annual report join the committee.

Moad Alhjoog motions to nominate herself to the Student Life Committee

Seconded by Kareem Rahaman

Motivation:

Moad Alhjoog: Tanou was very persuasive.

Maria Chitiroaga motions to appoint Moad Alhjooj to the Student Life Committee

Secoded by Nassim Boutalbi

Motion passes

k) Sustainability Committee (4)

Maria Chitiroaga: You get to decide who gets the bursaries. It's low commitment because we will meet once a month, except for when we're looking through applications. It will be a bit more frequent because there's usually a lot. The biggest responsibility for this committee is whenever we have to give out bursaries, we look at all the applications and then the councillors vote on who should get the bursaries. Whenever we have like sustainability project applications from students, we decide how much we want to give them and who we want to give money to. There's the Ben scholarship which is 10 awards a year that we decide.

Nassim Boutalbi motions to nominate themself to the Sustainability Committee

Secoded by Maria Chitiroaga

Motivation:

Nassim Boutalbi: So we definitely need folks on the committee, and it is important that we get that money out to students who are doing very good work here.

Maria Chitiroaga motions to appoint Nassim Boutalbi to Sustainability Committee

Secoded by Harley Martin

Motion passes

Harley Martin Motions to add Signing Officer Committee to the Appointment's Agenda

Secoded by **Kareem Rahaman**

l. Signing Officer Committee

Harley Martin motions to nominate Moad Alhjooj as second signing officer

Secoded by Kareem Rahaman

Motivation:

Moad Alhjooj: I accept and I would like to be the signing officer because Harley asked nicely.

Motion passes

8. NEW BUSINESS - SUBSTANTIVE

a) Appointment of Councilor to the Sustainability Action Fund

Harley Martin: This is made-up of a bunch of student representatives at Concordia. They have one of the biggest fee- levies, \$0.50 of credit per term for graduate students. They give out funding to students and faculty to carry out projects that fit the mandate. And I know that they give out most of their funding, takes a lot of reviewing of applications. But some of the projects are quite exciting because to get to review and discuss on.

Maria Chitiroaga:, I just wanted to add that for whoever might list this, it's not I'm on it and well it's good to rethinking of that for this specific committee. So all you really have to do is look at the minutes and look at the presentations. We meet every month and sometimes there are two meetings a month. These meetings can be from an hour to two hours long.

b) Appointment of Students-at-Large to BIPOC Committee

Harley Martin motions..

Whereas the BIPOC Committee chairs, Tanou Bah and Christian Taboada, have recommended Ahana Murumbi and Kanika Chantelle to fill the student-at-large seats on the CSU's BIPOC Committee;

Be it resolved that the Council of Representatives ratify the decision to appoint Ahana Murumbi and Kanika Chantelle to the CSU's BIPOC Committee;

The budgetary impact is nil.

Seconded by Alexandrah Cardona

Motion passes

Motivation:

Harley Martin: I know that the chairs felt that these were the best applicants that they had and they both felt that they were competent in carrying out the work of the BIBAC committee.

c) ~~Fee Levy Review~~

d) AV Equipment for CSU Lounge

Harley Martin motions..

Whereas the CSU controls the space known as the CSU Lounge on the seventh floor of the Hall Building;

Whereas the space currently does not have a built-in AV system which limits the usefulness of the space;

Whereas Concordia's department of facilities has provided a quote to the CSU for the installation of a large screen, laser projector, and sound system with an associated cost of \$60 000;

Be it resolved that the Council of Representatives approves the CSU executive team to pursue this proposal;

The budgetary impact is up to \$60 000.

Adam Mills: Yeah, I used to install this sort of stuff for a living actually. 60 grand for what they've got seems like quite high by at least like 20-25%. Was this a supplier from the university, is this just their dedicated supplier that we must use or like we just get another quote for optician's sake.

