

## 1. CALL TO ORDER

Call to Order – 4:35 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>əy̓əm (Musqueam), Sk̓wx̓wú7mesh Úxwumixw (Squamish), Sel̓ílwítulh (Tsleil-Waututh), k<sup>w</sup>ík<sup>w</sup>əł̓əm (Kwikwetlem) 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

### 1.1 Council Composition

#### Student Union Representatives

Archeology .....	Clara Wilmot
Art, Performance, and Cinema Studies .....	
Bachelor of Environment .....	Bradley Sarandi
Behavioral Neuroscience.....	Ramsha Farooqui
Biology .....	Nicolas Bonilla
Biomedical Physiology & Kinesiology .....	Joshua Ham
Business .....	Mohnish Farswani
Chemistry .....	Gwen Bui
Cognitive Science.....	Rollin Poe
Communications.....	
Computing Science.....	Ryan Vansickle
Criminology.....	Charlotte Taylor-Baer
Dance.....	
Data Science Student Union.....	Myckland Matthew
Earth Science .....	Alex Kristinsson
Economics .....	Sandra Pal
Education.....	Adrienne Blas
Engineering Science .....	Alvin David
English.....	Liz Giardin
Environmental Resource .....	
Environmental Science.....	Caitlin Heide
Film Student Union .....	
First Nations Studies Student Union .....	
French.....	Kylee Pocrnich
Gender, Sexuality, and Women’s Studies .....	Devynn Butterworth
Geography .....	Nicole Hekl
Gerontology Student Union.....	
Global Asia Studies Student Union.....	
Health Science .....	
History .....	
Humanities.....	Sara Wong
Interactive Arts and Technology .....	Bryan To
International Studies.....	Alea Mohamed

Labour Studies.....	Justin Chen
Linguistics .....	Brianne Limb
Mathematics .....	
Mechatronics System Engineering .....	Kimia Rezaeian
Molecular Biology & Biochemistry .....	Kyle Newcomb
Music Student Union.....	
Operations Research .....	Ashutosh Dubal
Philosophy .....	Tony Yu
Physics.....	Manuel Rojas
Political Science (Vice-Chair).....	Helen Pahou
Psychology .....	Tiffany Liu
Science Undergraduate Society (SUS) (Chair) .....	Zaid Lari
Society of Arts and Social Sciences (SASS) .....	Simran Jir
Sociology and Anthropology.....	Kayla Chow
Software Systems .....	Mahek Khan
Statistics and Actuarial Science (SASSA) .....	Stephanie Chung
Sustainable Community Development.....	
Sustainable Energy Engineering Student Society .....	Maven Sera
Theatre Student Union.....	
Visual Arts.....	
World Literature .....	Ksydalg Henry

**Constituency Group Representatives**

Disability and Neurodiversity Alliance (DNA) .....	Serena Bains
First Nations Students Association (FNSEA).....	Kali Stierle
Out on Campus Collective (OOC) .....	Victor Yin
Residence Hall's Association (RHA).....	
Student Athlete Advisory Committee (SAAC).....	Ryan Stolys
Students of Caribbean & African Ancestry (SOCA) .....	Juanita Julius Ndyamukama
Women Centre Collective (WCC) .....	Nisha Manhas

**Board of Directors**

**SFSS Directors (non-voting)**

President.....	Osob Mohamed
VP External Relations .....	Samad Raza
VP Finance .....	Corbett Gildersleve
VP Student Services.....	Matthew Provost
VP Student Life .....	Jennifer Chou
VP University Relations.....	Gabe Liosis
At-Large Representative .....	Balqees Jama
At-Large Representative .....	Phum Luckkid
Faculty Representative (Applied Sciences).....	Harry Preet Singh
Faculty Representative (Arts & Social Sciences) .....	Sude Guvendik
Faculty Representative (Business) .....	Mehtaab Gill
Faculty Representative (Communications, Art, & Technology) .....	Haider Masood
Faculty Representative (Education).....	Emerly Liu
Faculty Representative (Environment).....	Anuki Karunajeewa
Faculty Representative (Health Sciences).....	Nafoni Modi
Faculty Representative (Science) .....	WeiChun Kua

### 3.1 Regrets

Physics.....	Manuel Rojas
Psychology .....	Tiffany Liu
First Nations Students Association (FNSA).....	Kali Stierle
Out on Campus Collective (OOC) .....	Victor Yin
Humanities.....	Sara Wong
Archeology .....	Clara Wilmot
Behavioral Neuroscience.....	Ramsha Farooqui

