

## 1. CALL TO ORDER

Call to Order – 03:02 PM

## 2. TERRITORIAL ACKNOWLEDGMENT

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), S<sup>k</sup>w<sup>x</sup>wú7mesh Úxwumixw (Squamish), Selíłwítulh (Tsleil-Waututh), k<sup>w</sup>ík<sup>w</sup>əłəm (Kwkwetlem) and qícəy (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 Governance Committee Composition

VP University Relations ( <i>Chair</i> ).....	Gabe Liosis
VP Finance .....	Corbett Gildersleve
VP Student Services.....	Matthew Provost
At-Large Representative .....	Balqees Jama
Faculty Representative (Science).....	WeiChun Kua

### 3.2 Society Staff

Campaign, Research, and Policy Coordinator .....	Sarah Edmunds
Executive Assistant .....	Shaneika Blake
Administrative Assistant.....	Kristin Kokkov

## 4. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

### 4.1 MOTION GOV 2020-06-25:01

**Corbett/Matthew**

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

**CARRIED unanimously**

## 5. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

### 5.1 MOTION GOV 2020-06-25:02

**Matthew/Balqees**

*Be it resolved to receive and file the following minutes:*

- GOV 2020-06-04
- GOV 2020-06-11

**CARRIED unanimously**

## 6. DISCUSSION ITEMS

### 6.1 By-Law Consultation Debrief

- When it comes to the overall by-laws review process, the committee members had concerns whether the advice that they had received from the consultant was reliable or relevant for the student society.
  - For example, several things were not included in the by-laws that were clearly mandated by the students in the by-law survey.
  - In addition, some comments and advice were counter to what committee members had read about the BC Societies Act.
- It was proposed to find a new consultant who would have a lot of experience with student societies and the BC Societies Act.
  - It was suggested to reach out to the ABCS, because they pushed for the Societies Act to be updated.
  - It was also suggested to get perspective from the student's societies that have transitioned.
- It was brought out that if the referenda are only valid for changing fees, this is something that the other student societies should also know about.
- The consensus among committee members was that the SFSS should find a new consultant, and it was agreed that reaching out to other students' societies is a good idea.
- Committee members brought out some concerns about the bylaws survey:
  - Some of the survey questions were biased in terms of what the Board's duties should be and where the accountability should lie.
    - The consultant had an idea about the Board and the membership, but nothing in between.
- It was suggested to take a serious look at the levels of authority, the membership, referenda, general meetings, and the Board.
  - Rethinking the Council was brought out as one of the topics that needs to be discussed – whether the SFSS is trying to go forward with the bicameral system.
- It was brought out that the notion of referendum was flagged by the consultant at the previous consultations.
  - However, it was suggested that if this was a big issue, then other societies in BC would have brought that out already by now.
  - Referenda is the conduit for the SFSS to receive the student fees and change how much fee is collected.
    - This process of establishing students' fees is spelled out in the universities act.
    - The higher legislation to the SFSS is the Societies Act.
    - It was pointed out that it is not wise to take out the language of referenda, because it can get the SFSS in trouble with the university.
  - There are parts of the Societies Acts that signify that referenda can be used, and it is not contradicting the act.

#### 6.1.1. Next Steps

- It was brought out that it is necessary to start thinking about a new consultant and what the general direction is that the SFSS wants to head on with the by-laws.
  - Do the committee members prefer a massive change or take out junks of the bylaws and change it bit by bit?

- It was suggested to make sure what parts of bylaws affect other parts of the bylaws, and how it is possible to work around if only parts of the bylaws get approved.
- It was suggested that the new consultant could look at the parts that will not work for the SFSS, instead of starting from scratch.
- There was a suggestion to wait until the spring before putting the bylaws changes to the membership.
  - At this point there is less than 3 months to propose new changes to the by-laws and receive feedback to the changes.
- It was pointed out that the committee members have a general idea about where they want to go – now it is necessary to figure out what they want to see and how much they want to do and what is the capacity.
  - It was pointed out that some things can be get to the membership by the fall.
    - That depends on what changes will be done to the bylaws and how big the changes are going to be – is it the change to the composition of the Board, elections, or the role of Council and the Board?
  - It was warned that the changes in spring may be too close to the elections of the new board.
- It was brought out that certain things in the bylaws are more core to the organisation.
  - It was suggested to map out what should be done in the fall and what can be done in the spring.
    - Core things should be done in the fall (the consistency with the Societies Act and contradictions within the bylaws) and in the spring the bigger and less mandatory changes – things that would set the society’s general direction.

#### **6.1.2. Elections & Referenda Policy Review**

- It was pointed out that the review of the elections policies goes hand in hand with the bylaw review because the elections policies stem from the bylaws.
  - It was suggested to do this together with the bylaws review.
  - This is the opportunity to decide what parts of the elections should be more solidified and codified in the bylaws, and what are the policies that can be changed by the Board.

#### **6.2 Continuation of Governance Restructuring**

- The Board mandated the Governance Committee to do Governance review and as a result the new governance model has been recommended to the Board.
  - However, the governance restructuring is not finished yet, because this is a process that takes a few more months.
    - Currently the second-round review is being done.
- It was suggested to develop the schedule for policy review.
  - There were discussions with the CUPE and there are some policies that are flagged for review.
  - It was suggested to find out what the priorities are about what needs to be changed.
- The privacy policies are not gone through yet and these will be done in consultation alongside with the staff and union.
- The committee will continue to look at the policies and there will be a second round of the policies that will be brought to the Board.

## 7. ADJOURNMENT

**7.1 MOTION GOV 2020-06-25:03**

**Corbett/Balqees**

*Be it resolved to adjourn the meeting at 3:45 PM.*

**CARRIED unanimously**