Harley Martin: It's a bit of a weird process within the university because we can ask them to provide us this stuff and their quotes are usually higher and then it depends how the work is carried out. In certain areas we can have our own contractors carried out and other times we have to use theirs. It seems like a lot of money, but I think we're all in the boat on our side that like we're not audio-visual installation experts, so we don't know about that cost.

Adam Mills: If that is how it works and there's like 2 categories, I'm sure this falls into the one where we could get our own because it's like nothing structural or anything. Yeah, maybe like see if we can just do it ourselves and then if not I guess we're pitching both.

Harley Martin: This is from her when she sent it to the execs to review. "You will find a closed list of equipment and allow fund that IITS has recommended for this project. Please bear in mind that these are suggestions, and the next step will involve sending out a tenure to prospective suppliers, but we're not obligated to follow these recommendations for the dot. I strongly advise following the plan as closely as possible as we may be able to have IITS troubleshoot problems for us since it's a system that they would have, and that they understand and are trained to troubleshoot". So, yeah, essentially, I guess the point is that if we follow their thing pretty clearly and use the recommended equipment, usually we can get them free of charge to come and troubleshoot our stuff and deal with it rather than having to hire someone to come in and do that stuff.

Adam Mills: On the quote, there's also, for whatever company, there's like, I think it's close to 5 grand to ensure that they come back and help us with stuff down the road if we have issues, something like that.

Harley Martin: I mean we can also gather more information on this and bring it back. As it stands right now this is a proposal they've given us based on what we said we want to happen in there. So we can, you know, we could ask someone else to provide us a quote.

Adam Mills: Whoever's taking care of it, I can kind of point you to the red flags that I saw at another time.

Harley Martin: I think we will table it for now and bring it to the first October meeting.

Maria Cholakova (The Link): So \$60,000 that comes out of the general team, like where does this money come from?

Harley Martin: There's one is there's something called the endowment fund. That is, the CSU gets a percentage of the universities investment returns on their endowment. We get a certain percentage every year. It goes through Dean of Students and there's certain like stipulations as to what that money can be used for. Most of it is to do with like kind of space improvements. Because the other thing that happens is if we don't use that money in any given year, you know, usually you want to accumulate it so that you can use it on bigger projects and that's a decent amount of money that comes out of that. But if we don't use it in a given year, the university takes back 20% of that money at the end of the calendar year. And so it's kind of a funny game because you don't want to just use it every year because then you don't have much at the same time you take a 20% hit, but there is some that's still accumulated in there.

Maria Cholakova: It limits the usefulness of the space. How are you planning to use the space? From what I know on a AV system is like the TV and like whatnot. Will this be used for events?

Harley Martin: Yeah, exactly, because people book it. And so right now I just think that it's because people have to do that dual booking process. Our booking process is quite fast. The IITS process is not. And so that's what I mean that it limits the usefulness is that like if you think you're having an event, you're like, oh, I could book the lounge, but then I have to do this other thing, right? Yeah, I just wanted to say that like students that book it, a lot of the times it's like for panels and like events where it's like hybrid and they always ask for it and then we never have it.

e) Granting of Honorary CSU Membership to CSU Council Chair

Hannah Jackson motions to appoint herself as Chairperson for this agenda item as the Chairperson is excused from this part of the meeting as it pertains to them

Seconded by Harley Martin

Harley Martin: You are considered a member of the CSU if you are a student. So up until now, Michelle's been a member of the CSU. But we know it's going to happen that any day now or something, the Dean of students going to tell us that she is no a longer members and so then Michelle could not hold the position that she holds. Given the importance of the role of chair to the functioning of Council, therefore the CSU is a whole we believe it beneficial to have Michelle remain the chair until the end of the 20/23/24 mandate. To do so requires the Council of Representatives grant Michelle honorary Membership. So we believe that Michelle's contribution to the functioning of the CSU at this point, halfway through her membership, to our mandate, is reason to grant Michelle honorary membership.

Nassim Boutalbi: When was the last time Michelle took classes?

Harley Martin: The winter semester.

Nassim Boutalbi: So she has graduated?

