

Concordia Student Union- Council of Representatives November Regular Council Meeting

Wednesday November 26th, 2025
In Person H655.02 and Zoom, 18h30

1. Call to Order

Chairperson calls the meeting to order at 18h47.

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 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: Angelica Antonakopoulos

Council Minute Keeper: Adey Singer

Executives present: Leo Litke (Internal Affairs Coordinator), Vanessa Massot (General Coordinator), Mia Kennedy (Sustainability Coordinator), Aya Kidaei (Loyola Coordinator), Rev Nahabedian (Student Life Coordinator), Ryan Assaker (Finance Coordinator), Isabella Providenti (Academic and Advocacy Coordinator)

Councillors present: Kinsey El Tanani (Arts & Science), Lina Elbakaye (Arts & Science), Dave Plant (Arts & Science), Noah Hunt (Arts & Science), Ashley Steinwald (Arts & Science), Gabriela Aragon (Arts & Science), Ali Salman (Arts & Science), Saraluz Barton Gomez (Arts & Science), Maria Chitoroaga (Arts & Science), Anastasia Zorchinsky (Arts & Science), Chana Leah Natanblut (Arts & Science), Michael Lecchino (John Molson School of Business), Liora Hechel (John Molson School of Business), Sarah Wolman (John Molson School of Business), Diana Levitin (John Molson School of Business), Marwan Shalby (John Molson School of Business), Nathanael McCooeye (Gina Cody School of Engineering), Orly Wazana (Gina Cody School of Engineering), Nadeem El-Charabati (Gina Cody School of Engineering), Coby Toledano (Gina Cody School of Engineering), Norah Finlay (Fine Arts), Sarah Aspler (Fine Arts), Alexandrah Cardona (Independent), Lili Daviault Campbell (Independent)

Councillors absent: Basma Khanti (Arts & Science), Salma Benani (Arts & Science), Emilie Alexandre (John Molson School of Business), Jad Harb (Gina Cody School of Engineering), Hani David Baydoun (Gina Cody School of Engineering),

Executives absent: Danna Ballantyne (External Affairs and Mobilization Coordinator)

3. Ratification of the agenda

Ali Salman (Councillor) motions to ratify the agenda. Marwan Shalby (Councillor) seconds. Motion is adopted unanimously.

4. Consent Agenda

- a. *See appendix i.*

Liora Hechel (Councillor) discusses issues with the October 22nd minutes, including missing the full text of motions and disagreement with how the discussion on Art Matters fee-levy was represented.

Chairperson rules that the minutes are not to be included in consent agenda due to not abiding by CSU policy which states that the full text of motions must be included in the minutes.

Ali Salman (Councillor) motions to ratify consent agenda. Marwan Shalby (Councillors) seconds. Motion is adopted unanimously.

5. Presentations and Guest Speakers – as needed

- a. **CEO Report**

CEO shares November 2025 By-elections Report. CEO shares election results and summarizes issues with the elections, including low voter turnout, and makes suggestions on how to improve participation and promotion of CSU elections.

Executives and Councillors make suggestions for how to increase participation in CSU elections.

6. Appointments – as needed

7. **Returning business – as needed**
8. **New Business- Substantive**
 - a. Ratification of by-election results

Dave Plant (Councillor) motions to table the ratification of JMSB Councillor's election to a later date. Chairperson suggests that it would be more procedurally sound to amend the motion to ratify the by-elections rather than creating a new motion.

Noah Hunt (Councillor) expresses agreement with Dave Plant's (Councillor) concern based on the language of CSU Bylaw 6.2.4. Noah Hunt explains that considering the sitting JMSB Councillor's seat will only be vacating upon their graduation from Concordia, and considering that the newly elected JSMB Councillor's tenure begins immediately upon the ratification of the election results, there will be an overlap period where there is an additional Councillor.

Liora Hechel (Councillor) objects, stating that election results must be ratified in the Regular Council Meeting following the election as per CSU policy, and that Dave Plant's (Councillor) motion would require a policy change.

Marwan Shalby (Councillor) explains that if the JMSB Councillor's election was ratified, it would be a violation of CSU bylaws as there would be 31 sitting Councillors.

Ali Salman (Councillor) motions to ratify the fall by-election results. Maria Chitoroaga (Councillor) seconds.

Noah Hunt (Councillor) states that they haven't been able to find policy that specifies the timeline for ratification on election results, and that Scope 3 on Policy on Elections states that in case of discrepancy between the Bylaws and policy, Bylaws prevail. Liora Hechel (Councillor) agrees that there was no policy stating when by-election results must be ratified.

Council members draft amendment to the motion to ratify the by-election results.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT to remain in compliance with section 6.2.4 and 6.2.2 of the CSU's bylaws, all elections results will be ratified with the

exception of the election of the JMSB Councillor, whose election ratification vote will only occur at ratified at the January 28th RCM.

Liora Hechel (Councillor) suggests she will not attend the next meeting to prevent an overflow of JSMB seats. Noah Hunt (Councillor) does not accept the friendly amendment. Alexandra Cardona (Councillor) expresses belief that transferring mandates could lead to a slippery slope and set a bad precedent.

Liora Hechel (Councillor) suggests that the meeting where the JMSB Councillor's election is ratified be specified in the motion. Noah Hunt (Councillor) accepts the friendly amendment.

