

# 1. CALL TO ORDER

Call to Order – 4:40 PM

# 2. TERRITORIALACKNOWLEDGMENT

We respectfully acknowledge that the SFSS is located on the traditional, unceded territories of the Coast Salish peoples, including the x<sup>w</sup>məθk<sup>w</sup>əyəm (Musqueam), Sk̓w̓x̓wú7mesh Úxwumixw (Squamish), Sel̓íl̓wítulh (Tsleil-Waututh), k<sup>w</sup>ík<sup>w</sup>əłəm (Kwkwetlem) and q̓ícəy̓ (Katzie) Nations. Unceded means that these territories have never been handed over, sold, or given up by these nations, and we are currently situated on occupied territories.

# 3. ROLL CALL OF ATTENDANCE

## 3.1 Council Composition

### Student Union Representatives

Archeology .....	Tanner Humphreys
Bachelor of Environment .....	Mina Garlick
Behavioral Neuroscience.....	Ramsha Farooqui
Biology .....	Nicolas Bonilla
Biomedical Physiology & Kinesiology.....	Alamdeep Khehra
Business.....	Sarah Chan
Chemistry .....	
Cognitive Science.....	Marissa Lamb
Communications.....	Trisha Ramakrishnan
Computing Science.....	Ryan Vansickle
Criminology.....	Margaret Wang
Dance.....	
Data Science .....	
Earth Science .....	Anthony Giang
Economics .....	Christian Briones
Education.....	
Engineering Science.....	Gurvaani Dhani
English.....	
Environmental Resource .....	
Environmental Science ( <i>Chair</i> ).....	Olivia Roberts
French .....	Sharon Kim
Gender, Sexuality, and Women’s Studies.....	
Geography .....	Roger Lye
Health Science .....	Diane Muthaura
History .....	
Humanities.....	
Interactive Arts and Technology .....	Cora Fu
International Studies.....	Alex Aparicio
Labour Studies.....	
Linguistics .....	Ali Vickers
Mathematics .....	Fatemeh Kiannejad
Mechatronics System Engineering.....	James Liu

Molecular Biology & Biochemistry .....	
Operations Research .....	
Philosophy .....	Nick Sheffield
Physics .....	Manuel Rojas
Political Science .....	Gabe Liosis
Psychology .....	Tristan Raymond
Science Undergraduate Society (SUS).....	Jason Spence
Society of Arts and Social Sciences (SASS) .....	Jasmine Padam
Sociology and Anthropology.....	Basheer Buksh
Software Systems .....	
Statistics and Actuarial Science (SASSA) .....	Anthony Kim
Sustainable Community Development.....	
Theaters .....	
Visual Arts.....	
World Literature .....	Kayla Tso
<b>Constituency Group Representatives</b>	
Disability and Neurodiversity Alliance (DNA) .....	Serena Bains
First Nations Student Association (FNSEA) .....	
International Student Group (ISG).....	
Out on Campus Collective (OOC) .....	Victor Yin
Residence Hall's Association (RHA).....	
Student Athlete Advisory Committee (SAAC).....	
Women Centre Collective (WCC) .....	Simran Randhawa
Students of Caribbean & African Ancestry (SOCA) .....	Jasmine Kitine
<b>Board of Directors</b>	
<b>SFSS Directors (non-voting)</b>	
President.....	Giovanni HoSang
VP External Relations .....	Jasdeep Gill
VP Finance .....	Tawanda Chitapi
VP Student Services.....	Christina Loutsik
VP Student Life .....	Jessica Nguyen
VP University Relations.....	Shina Kaur
At-Large Representative .....	Maneet Aujla
At-Large Representative .....	Rayhaan Khan
Faculty Representative (Applied Sciences).....	Nick Chubb
Faculty Representative (Arts & Social Sciences) .....	Jennifer Chou
Faculty Representative (Business).....	Andrew Wong
Faculty Representative (Communications, Art, & Technology) .....	Fiona Li
Faculty Representative (Education).....	Emerly Liu
Faculty Representative (Environment).....	Julian Loutsik
Faculty Representative (Health Sciences).....	Osob Mohammed
Faculty Representative (Science) .....	Simran Uppal
<b>3.2 Society Staff</b>	
Campaign, Research, and Policy Coordinator .....	Sarah Edmunds
Member Services Coordinator –Generalist .....	John Tseng
Student Union Outreach Assistant .....	Samantha Li
Administrative Assistant .....	Kristin Kokkov