Harley Martin: Correct. The argument could be made that, you know, Michelle's been here, been the minute keeper, been the chair now for a year and a half. This position should go to another student, give another student a chance to learn these skills and carry out this role and whatever. However, halfway through our mandate when we have limited councillors and have had trouble kind of functioning over the summer. And when we had interviews this year and last for chair, I hate to say it, but like I didn't see any even kind of like reasonable candidates in a big way that would be a good replacement. I just don't think right now when we're in September halfway through. And lastly, the chair before Michelle, held the position for eight or nine years. So there is a precedent to this position being kind of, you know, granted some exceptions because people thought that it was beneficial for the functioning of the union.

Nassim Boutalbi: That's not a good precedent. The thing is we're not just, thinking about the decision as of now because that has its advantages and disadvantages, but also the simple precedent in the sense that in the future they might keep their CSU council chairs past the their mandates. This position technically supposed to be reserved primarily for.

Riley Cooke: when I was involved with the interviews, the person with the most amount of information out of everyone in that was Michelle. And during this time, like we're still in fall term, like we're just hitting it. I don't think right now would be a good time, especially when we did the interviews back in May. We already had it set in stone in those minutes. I don't probably think it'd be a good time to change it right now. We did like make one of the new students the minute keeper. We're keeping new students still involved. We're still trying to get that CSU stuff active. But at the same time, Michelle still has a lot of knowledge she still is very involved in CSU, who still wants to be involved. So even if it's just for the rest of this mandate because she got hired and accepted at the last council with majority votes, I feel like it shouldn't change right now as quickly because we're still even looking for councillors let alone a chairperson.

Moad Alhjoog: I agree with you guys that makes sense. I mean if there is someone that's willing to take over as well I think it makes more sense for them to take the role.

Hannah Jackson: What we would have to do is we have to do an entire interview process over again.

Moad Alhjoog: Did Michelle not know she was not going to be a student last year when she did the interview? She shouldn't have been in that interview space beginning.

Harley Martin: She knew and we also all knew.

Alexandrah Cardona: Essentially I think the reason that she put forward her candidacy in good faith, is with the knowledge that typically the CSU allows this. And blocking

undergraduate status has previously not been an issue. I don't think anything was done in in sort of bad faith

Nassim Boutalbi: I am only approving this specifically if her mandate ends on May 31st, 2024. I do not agree with extending her membership beyond that.

Riley Cooke: I think Michelle also knows that her mandate would end it May. And at the end of her mandate that day we can't not allow her back in it doesn't automatically renew like she would have to come back and then we could say we're going to give this to a new person that can be understandable.

Nassim Boutalbi: I don't want her to reapply. I want it very clear.

Hannah Jackson: Technically the new council next year would be the people taking applications. I don't know if we have the authority to ban next year's council from considering her application. But due to the fact that she is not a student, I think it would be it would be unlikely. But technically the new council has the right to consider her application.

Kareem Rahaman: So what if we were to give her temporary membership until whatever May 31st? However, we just we start hiring for a new chair from now and that way they're trained and they're able to shadow Michelle for X amount of months before their mandate starts. Because in every interview process there's one candidate that's stellar and all other candidates are so far behind and I think it's worth it to just hire way earlier and have them shadow so that we have a chair that's ready to take over. Michelle is a good chair in terms of doing her job and she knows the policy as well and she she executes what she has to do very well. And I'm sure people that have learned under her have are doing well. So I think it is worth it to just consider that.

Harley Martin: I agree with your point that more training is needed and shadowing like all things at CSU, we can't because it's set in policy when the call out can be made.

Harley Martin presents motion..

