

Call to Order – 12:32 am, January 15, 2015 | MBC 2290

MOTION ADV 2015-01-15:01

Yang

Be it resolved to appoint Chardaye Bueckert as temporary chair of ADV 2015-01-15 until the arrival of the Vice President External Relations.

CARRIED

1. Roll Call of Attendance

Committee Composition

Vice President External Relations (*chair*) Darwin Binesh (*late-SFSS work*)

President (*ex officio*)..... Chardaye Bueckert

Vice President Student LifeKayode Fatoba

Board of Directors Representative Rebecca Langmead (*late-SFSS work*)

Councilor Michael Fujiwara

Councilor Kathleen Yang

Councilor Andy Untawala

Board of Governors Representative Deven Azevedo

Out On Campus Representative.....

Women’s Centre Representative Anjali Biju

Student At-Large

Society Staff

Minute Taker Dion Chong

Guests

Board of Directors Representative Tesicca Truong

Regrets

Student At-Large Arjan Mundy

Board of Directors Representative Brady Wallace

Vice President University Relations..... Moe Kopahi

Absent

Councilor Nick Poullos

Senate Representative Shirin Escarcha

2. Adoption of the Agenda

MOTION ADV 2015-01-15:01

Biju/Amended Yang/Fatoba/Binesh

Be it resolved to adopt the agenda as amended.

FrontRunner motion added.

Cultural day discussion added.

2 announcements added

CARRIED AS AMENDED

Chairship returned to the Vice President External Relations

3. Ratification of Regrets

MOTION ADV 2015-01-15:02

Yang

Be it resolved to ratify regrets from:

Student At-LargeArjan Mundy (*employment*)
Board of Directors RepresentativeBrady Wallace (*out of town*)
Vice President University Relations..... Moe Kopahi (*academic*)

CARRIED

4. New Business

a. Sex Week 2015 Funding

MOTION ADV 2015-01-15:03

Fatoba/Amended Bueckert/Bueckert

Whereas the Advocacy Committee supports Sex Week 2015 initiative in principle;

Be it resolved to allocate up to \$5000 for payment of speakers and workshop hosts for the Sex Week 2015 initiative from 820/23 Campaigns, contingent upon detailed event plan and invoices being provided in the ~Advocacy event plan format to be presented for approval at ADV 2015-01-22.

The Vice President Student Life provided an update on the process:

- Potential speakers have been shortlisted by the working group.
 - Costs vary greatly and negotiators have been provided with an absolute maximum
- Workshops were being finalized
 - Workshops can be hosted by any student in any space they wish.
 - Workshop types included educational/informative with groups such as Youth Co. and workshops on sex as a biological construct and sex in colloquial usage
- Theme of the week would be Taboo Talk
 - Biomedical harm reduction
 - Comparing liberal and conservative cultural views of sex and their impact on sexual health
- \$5000 requested was to cover all costs, including marketing speaker workshops shirts logistics/travel costs etc.

The Vice President External Relations provided an update on the finances of the committee. Members expressed confusions around the dissonance between the ‘conservative’ budget presented to the committee and the amount being requested through the motion. The Vice President Student Life indicated that they might return to the committee if additional funding was necessary to complete the event. They had been engaging with the Student Engagement Fund to assist in the funding of speakers for the event, covering a range of topics. However, the SEF requires funding commitments from the SFSS prior to the matching of SEF funds. Concern was expressed that a detailed budget for the initiative was missing, and a member indicated that they could not approve such a large lump sum without one. The committee

approved of the project in principle, but the committee had common concerns around the finances of the event.

A campaign proposal template was approved at the Executive Committee, which provided a common template for the submission of campaigns to the Advocacy Committee and to the Society at large, which addressed common concerns of the Society and avoiding legal issues. The Sex Week proposal was identified as having failed to utilize the template.

The project lead indicated that the event planning process was at a stage where not further action could be conducted without access to funding. Concern was raised around the double standards in funding committee projects of similar magnitude and that the requests of the committee had been accommodated by the working group, which had worked throughout the winter break on the project.

A number of alternative proposals were considered by the committee to provide the working group with funds to continue the project while ensuring financial accountability to the Society. \$5000 was considered the minimal amount for funding workshops, speakers, and venues. A confirmed funding amount was necessary in order to provide the parameters within which the working group would negotiate with speakers.