Liora Hechel (Councillor) suggests that the JMSB Councillor that is graduating resign early. Chairperson rules imposing a resignation as undemocratic.

Marwan Shalby (Councillor) suggests that the ratification of the JSMB Councillor's election take place at the Regular Council Meeting following Concordia's January 26th DNE deadline, once the Chairperson validates the membership of all sitting Councillors. Noah Hunt (Councillor) accepts the friendly amendment.

Noah Hunt (Councillor) motions to amend the motion to ratify the election. Marwan Shalby (Councillor) seconds. Motion is adopted unanimously.

Roll call vote:

Kinsey El Tanani: For

Lina Elbakaye: For

Dave Plant: For

Basma Khanti: Absent

Noah Hunt: For

Ashley Steinwald: For

Gabriela Aragon: For

Ali Salman: For

Saraluz Barton Gomez: For

Maria Chitoroaga: For

Anastasia Zorchinsky: For

Chana Leah Natanblut: For

Salma Benani: Absent

Michael Lecchino: For
Liora Hechel: For
Sarah Wolman: For
Diana Levitin: For
Emilie Alexandre: For
Marwan Shalby: For
Nathanael McCooeye: For
Jad Harb: Absent
Hani David Baydoun: Absent
Orly Wazana: For
Nadeem El-Charabati: For
Coby Toledano: **Absent**
Norah Finlay: For
Sarah Aspler: For
Alexandrah Cardona: For
Lili Daviault Campbell: For

Motion to ratify the by-elections passes unanimously.

9. New Business- Informational

10. Question Period and Business Arising

Member of general public brings forward concern about the piano from the EV building being removed and asks if the CSU can negotiate with administration to bring it back. Leo Litke (Internal Affairs Coordinator) advises them to reach out to the either their departmental student association or to the General Coordinator by email at coordinator@csu.qc.ca. Marwan Shalby (Councillor) clarifies that the piano is currently the responsibility of the office of student life and engagement, and that there's a piano available at the Loyola campus. Isabella Providenti (Academic and Advocacy Coordinator) recommends reaching out to the General Coordinator of the Fine Arts Student Alliance, and that there's a keyboard available at the student lounge in the VA Building in room VA-229.

Dave Plant (Councillor) suggests that a piano should be added to the Hall building mezzanine.

Anastasia Zorchinsky (Councillor) requests information regarding the status of employment of Campaigns Coordinator Julianna Smith. Vanessa Massot (General Coordinator) declines to answer the question, considering that a recent National Post article that resulted in CSU staff getting harassed online contained

a lot of the same questioning that Councillors brought to the previous Regular Council Meeting.

Ryan Michon asks for CSU's official response to the tabling ban for certain clubs. Vanessa Massot (General Coordinator) clarifies that CSU's response was to be in compliance with the booking ban, and that booking rights for clubs will be reinstated December 2nd. Leo Litke (Internal Affairs Coordinator) adds that no tabling will be allowed during exam period, unless it's specifically related to wellness, and that any clubs impacted by the suspension of bookings will be sent information from Concordia directly.

Member of general public Drew Sylver asks about the employment status of Julianna Smith, who allegedly harassed a great amount of their personal friends. Vanessa Massot (General Coordinator) declines to answer and will inform Council if any actions are taken by the CSU.

Nathanael McCooye (Councillor) asks if Councillors have the right to know the identity of the employees of the CSU. Vanessa Massot (General Coordinator) clarifies that employees of the CSU are protected by their own union, and answering the question would take a reading of the employees' collective agreement with regards to privacy rights.

Member of general public Drew Sylver asks again about the employment status of Julianna Smith, if the CSU engaged in a pressure campaign against the administration after the barring of Julianna Smith from campus, and if Julianna Smith was carrying an incendiary device on October 6th and 7th strike for the sake of transparency.

Alexandra Cardona (Councillor) states that Human Resources information and the personal information of employees is not the business of Council.

Member of general public Drew Sylver asks if it is the norm that executives withhold information from Councillors and asks the Finance Coordinator if Julianna Smith is still being paid by the CSU or if they are receiving a severance package. Ryan Assaker (Finance Coordinator) responds that they do not have information on hand but suggests that questions be directed to their email.

Nathanael McCooye (Councillor) asks if Julianna Smith was in possession of an incendiary device on October 6th or 7th. Vanessa Massot (General Coordinator) explains that as employers they have the duty to respect the collective

agreement with their employees, and that Julianna Smith was not in possession of an incendiary decide.

Chairperson does not allow Drew Sylver to speak further due to Drew Sylver's exhaustion of their three speaking turns.

11. Announcements

Dave plant (Councillor) gives announcement about upcoming town hall at the CSU lounge about the suspension of LTA contracts on December 3rd.

Rev Nahabedian (Student Life Coordinator) gives announcement about menstrual products, condoms, pregnancy and HIV tests being available at the CSU office. Rev Nahabedian asks clubs to look out for an announcement on their club portal about planning a club run winter orientation event.

12. Adjournment

Maria Chitoroaga (Councillor) motions to adjourn. Noah Hunt (Councillor) seconds. Motion is adopted unanimously.

Meeting is adjourned at 21h18.

Appendix i. Contents of 4. Consent agenda

- a. Committee meeting minutes
 - i. Clubs and spaces committee
- ~~b. Minutes October 22nd RCM~~



Council Chairperson



Council Minute Keeper