Whereas the CSU Council Chair must be a member of the Concordia Student Union as defined by the CSU's bylaws;

Whereas the CSU's current chairperson, Michelle Lam, will soon no longer be a member of the Concordia Student Union as per clause 3.3 of the CSU bylaws;

Whereas clause 3.6 of the CSU bylaws enables the Council of Representatives to grant honorary membership to an individual on the grounds of recognition of a special contribution to the Student Union;

Whereas we believe that Michelle's expertise as Council Chair constitutes a special contribution to the 2023-2024 mandate;

Be it resolved that the Council of Representatives grant Michelle Lam honorary membership in the Concordia Student Union until May 31st, 2024;

Be it further resolved that Michelle Lam retains the position of Council Chair effective immediately and until May 31st 2024 or her removal from the position as per the CSU's bylaws;

The budgetary impact is nil.

*Seconded by Riley Cooke
Motion Passes Unanimously*

f) Councilor Honorarium 2022-2023

Whereas CSU Councilors are not currently monetarily compensated for their work;

Whereas the CSU recognizes that the Councilors time and work is valuable and deserves compensation;

Whereas the CSU has been struggling with a low number of councilors.

Whereas the functionality of the CSU is dependent on Councilor attendance and participation at council meetings and committees

Be it resolved: that councilors elected in the general election are eligible for an honorarium of \$1500 for participation in the council or representatives. For councilors elected in the by election, the amount will be half with a 750\$ honorarium.

Be it resolved: Honorariums will be provided to councilors that successful completed their term without resigning prior to the May 10 regular council meeting.

Be it resolved: That the council of representative's chair be responsible for verifying eligibility in coordination with councilors.

Be it resolved: That honorariums are to be provided as soon as possible to councilors.

Be it resolved: That the budgetary impact is up to a maximum \$19,000 without accounting for existing council funds.

Seconded by Riley Cooke

Motivation:

Nassim Boutalbi: So number one is just for context, for the councilors that weren't here previously. What we do is that we provide bonuses for the folks who work here at the student union. So last year what we did is we gave bonuses off to the executives that worked. So the chair and the minute keeper also got their bonuses. However, for councilors, because we are volunteers, we're given something called an honorary instead and normally we decide

that on the same time, but we've got delayed. So normally this is done in the council elect if I'm not mistaken but unfortunately we got delayed so we pushed it back to now the reasons for this is of course councillors work very, very hard and for those that are new you'll realize that you will have to work very, very hard and that commit to committees are of the extreme importance for our organization. They share some of the executive functions. So we do really need committees to be staffed in order to push decisions ahead. And also Harley actually mentioned this last time is we are having a little bit of trouble in attracting more councillors. But I'm pretty sure that Harley and his team are going to work really hard and they're committed to working on that. So this is normally done in the previous year, we have an amount for the council that were elected in the fall election and then we have just a half amount that's for the ones that were elected there.

Harley Martin: Can you tell us when this has happened before?

Nassim Boutalbi: Year before that and I believe the year before that, I mean I'll check the minutes, but those year before that it happened last year and it happened one year previous to that I believe.

Harley Martin: It happened last year and it happened one year previous to that but it wasn't the CSU council they awarded to the other council. From CCSL and the motion brought by FASA to expand their community program recognition rewards and that was a one time honorary policy that we used left over project funding because of COVID to fund that. Are there any other instances?

Nassim Boutalbi: So unfortunately, we don't actually have a policy. We're setting up the honorarium. So ideally what we should be doing and I I think I, I spoke with this to you and Kareem last time is I think one of our objectives by the end of this year is to set an honorary policy. But unfortunately we don't have that in place.

Harley Martin: Kareem and I tried to pass one of these. It was one that me and Kareem developed coming out of last year's policy that Kareem brought forward in the Finance Committee, not the honorary motion that was passed in June 2022 last year. But something that Kareem thought would expand it a bit and make it more kind of concrete in a way. You just mentioned when you were motivated for it that you know part of the thing we're struggling with council this year and last year and year before and whatever else is staffing committee. We have the 12 to 14 CSU committee a year and they need a minimum of two councillors on them to function. You know so right there we're talking how everyone has to do at least two really which is how it's supposed to work. The motion that Kareem and I prepared and tried to pass had a specific requirements for committee participation because, you know, like you recognized that that's where we struggle. So why does your motion have nothing for committee participation? Realistically,, if we don't reach quorum at SCM or RCM, there's punishment for councillors on that but now there is nothing for committees. So why not have anything for committees on there.