CARRIED AS AMENDED

Fatoba left at 1:09pm

b. Lower Mainland Transit Referendum Position MOTION ADV 2015-01-15:04

Bueckert

Be it resolved that the SFSS Advocacy Committee recommend to the SFSS Board of Directors that the SFSS officially adopt a position of support for the "yes" vote in the Lower Mainland Transit Referendum.

Be it further resolved that up to \$3,500 from 820/23 Campaigns be approved for the "Vote "Yes" In the Regional Transit Referendum" campaign.

A vote on transit improvement was being conducted by the provincial government, which is likely necessary for the continued development of the region. This was of great importance for SFU, given that much of the community was dependent on transit (considering UPass usage statistics). The improvements included light rail development in Surrey, true express service between Burnaby and Vancouver campuses, express bus service between SFU Surrey and Langley (where many of the Surrey student base resided), and enhanced B-Line and Skytrain service. These improvements required a 0.5% sales tax increase. However, proportionally students don't spend as much and use transit more often, making the proposal important for the student population. Given student populations in the province, the student vote could be decisive. Any such campaign would require two components:

- Registration of eligible voters onto the provincial voter list in order to receive ballots
 - Added benefit of being registered for all future elections.
- Encouraging students to vote yes and return ballots to Elections BC.

The Student Society has already been promoting the referendum's existence with the Graduate Student Society and Sustainable SFU. Sustainable SFU has been providing human resource support through coordination of campaign, classroom talks, design of outreach material, as well as some funding. They have offered to coordinate any work supported by the SFSS.

Graduate Student Society has provided some funding for outreach and will be considering supporting further advertising. To date, outreach has not been planned for Surrey and Vancouver students, which Advocacy Committee could take leadership on. Additionally, other student societies in the region have taken stances on the matter, which may present an opportunity for cross-institution collaboration to encourage greater youth turnout. Matter was discussed with a number of councilors, and a number of student unions. A number of Councilors had also been engaged on the matter. President Bueckert was commended for the quality of the proposal provided to the committee.

CARRIED

c. Better Transit and Transportation Coalition Pledge

MOTION ADV 2015-01-15:05

Bueckert

Be it resolved that Advocacy Committee recommend to the SFSS BOD that the SFSS endorse the Better Transit and Transportation Coalition pledge.

SFSS was contacted by an individual connected to the Better Transit and Transportation Coalition, as well as the Downtown Surrey Business Coalition. The groups were seeking student perspectives on the coalition which included a large number of local and national organizations, along with nearly all mayors in the region aside from Burnaby's mayor.

The only major groups opposing the transit referendum thus far were the Langley Board of Trade and the Canadian Federation of Taxpayers.

SFSS has strong policies restricting it from joining organization, so the alternative is to officially endorse the matter. This would enable the Society to position itself as a resource on the student voice and student needs on transit issues. SFSS would also benefit from the relationships with these groups.

The only concern identified thus far with the coalition was the lack of media attention on their presence. However, the Coalition has hired staff to improve its media presence and would hopefully benefit from a massive media push by the time that the Society provides its endorsement.

CARRIED

d. Kinder Morgan Pipeline National Energy Board Submission Working Group

MOTION ADV 2015-01-15:06

Truong

Whereas the SFSS has received intervenor status on the National Energy Board's review process of Kinder Morgan's proposed pipeline expansion and rerouting;

Whereas the SFSS has a responsibility to consult and inform its members about the project;

Whereas the SFSS can submit questions and commentary to the National Energy Board;

Be it resolved that the SFSS Advocacy Committee strike a National Energy Board Submission Working Group tasked with:

- 1) Consult the students about their questions and commentary about the project

2) Draft a submission for the NEB review process on behalf on the SFSS to communicate our memberships questions and commentary about the project

Be it further resolved to task SFSS Environmental Representative Tesicca Truong to lead the working group.

As an intervener in the process, the SFSS has the right to ask questions and provide a submission of their views to the National Energy Board relating to the Kinder Morgan Transmountain Pipeline. The timeline for such a submission has been extended to 2015-09-01. Members of the committee wished to ensure that the membership had adequate input on any such submission, particularly given its effect on the student body. This was particularly important given that SFU has not decided to consult the community for their intervener submission to the NEB. No campaign proposal document had been prepared for the committee as of yet, since a working group would be responsible for preparing any campaign.

To date, over 7000 questions have been posed to the NEB. The NEB requires that all questions submitted have to be related to the subject of the pipeline expansion, and no duplicates or perceived duplicates of any of the 7000 questions will be accepted.