**3.3 Regrets**

Computing Science.....	Ryan Vansickle
Criminology.....	Margaret Wang
Sociology and Anthropology.....	Basheer Buksh
World Literature.....	Kayla Tso

**3.4 Absent**

Bachelor of Environment.....	Mina Garlick
Biomedical Physiology & Kinesiology.....	Alamdeep Khehra
Communications.....	Trisha Ramakrishnan
Earth Science.....	Anthony Giang
Mechatronics System Engineering.....	James Liu
Philosophy.....	Nick Sheffield

**4. RATIFICATION OF REGRETS**

*Excuses or regrets will be kept track of by the chair of council. Missing two meetings in a row without sending excuses (that are approved) will result in the removal from Council.*

**4.1 MOTION COUNCIL 2019-10-02:01**

**Gabe/ Ramsha**

*Be it resolved to ratify regrets from Ryan Vansickle, Margaret Wang, Basheer Buksh, Kayla Tso.*

**CARRIED**

**5. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

**5.1 MOTION COUNCIL 2019-10-02:02**

**Jason/Tristan**

*Be it resolved to adopt the agenda as presented.*

**CARRIED AS AMENDED**

**Amendment:** add federal election debates and SFU budget consultation to the discussion.

**6. PRESENTATION**

**6.1 Orientation presentation – Sarah Edmunds**

**7. NEW BUSINESS**

**7.1 MOTION COUNCIL 2019-10-02:03**

**Tristan/Victor**

*SFU Lifeline is an anti-abortion club that has been recognized and funded by the SFSS as early as 2012. Their mandate states “SFU Lifeline advocates for pre-born children, whose human rights are violated by abortion, which is legal in all 9 months of pregnancy in Canada. We are dedicated to raising awareness about this issue, and providing women with the support and resources they need to make a life-affirming choice that respects both mother and child.” Since 2012 the club has made numerous displays of graphic images of aborted fetuses on campus, most notably during their “Genocide Awareness Project” campaign, against the directions of the BOD.*

*As of March 2019, the group openly supports and seeks to fundraise for local Crisis Pregnancy Centres (CPCs), anti-abortion establishments known to target Canadian universities with similar*

*anti-choice propaganda. Through Lifeline's mandate, the group seeks to ban abortion in Canada, and legal repercussions established for any individual attempting to and/or successfully terminating a pregnancy, regardless of circumstance. Leading members of this group have conveyed that pregnancies resulting from rape or incest should be carried to term, and to terminate such a pregnancy is considered murder — as such, they advocate for laws that would convict individuals of murder if they were to follow through with an abortion. Through their efforts, Lifeline hopes to eliminate protections afforded to women through the Charter of Rights and Freedoms. Advocacy for "life-affirming choices" ultimately takes away any semblance of choice from women regarding their health and perpetuates reproductive oppression that is Canadian courts continue to recognize as being inherently misogynistic and harmful to women, including those on campuses.*

*Legal precedent set in the Supreme Court of Ontario in 2016 by Ryerson Student Union (RSU) favoured the RSU Board's decision to deny an anti-abortion club funding or status due to violation of RSU's policy regarding their pro-choice stance and their issue-based policy on women's issues. (RSU Issue-Based Policy 15.2 & 15.3, Operational Policy #28). While freedom of expression in public spaces is also protected under the Charter, by no means is a Student Association like SFSS obligated to fund or grant club status to any group that promotes oppressive ideologies which infringe upon human rights enshrined in the Charter. Policy statements can be published at any time in regards to SFSS taking formal stances for/against social justice issues. SFSS is not a public entity funded by the government, and as a student association has the responsibility to maintain a safe environment at SFU. Taking a stance against sexism is well within the rights and responsibilities of the Board.*