Nassim Boutalbi: So there's essentially 2 things that we're here to talk about, right? So one of them is compensating the work of last year's councillors. The other thing is putting down a solid policy to guide the way throughout the years, right. So the reason why I objected to it and when I say object is that the policy or the motion that was brought forward was good, it just needed a bit of tweaking. Is because last year we were asked to staff committees and we were essentially pushed to staff them even though a lot of us knew that we weren't going to be able to attend full on. And I remember there were various times where councillors said that they're not going to be able to attend more than one or two meetings. However, I remember this vividly that certain executives said that you know you should join because we need to pass so and so funding. It's just that for the circumstances of last year that didn't permit that and also we are already late. So in terms of normally this is like approved in the council elect, so we are late. This is essentially done for for simplicity and to answer your question that you mentioned. This is just for last year.

Harley Martin: So the motion you are putting forward just applies to last year's council?

Nassim Boutalbi: Yes the Council of Representatives Honorarium 2022-23

Kareem Rahaman: Quick question on the motion Nassim, the number \$1500 how did you come up with that number just out of curiosity?

Nassim Boutalbi: I did a consultation with the with some of the other councillors and some were pushing for higher numbers, some were pushing for lower numbers. There was a lot of discussions but we thought that this was in line with essentially what some other councillors were being paid and the effort the councillors put in. I think in this specific regard I know that the other councillors they brought up documents as to like what other representatives got as an honorarium and came to this number.

Kareem Rahaman: We actually have put forward another motion for an honorary policy going forward for councillors in a SCM that didn't meet quorum. And in that proposal, it was fairly detailed in terms of penalties for missing X amount of meetings and things like that. And so if we're going to hold our council to that, So I mean, let's take Adam as a perfect example, right? Adam is sitting on 9 committees right now, right? , let's say he misses a couple of meetings here and there or something like that, let's just say his grand total at the end the max he could get is \$1600. He'd get, let's say, 1200 dollars or something if he misses a ton of meetings despite actually staffing these committees, right. I think applying something retroactively, we have to take this into consideration too, because it's almost as if you're setting a precedent going back. And so if these councillors going forward have to adhere to these strict rubrics, then we can't be, you know, throwing out a higher amount for councillors in the past. They have to be held to the same standard because at the end of the day, the thing that all councillors have in common is that they all signed up for the same volunteer role. And so as a result of that, no one year's council should be treated differently from another year's council. And I understand that it's been passed before, but it hasn't been passed enough time

to say that's a normal thing, which is why I'm questioning it. I'm not opposed to the funding or anything like that. My stance on honorariums and stuff is that anyone that volunteers for the union should be compensated. My question is more so regarding the actual like numbers and data behind it because I don't want to put something through that people are having second thoughts about or they feel like it's unfair going forward because you all councillors work hard and our main goal is to carry out the wishes of council, carry out the best, have the students best interests at mind and obviously adhere policy.

Nassim Boutalbi: I appreciate the feedback of yourself and Harley's right, but it's important to consider that we're talking about two different things that is number one is compensating or providing an honorarium for last year's team. So, normally that is done in the council elect. Where you're talking about are very, very valid points and I think we have to have these discussions but I don't believe that it pertains to this motion in particular.

Maria Cholakova (The Link): You mentioned \$1500 that is per councillor for their full term.

Nassim Boutalbi: Yes for their term. What I saw happen in the year before it is they have an amount for somebody who was elected in the full term and then they have half an amount for somebody who's elected in the by-elections.