### 3.1 Society Staff

Transition Manager .....	Lawrence Jones
Campaign, Research, and Policy Coordinator .....	Sarah Edmunds
Administrative Assistant .....	Christina Kachkarova

### 3.2 Guests

Student.....	Brianna Malott
Student.....	Olumoroti Soji-George
Student.....	Constantin Lozitsky
Student.....	Aidan Lee
Student.....	Marie Hadad
Student At-Large .....	Nimrit Basra
Student.....	Alison Wick
Student.....	Ally Klassen
Student.....	Abraham A
Student.....	Gudrun Wai-Gunnarsoon
MBB Student Union President .....	Arshvir Kaur
Student.....	Milan
Student.....	Mizuki Giffin
Student.....	Marina
Student.....	Rasha
Student.....	Ekaterina Letunovskaya
Student.....	Amanpreet K. Singh
Student.....	Sarah Osifo
Student.....	Ciara Reid
Student.....	Duncan MacRae
Student.....	David
Student.....	Jess
Student.....	Jackline Obungah
Student.....	Tuleen Awad
Student.....	Natasha Tar
Student.....	Rhys Finnick
Student.....	Nelly Mwandacha
Student.....	Bakhtiar Yaqub
Student.....	Chrysther Ong
Student.....	Mike Fields-Viatela
Student.....	Connor Nutley
Student.....	Kia Mirsalehi
Student.....	Fatemeh Kiannejad
Student.....	Jane Kim

Student.....	Rash
Student.....	Gavin Nagra
Student.....	Onosholema Ogoigbe
Student.....	Harvin Bathal
Student.....	Jocelle Refol
Student.....	Emerlade O'Donnell-Nathe
Student.....	Joshua Fang
Student.....	Ardavan Behnia
Student.....	Mahado Mohamed Hassan
Student.....	Asha Issa
Student.....	Shafira Vidyamaharani

## 4. RATIFICATION OF REGRETS

### 4.1 MOTION COUNCIL 2020-12-16:01

#### Rollin/Kyle

*Be it resolved to ratify regrets from Manuel Rojas, Tiffany Liu, Kali Stierle Victor Yin, Sara Wong, Ramsha Farooqui, and Clara Wilmot.*

#### CARRIED AS AMENDED UNANIMOUSLY

- Add Victor Yin, Sara Wong, Ramsha Farooqui, and Clara Wilmot.
- Remove Charlotte Taylor-Baer.

## 5. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

### 5.1 MOTION COUNCIL 2020-12-16:02

#### Serena/Kayla

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

#### CARRIED AS AMENDED UNANIMOUSLY

- Add New Business Item 7.2 Black SFU Staff and Allies Letter
- Add New Business Item 7.3 Condemnation of Board Response Procedures

## 6. REPORTS FROM LIAISONS

### 6.1 Council Liaison

- New Hire Black Student Support Centre, Policy to investment is divesting from fossil fuel

### 6.2 Board Liaison

- December 11th report meeting  
[https://docs.google.com/document/d/1LtyRkjaY2467Zs\\_8XiAIGzTInvtmmgRQsmePZ2L2H3U/edit?usp=sharing](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1LtyRkjaY2467Zs_8XiAIGzTInvtmmgRQsmePZ2L2H3U/edit?usp=sharing)
- Summary: [https://docs.google.com/document/d/1LCmqcw9VoTsWHMIUZ1jEHCezSrEPWkwBLz-FiK\\_wG\\_Y/edit?usp=sharing](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1LCmqcw9VoTsWHMIUZ1jEHCezSrEPWkwBLz-FiK_wG_Y/edit?usp=sharing)
- Coordinator for SOCA

## 7. NEW BUISINESS

### 7.1 Letter of Support for Let Us Speak Campaign- MOTION COUNCIL 2020-12-16:03

#### Caitlin/Sandra

*Whereas Council committed to writing a letter at it's December 9th meeting in support of the First Nations Student Association (FNSA) Let Us Speak campaign,*

*Whereas in collaboration, Councillors have drafted a letter in solidarity with the First Nations Student Association Let Us Speak campaign,  
Be it resolved that Council approves this letter and that it be given to the FNSA as part of their Letters of Support collection,  
Be it further resolved that Council's Letter of Support be sent to SFU administration as a means to hold the University accountable for not including the voices of Indigenous students.*

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

- Discussion as to why FNSA students were not allowed to attend the meeting.