*BC Human Rights Code defines harassment to "[include] but is not limited to — actions/ comments directed at no person in particular but create an intimidating, demeaning, or offensive environment, any objectionable comment/act/display that demeans, belittles, compromises, or causes personal humiliation/embarrassment." Regarding discriminatory publication, "a person must not publish/issue/display any statement, sign, or representation that: indicates discrimination or an intention to discriminate against a person or group or class of persons (extends to sex and gender identity)."*

*SFU Human Rights Policy prohibits discrimination on the basis of your sex, defining examples of harassment to include: repeated references to negative, personalized stereotypes, directing commentary that is intended to shame or humiliate.*

*While Lifeline promotes and endorses oppressive ideologies that are inherently sexist, no SFSS policy currently exists that the group openly violates. The need for comprehensive policy development explicitly taking a pro-choice stance would put Lifeline, as well as any other groups openly promoting anti-abortion ideologies, in violation of SFSS policy and would formulate grounds for club dissolution and revocation of funding.*

*Furthermore, development of groups policy aimed at thorough vetting processes for existing and future clubs is required, as gaps in existing policy has allowed groups like Lifeline to maintain club status and funding while compromising the well-being of students on campus.*

*Adequate screening of clubs in accordance with updated issue-based and groups-based policies would offer better protection to students and adequately address the issues raised by groups that promote oppressive ideologies that negatively impact students at SFU.*

*Be it resolved that Council formally request an update from the Board of Directors on the implementation of a pro-choice policy.*

*Be it further resolved that Council request a copy of the drafted policy, as to provide guidance to the Board on how to proceed.*

**CARRIED**

**Discussion:**

- It follows up from the discussion item that we had in spring – Lifeline has met with the Board over the summer.
  - What are we defining as harassment, physical harm, explicit acts and publication of harmful materials?
- Lifeline said that they won't put out explicit materials about dead foetuses,
  - In 2012 they handed out posters with photos of foetuses and misleading information.
  - Lifeline promised not to do this again, but they were still handing out pictures of abortion to people on the campus.
- Update of the pro-choice policies – the Board has the approach, but there is no current policy about this issue.
  - In May this was brought to attention and they are working on this policy.
  - There is a draft of pro-choice policy, but the Council has not seen this draft.
    - In order to make a motion we would need to see this draft.

## 8. DISCUSSION ITEMS

### 8.1 Federal elections debates

- Candidates will be in room C90001 on Thursday October 3<sup>rd</sup>.

### 8.2 SFU budget consultation

- SFU is planning to increase of tuition by 2% for domestic students and 4% for international students
  - It is claimed that there is not enough information about this decision and this is a red herring.
- It is claimed that the current consultation process is not correct.
- It is decided to postpone this items for the next meeting.