Harley Martin: I just want to say like just so everyone's clear, but we're in favour of a council policy honorarium and also to say that we're working on that. We are looking into it and we're going to put it to policy committee when the time is right. Councillors from 2020-2021, they brought a motion to us in 2022-2023 to pass. It came in our June regular council meeting. It passed unanimously and the councillors who had applied to be councillors abstained from the vote. The amounts for that were 750 for a whole year and 300 for half year. And there were some stipulations about if you miss X number of meetings and what it goes down to etc. So that being said, you know I'm not opposed to paying councillors in general. You know this is a this is double the amount. So that's one thing that I'm a bit concerned about. Also, could you explain the \$19,000, how was that calculated.

Nassim Boutalbi: Well, what I'm trying to say is that, and for all the councillors who are listening, the executives, they got the bonuses, the minute keeper got the bonuses, the chair got the bonuses. But councillors still haven't got their honorariums a couple of months before this. People don't want to stay in our institution or we had a lot of resignations. We need to keep councillors. But the matter of the fact is, is we have to show appreciation for our councillors. And I personally can attest to this, for example, just by the end of the summer last year, I was burnt out with the amount of committees that I had to do.

Kareem Rahaman: It's very, it's unfair to say that we're not trying to do anything when we've proposed motions that got passed but the councillors did not show up to meet quorum. But it's really unfair for you to say that we're not doing this and we are the ones that are delaying it when we're the ones that created the motion and put it on the table earlier this year.

Harley Martin: Nassim, two things on what you said before just answerin' the question I asked you, but the way you present it is a bit false to say that you know executives got their bonus, chair got their bonus. So consideration of executive bonuses is within the policy. So the chair sent that out. We all got that e-mail and it gives you the criteria. It's an agenda point at a certain meeting in the year. That's why it comes up and that's why we discussed it. Now the minute keeper and the chair they have to submit for our consideration, which they did and we considered it and you voted on it, right. So why not present the council elect. You could have presented it at, you know, RCM on June 14th. Also as Kareem noted, you know, could have passed the other one and amended that if you wanted to. I don't want the blame put on people where the blame is not right. It's also to state that because this isn't a policy that's why it gets delayed like this.

Tanou Bah: How did you get to \$19,000?

Nassim Boutalbi: \$19,000 is just the maximum amount that we could throw up. By taking the amounts of participants and multiply it with the honorarium. If I am wrong we can correct it.

Tanou Bah: I want to know how the jump went from \$750 to \$1500. Also, what is it that councillors specifically had to have done last year to get to that number? How are we holding them accountable to the work that they did? So is it for the meetings they attended, for the meetings they did not attend? Is it for the committees they sat on? Because if we want to give councillors fair amount of money, it should be towards the work that they put in place. And so how are we determining what councillor gets what amount? I appreciate your effort and like you said, everybody should be paid for their work. I want to make sure that if we are going to sit here and vote for councillors last year to get paid that they're paid the amount of the work they did. In addition to what Kareem, and Harley said, there is no policy that says councillors are getting paid and we as a team found a problem with that. Like you said, engagement is low, and we know it's a hard job to be a councillor. But in that policy that Kareem and Harley made, it was very specific that we want to make sure attendance is in place. We want to make sure that you're in your committee meetings, we (execs) miss a meeting, we get \$150.00 cut from our cheque. Like if we are not in, we get violations, and if you don't show up to work, you don't get paid. Nassim, I want to know how 1500 came about and how do we know the councillors that are getting 1500 actually worked to deserve that money.

Nassim Boutalbi: I want all the councillors to notice, just for the record, what was proposed to us is a policy that goes into effect for all of the years after that. I remember it because we specifically asked, does it apply retroactively? Does it apply to the previous year and it doesn't. So we took an issue with that. We realized that the number one priority is that pervious councillors need to be compensated for their work. In terms of the amounts, this was done in consultation with the other councillors. But as councillors, you're free to put in your input in this if you, haven't already so that things aren't set in stone by any means.

Tanou Bah: May I ask which councillors and how many of the councillors last year you can coordinate just so we know if you got the full scope of the entire council last year for them to be compensated properly.