President and Environment Representative have discussed the potential of hiring a project worker to review submitted NEB questions and identify gaps in questioning in order to bolster SFSS submission and support the SFSS's advocacy role in the matter. While some timing issues have been identified relating to the current stage of the NEB review process, the committee agreed to continue with the initiative.

The Graduate Student Society also has intervener status (access to all information and the right to pose questions and provide a submission on the process), while SFPIRG, SFU 350, and Sustainable SFU all have commentator status. Given shared membership and interests between these groups and the Society, opportunity existed for collaboration.

Any members interested in assisting in the matter should contact the Environment Representative.

CARRIED

MEETING EXTENDED BY 15 MINUTES

Bueckert

e. FrontRunner

MOTION ADV 2015-01-15:07

Langmead

Whereas self-identified women hold less than 50% of elected seats at all levels of government municipally as reported by the Federation of Canadian Municipalities, provincially and federally as reported by the Library of Parliament (Julie Cool, 2010, "Women in Parliament");

Whereas self-identified women make up 54% of the SFU undergraduate student body yet only constitute 37.5% and 16.7% of the current SFSS Board of Directors and Executive Committee, respectively;

Whereas self-identified women have been consistently underrepresented on the SFSS Board of Directors and Executive Committee relative to their proportion

of the student body over the last 4 years;
Whereas a new initiative to encourage young women to become involved in student government called FrontRunner has been created;
Be it resolved that the Advocacy committee recommend that the Simon Fraser Student Society Board of Directors write an official letter of support for the FrontRunner women's student government campaign school.

A number of students at SFU are participating in the campaign school. It was requested that the BOD write a letter of support to endorse the programme.

The SFSS has already promoted the campaign school, although the Executive Committee expressed that the whereas clauses (many of which were mirrored in the motion to promote the organization) made the Society look bad.

CARRIED

5. Discussion

a. International Student Tuition Increase Campaign Update

The Board of Governors Representative initially pushed for focus on a more comprehensive notification and consultation policy for tuition changes, as opposed to the grandfather clause requested by the SFSS. President Bueckert assisted with the drafting of the consultation policy. After discussions with the SFU VP Academic, the university has committed to engaging with the Student Societies on the matter, thus resulting in the removal of a motion to such effect from the BOG agenda. The VP Academic and BOG Representative would meet tomorrow to discuss the process for collaboration with the student society.

A student presence at the January 29 BOG meeting may still be helpful in framing the budget review process and ensuring that the Board of Governors was aware of student interest in the matter. However, a number of challenges were identified with any such mobilization of students, including timing (proximity to SGM and the sheer amount of communication being pushed relating to the project, 8AM meeting), venue (Harbour Centre), limited capacity of student leaders after SGM mobilization, and whether asking students to attend a meeting without relevant agenda items would be realistic. The committee agreed that a presence at the BOG meeting would not be pursued.

The Committee was reminded that SFU and the SFSS were two different organizations with different priorities, and thus it was natural for interests to diverge and for the Society to have to advocate strongly on behalf of the membership. Success in this regard could be seen in the university backtracking on previous refusals to consider a consultation policy.

As an alternative, the Society could run a dedicated event on the subject and invite representatives of the University to attend once again, given the success of the Council townhall.

Since the agenda item on the grandfathering clause has been struck from the Board of Governors agenda, the Board of Directors will have to change the approved statement of position.

A simple call to action could be created, such as selfies being taken with a small logo circulated under a hashtag. Communications Coordinator could be invited to provide expertise at the Committee meeting if the members felt the need for such support.

A number of members who have been engaged in the matter would return to the committee next week with a specific call to action and campaign programming based on the original plan prepared by the President.

Concern was raised by members that the current name of the campaign seemed to imply that the SFSS was advocating for tuition fee increases.

MOTION ADV 2015-01-15:08

Bueckert

Be it resolved to amend the name of the campaign to the SFSS Anti Tuition Fee Increase Campaign

The Committee found the interpretation for the campaign name rather humorous.

CARRIED

ISG should be active within the semester and could once again be involved in the continuing conversations around tuition fees for international students.

6. Attachments

14Dec10-NewsRelease(FINAL)-CoalitionLaunches-SupportsMayorsTransportationPlan.pdf

14Nov28-Coalition-MembershipPledge(finaldraft).pdf

Vote "Yes" in the Transit Referendum Campaign Proposal.pdf

SexWeek.pdf

SexWeekPRDocument.pdf

7. Adjournment 1:46pm

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