## 9. ATTACHMENTS

- Council Presentation 2019-07-24.pdf

## 10. ADJOURNMENT

### 10.1 MOTION COUNCIL 2019-10-02:04

**Jason/Dianne**

*Be it resolved to adjourn the meeting at 5:33PM.*

**CARRIED**

# The Role and Function of Student Council



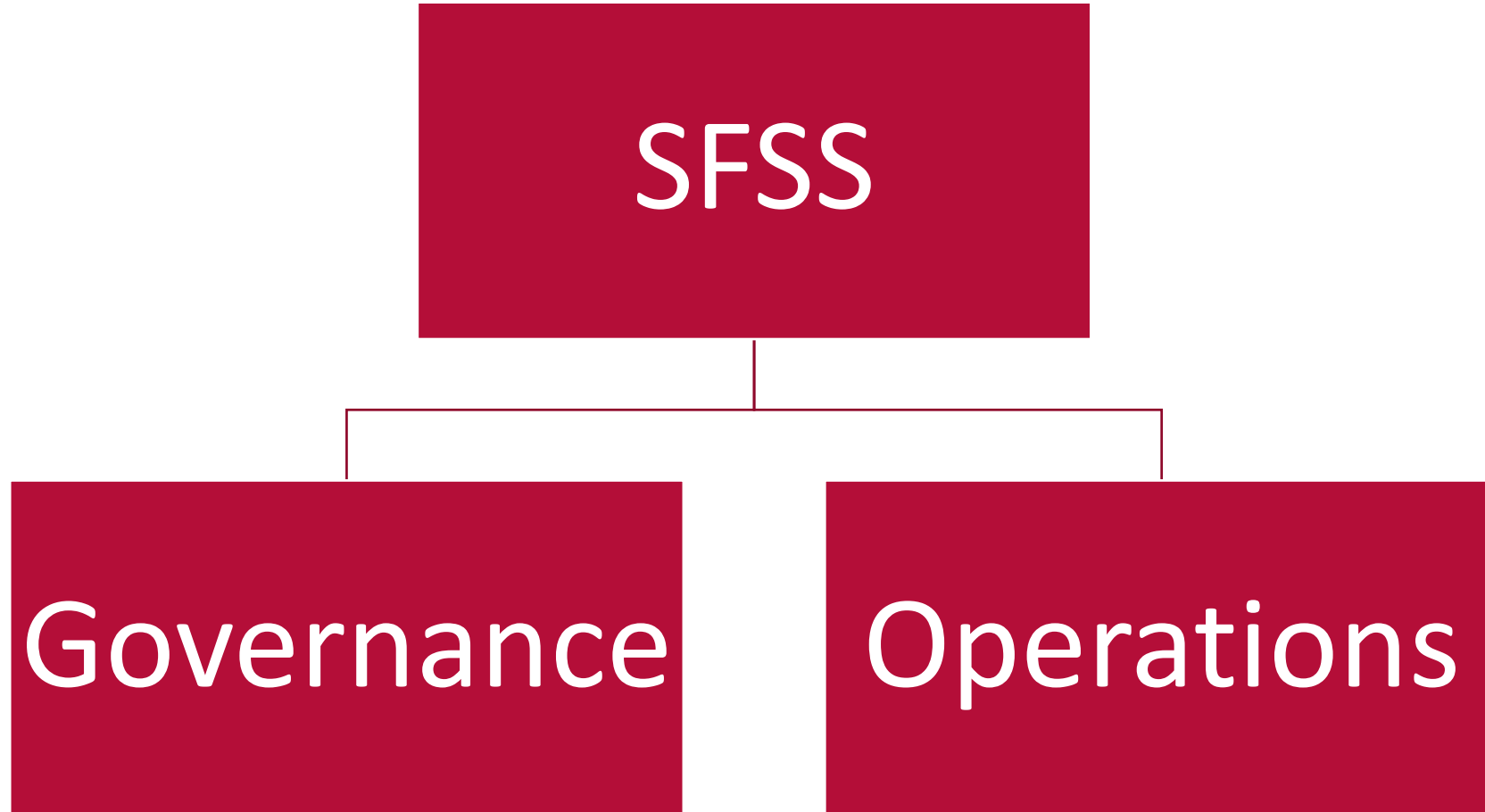
# The SFSS

## Purpose

The Simon Fraser Student Society is a student-led organization that represents and advocates for the interests of the 25,000+ undergraduate students at SFU. The SFSS is your not-for-profit support network and voice at SFU and provides services and support to make student life better.