Riley Cooke: I feel like honorariums should be given, I to build that appreciation, because there's bonuses and stuff like that. But like the executives have been saying, there is no policy to that. And not only that, but you keep saying that you asked last year's councillors but I was never asked and I was never involved in any of this. I do not think there were any restrictions, we just could not meet quorum sometimes. So when it comes to a certain type of number, it can be negotiated. At the same time, I wouldn't put it as like, oh, talk to all last years councillors because some of them resigned because of this. So now you can't really give their opinion because they're out of council. With me, I stuck in council voluntarily and I didn't care if I got paid or not. It wasn't like I was being neglected of that payment because what it seems like is being said, it's like, oh, we've never got the chance to say it. There's plenty of times where it could have been decided in the council and it just never came up until now because a lot of people objected.

Nassim Boutalbi: So just making more productive, are you saying that you would be amenable to approving it if there's like more requirements in terms of committees? It's just that because it's already late, for me personally, I was like, listen, let's just make a flat rate, make it very simple because I know if you do committees and whatnot, it's going to get delayed, delayed, delayed, delayed and already delayed by three months. That being said, if people, councillors feel really strongly about committees, we can include it.

Kareem Abdeen: When will we find out how much councillors get paid per hour?

Nassim Boutalbi: The thing is this is a volunteer position, but what we do is that we give an honorarium at the end of their term to show our appreciation.

Maria Chitiroaga: I feel like first of all, the counselor payment for last year is not delayed because it's not a given. It's up to the council team to bring it up whenever or if they feel like they should bring it up. Second of all, I feel like the payment is completely unfair because not all counselors have done the same amount of work. And just like the chair, the minute keeper, the execs are subjected to a review every year. Councillors are not. So it comes out of thin air. If you're saying that, you know last year people's bonuses got completely obliterated, but then you proposed flat rate. So I would say amend the flat rate.

Kareem Rahaman: Maria, actually, it's a very similar point to what I was gonna say in that one thing you mentioned throughout the night so far is that executives got bonuses chair got a bonus, the minute keeper got a bonus. But all of these bonuses were discussed, there were actual long discussions about these bonuses. And some execs got as low as like literally that's just hundreds of dollars as their bonus for being an exec. And being an exec is like more than

35 hours of work a week while being a full time student. And we also have to attend the committee meetings and all the other meetings outside of those 35 hours of work as well. And so for someone like that to be compensated, let's say less than \$1500, which is what you're proposing here, you know, we have to hold everyone to the same standard is all I'm trying to say. So if you're going to propose something that's a flat rate, I'm not very much in favor of that. And if everything that you're saying is true and that everyone has put in so much work, then when we do our research and we dig more, the things that we find are going to show that and there shouldn't be any problem.

Nassim Boutalbi: I will say this again, I bought this up to fairly compensate the councils of last year. I know it's not perfect. I didn't say it was perfect, but we need to give a fair compensation for last year's councillors. But I just want to make sure that the sacrifice that they put in last year and the effort that they put in last year, for the sake of this organization, is just repaid, it does not sit well that people from last year aren't getting compensated.

Talya Diner: I think there's just like a general feeling that there can be a fairer way of distributing honorarium. I'm sure you don't feel like every councillor contributed the same amount last year. I'm just curious like if you went into council, like with the intention or thinking that you would be compensated or if you went in thinking the volunteer, because I think the results of the difference, I mean, it would very much like you need to be compensated with an honorarium. I'm just curious because execs, the minute taker and the chair come in knowing this is their job, their employment and like a slightly different intention than going in as a volunteer, I guess. I also am just curious about like the number of past councillors you spoke to just because I guess Riley, you're the only representative here from last year. So just to be clear, if this is like all councillors from last year who've agreed upon this, if it's like 10 of you guys who are you representing out of this motion

Nassim Boutalbi: I think we need to sit down and discuss our policy and the way that this institution is going to be heading. I'm glad that Harley talked about this in his presentation we don't have enough councillors. And the problem is and for the other councillors who are interested, the reason why that's an issue is because when you have a low number of councillors, it puts more pressure on them to join committees and whatnot and that's what happened to us last year. So I think that the other executives said that we need to have a policy of giving honorariums and for this reason I felt that OK, so the year before us got honorariums, I'm not I'm not too well versed as to how many years got them but I know the year before us. We'll see what best attracts councillors.