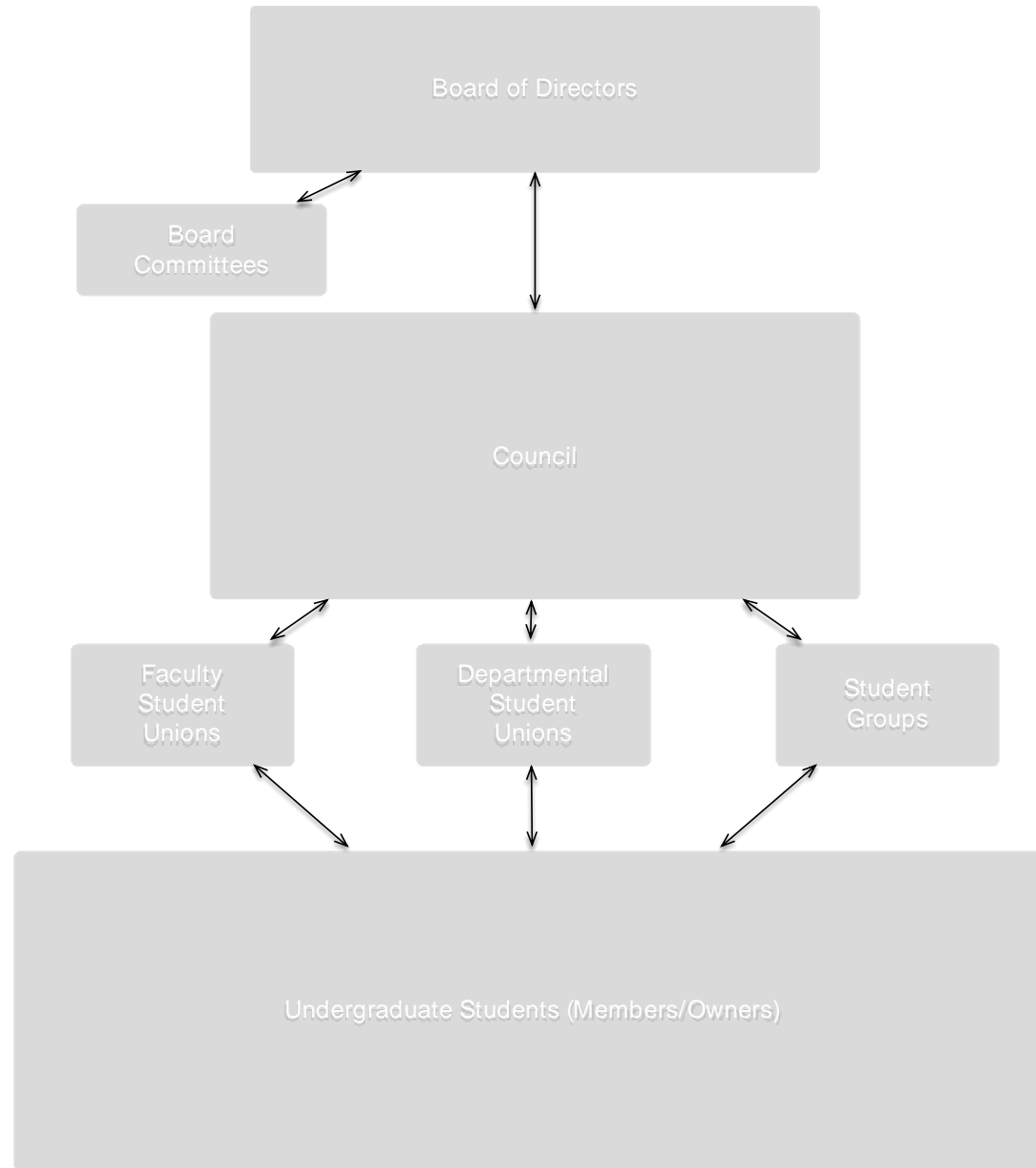


# + Governance vs Operations





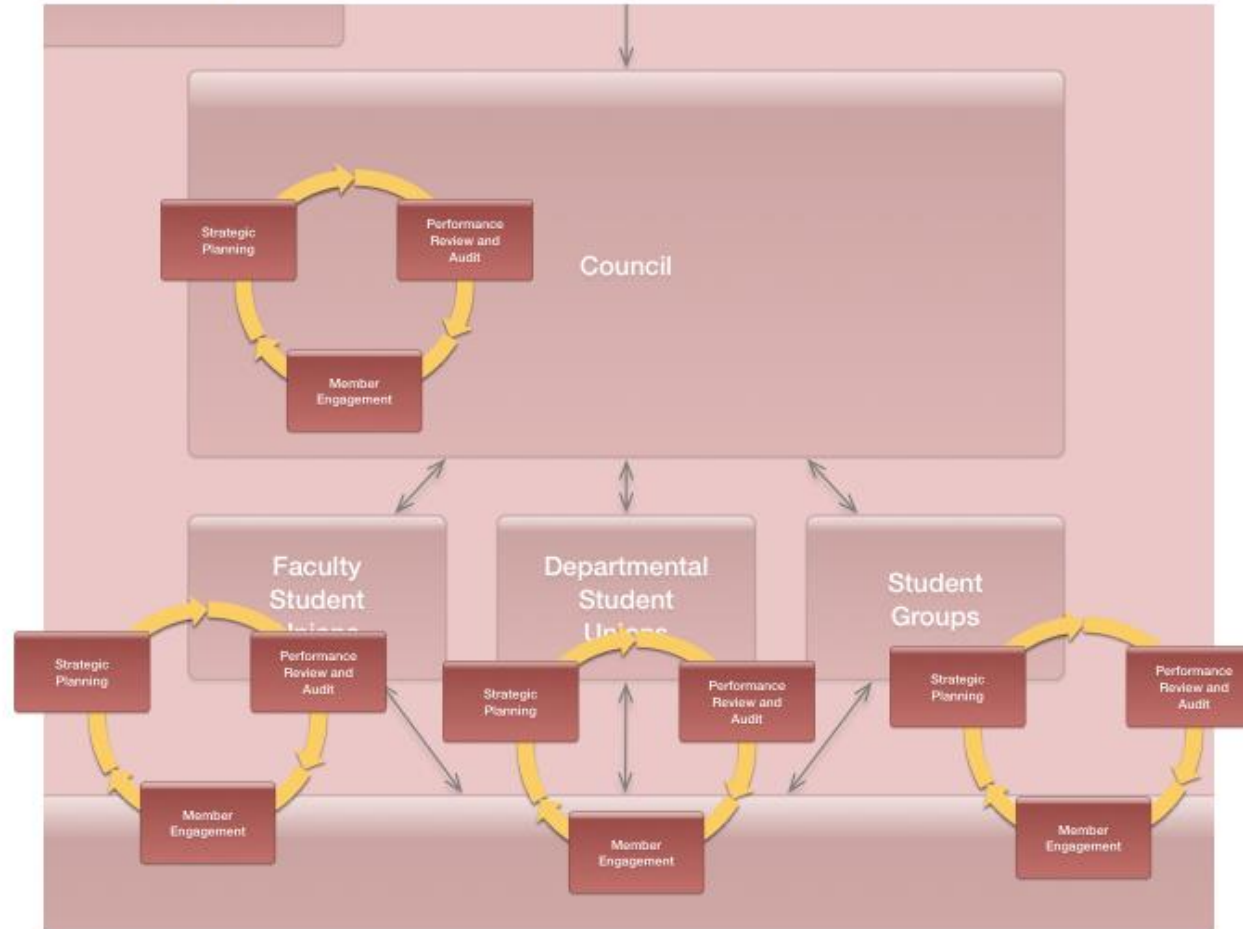
# + SFSS Governance





# Council Governance Structure & Cycles

## Governance Cycles





# Relevant By-Laws

## SFSS By-Laws 7 & 8

- Member in good standing of the SFSS
- Quorum
- No vote by proxy
- Electing a chair
- Meetings at least once a semester
- Establishing new Council seats
- Advising Board
- Council shall serve as the primary medium of discussion for:
  - Issues of importance to members in different faculties, departments or schools at SFU
  - Advocacy and other general interest matters of SFSS members





# DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

## Council Representatives

- Council Representatives are encouraged and expected to participate in the work of the Society, including but not limited to:
  - informing students in their departments, faculties or constituency groups of Society activities,
  - forwarding to the Board of Directors issues that are of concerns to the members of their student union or constituency group,
  - assisting with advocacy projects and campaigns of interest to the Society and its members, and
  - facilitating communication between the Society and its members.
- Council representatives shall:
  - attend all Council meetings and general meetings called by the student union or constituency group called during the semester
- Council representatives are strongly encouraged to be a member of the advisory committees and working groups
  - Either as Council reps or student at-large members on Board committees



# Working Groups and Advisory Committees

## Providing Advice

- By-Law 8 allows Council to strike Board advisory committees with terms of reference and appoint members
- Working groups and advisory committees existed in the past
  - Offline, outside of Council meetings
  - Small groups
  - Bring action items (in the form of motions!) to Council meetings
- The Board has many different committees that Council can potentially sit on as a student at-large member



# + Meetings

Meetings as a decision-making tool

- The goal is simple! Council and student unions and groups make decisions...

## AS A GROUP





# Robert's Rules

How can they help Council?



- Chair sets a meeting date (must convene at least once a semester as per By-Law 8)
- Call for agenda items: motions or discussion items
  - Moving away from discussion --> motions (action!)
- Council approves agenda OR makes amendments and approves agenda
  - Good practice to submit your agenda items beforehand
- Motions are adopted if they are carried
- Motions can help introduce student union voices



# Robert's Rules

## Motions as proposed decisions



- A proposal that the Council make a decision on behalf of the organization.
- Example
  - “Whereas...”
  - “Be it resolved to/that ...”
  - “Be it further resolved to/that...”
  - Always include the ‘who’, ‘what’, ‘when’, ‘where’, and ‘why’.





# Robert's Rules

## Types of Motions

- Primary motion
  - Move
  - Second
  - Discuss
  - Vote
    - Carried, carried with amendments, not carried
- Types of secondary motions
  - Amend
  - Postpone
  - Recess
  - Refer to committee
  - Call the question





# Robert's Rules

## Best Practices

- Speak to the motion
- Would this serve the mission of the SFSS?
- Would this bring us closer to the vision of the SFSS?
- Is this in keeping with the values of the SFSS?



# + Examples of Motions

Council 2011/2012

## **MOTION Forum 2012-02-29:06**

Warwick/Warren

Be it resolved that Forum Strike a SUB Oversight Policy Development Task Force to meet bi-weekly until the last Forum meeting of Summer Semester whereupon the Task Force must submit (a) Policy Paper(s) with the explicit purposes of establishing principles, standards and further actions and referendum question recommendations to address the oversight challenges raised by the SUB project specifically around matters of meaningfully inclusive consultation processes, transparent decision-making processes, disclosure of financial and other relevant information and procedural criteria for regular performance reviews of the Board members primarily responsible for the SUB project.



# Examples of Motions, cont'd

Council 2010/2011



## **MOTION FORUM 10-06-10:11: AMENDMENT**

Lutener / Yeung

Be it resolved that the motion be amended to read: Be it resolved that the following questions be put to the membership in a non-binding plebiscite: Do you agree that external groups that collect a fee from all undergraduate students with a total value of more than \$25,000 per year be required to submit a public, external and independent financial audit each year at the SFSS Annual General Meeting? Do you further agree that the SFSS should draft a question on this topic to be put to a binding referendum in the spring of 2011? (yes / no)



# Examples of Motions, cont'd

Council 2014/2015

## **MOTION COUNCIL 2015-01-28:06**

Jovanovic/Amended Thompson

Whereas the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences (FASS) has decided, due to budget constraints, to eliminate the position of Cognitive Science Adviser and Manager and have the program run under the administration of the Psychology Department instead; Whereas the Cognitive Science Student Society (CS^3) believes that this decision is not an efficient decision, and will have a much greater effect on the Cognitive Science program than anticipated, has decided to oppose this decision and attempt to reinstate the position of Cognitive Science Adviser and Manager; Whereas CS^3 has drafted an official letter to the dean of FASS, John Craig, opposing this decision in an attempt to revert it; Be it resolved that the Simon Fraser Student Society Council officially support the Cognitive Science Student Society on their mission to reinstate the Cognitive Science Adviser and Manager position.





# In Summary...

## The roles and function of Council

- Role: To act as a liaison between student unions (and more broadly, members) and the SFSS (specifically the Board)
- Function: Meetings are decision-making tools where motions are passed. Working groups allow for the development of actionable items to be motioned at meetings
- Question: What are the priorities of the Council for 2019/2020?
  - Talk to your Student Union or Group!
- There is an opportunity to interact with the Board to a greater extent.
  - Thoughts?