Taly Diner: What if instead of this motion we considered drafting a motion that would be a policy for councillor honorary for this year but then allow that to be retroactively passed for last year's councillors rather than this. This way we have this policy that would apply this year and then also for last year like and that way you can ratify what we didn't basically do last year

Nassim Boutalbi: The reason why is because I remember when Harley and Kareem, they introduced the motion. The problem is they set like a certain percentage in terms of committee attendance. That's an even for one meeting because we needed like we needed to staff these committees because if they weren't staffed we weren't going to be giving a lot of money to people we weren't going to be able to pass things that needed to be passed. The operations of the institution were reliant on that. So anyways, The thing is, so for example, let's say 75 percent, 80% what we said with myself and what the other councillor said is, well hold on a second, That's not fair because if the councillor now if you tell for example Riley that for the committee that they joins, you have to be 75% attendance in order to get an honorarium. But we were asked the joint committee even if you attend 11 committees, so I'm thinking what about those people who asked to join that one community to sacrifice their time in order to keep the the student union running, but then they didn't resign from that, will they then be penalized.

Talya Diner: Perhaps you can build that into a policy like maybe it could be in the policy that you drop with like with the current councillors that you might imagine maybe just be like understanding that like these councillors who joined these committees based off these minutes in order to like get motions passed by who forgot to resign, like it won't count towards that kind of attendance. And ultimately I think that would also like solve the is it fair for every councillor to get the same honorarium, which I think you probably would question as well.

Nassim Boutalbi: I was in a lot of communities like I worked hard. This is why I don't want to table this any longer and I just want to vote on this is I just want to approve this, give the people the money the people who deserve it, they probably could pay their student loans or whatever.

Kareem Rahaman: We're all in agreement of the fact that we want to pay these councillors. So how about we just compromise for now Nassim we're questioning you on the number right now. What if we were to propose that we go forward with a motion to pay them retroactively for now and we pay them let's say \$500 now and they can get up to, let's say X amount of money, but then we have to have an SCM for that and they can come present their case there. If your goal is to get the money now, I think that's your safest bet. If they deserve more money, they should be able to present a case on why.

Riley Cooke: It's just when you say that you consulted with councillors and I am sitting here as one of the councillors never being consulted, never being talked to about it.

Nassim Boutalbi: What we did, what we did was we discussed in the Finance Committee and then we discussed it in the actual council, if I wasn't mistaken. And then we spoke on it informally behind the scenes.

Chairperson : Is there any opposition to this motion?

Riley Cooke opposes Motion

Chairperson moves into roll call vote

1 YES, 4 NO

Motion fails to pass

9. NEW BUSINESS – INFORMATIONAL

a) Announcement of Health and Dental Plan Insurance Premiums

Harley Martin: Health and dental premiums are set for this year as they were last year. The total is \$185 for a year. We've done \$60 in one semester and \$175 another. We're happy to announce though that we've included gender affirming care through our health insurance provider for this calendar year at no additional expense to students. So it goes into our pre negotiated plan and the surplus from the health and dental plan reserve fund which can be used for health and dental plan is going to be used to pay for those services whatever that is. As you know, we have to negotiate a new plan next year, but for this year it stays the same. And that was negotiated by the team, not last year, but the year before.

~~b) Transfer of Student Information for the Purpose of Administering the Health and Dental Insurance Plan~~

~~c) Class Action Lawsuit Regarding Student Health and Dental Insurance Plan~~

~~d) CSU Student Centre Building~~

10. QUESTION PERIOD & BUSINESS ARISING

11. ANNOUNCEMENTS

12. ADJOURNMENT

Hannah Jackson motions to adjourn meeting at 21h45

*Seconded by **Riley Cooke***