**7.2 Black SFU Staff and Allies Letter MOTION COUNCIL 2020-12-16:04**

**Kyle/Helen**

*Whereas, a Black alumni was violently arrested by the RCMP after being ID'd on campus and checked for enrolment status on campus, whereas, this incident is indicative of the wider issue of vague policies being weaponized against Black and Indigenous and People of Colour and contributes to the further marginalization and distrust between these communities and SFU, whereas, the SFSS Council stands and support anti-racism efforts and for the empowerment and protection of Black communities, be it resolved that council and SFSS Councillors who vote in favour of this motion sign on to and support the letter by Black SFU Staff and allies to condemn the violent arrest of the Black SFU alumnus and call for an apology by the escalation that led to this violent arrest, be it further resolved that the Council supports the calls for SFU Security to do more thorough training for de-escalation, anti-racism and bias awareness.*

**CARRIED AS AMENDED**

- **In favour (34): Bachelor of Environment, Biology, Chemistry, Criminology, Data Science Student Union, Earth Sciences, Economics, Education, English, Environmental Science, French, Gender, Sexuality, and Women's Studies, Geography, Humanities, IAT, International Studies, Labour Studies, Linguistics, Mechatronics, Molecular Biology & Biochemistry, Operations Research, Political Science, Psychology, SUS, SASS, Sociology and Anthropology, Software Systems, Statistics and Actuarial Sciences, Sustainable Energy Engineering, World Literature, DNA, SAAC, WOC, SOCA**
- **Opposed (3): Cognitive Science, Computing Science, Philosophy**
- **Abstain (1): Engineering**
- See link below for letter mentioned in motion:  
<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1xOi7bSIWHSqIKjHpSjwVB-uj1HWIOJ-LhaPbhkZM-Q/edit?usp=sharing>
- This motion is a continuation of the support that the SFSS and Council has for the BIPOC community.
- International Studies Student Association Representative expressed ISSA's support for the SFSS and expressed the need for SFU to act on racism present on SFU and to admit its fault as an institution as well as the harms caused by SFU Security. SFU and SFU Security must apologize to the alumni. Racism should not be expected to be a set of criteria that must be met, it is experienced by BIPOC people daily and should not be judged by non- BIPOC people. International Studies Representative expressed disappointment at comments online harassing BIPOC particularly Black students.
- VP Student Life expressed disappointment in disrespectful comments about the incident posted online particularly harm caused by gaslighting to Black and Indigenous students. The statement released by the SFSS emphasizes the need to stand with marginalized students and the disproportionate impacts of police presence on Black and Indigenous people. VP Student Life mentioned that regardless of opinion on the matter, it is evident that SFU security did not handle the situation well. VP Student Life discussed past motions that the council has passed to support BIPOC:
  - September 16<sup>th</sup> Council minimizing police presence on campus, to keep marginalized folks safe

- October 14<sup>th</sup>, Council voted unanimously to stand in solidarity with Black Lives Matter and acknowledge that Black and Indigenous people are disproportionately affected by police and institutionalized racism.
- November 18<sup>th</sup>, Council voted to donate to various Black and Indigenous organizations.
- Disability and Neurodiversity Alliance (DNA) representative mentioned unclear messaging by SFU as to who is and isn't allowed on campus. Certain messaging from SFU states that alumni are allowed on campus. DNA Representative mentioned that the 'several minutes' claimed in the RCMP report for de-escalation is not adequate for proper de-escalation which can take hours. The officer chose to escalate the situation by arresting the Black alumnus. Asked councillors to empathize with Black people and ensure this never happens again to avoid perpetuating racism and violence against Black people.
- President of the MBB Student Union condemned security and police, as there was no point in calling police and arresting the alumnus. The alumnus was not causing harm to himself or others. The MBB President called on the SFSS to condemn this incident as it was clearly targeted.
- Olumoroti Soji-George expressed need to express need to discuss institutional racism and anti-Blackness present within SFU as well as why the experiences of Black people are always questioned. As a Black student, he expressed that he has always been ID'd. He noticed a huge divide on Facebook with lots of people playing 'devil's advocate' online. Even though SFU is a diverse school, anti-Blackness and racism persist. He highlighted the "repetition of the same racist and anti-Black ideas that got us in the mess in the first place". Olumoroti Soji-George highlighted the need to listen to Black and Indigenous people and asked what the opposition is fighting for. Encouraged Council to think what kind of role they want to have in the world to prevent anti-Blackness.
- Chair disused need for further discuss SFU security and lack of transparency within SFU and emphasized that the current motion is regarding signing on to the letter and discussion should be relevant to the topic.
- VP Student Services acknowledged that the incident has impacted the safety of Black and Indigenous students and voiced support for SFSS statement standing in solidarity with Black students. He expressed that the SFSS must support all its students particularly Black and Indigenous folks. As this incident impacts how safe Black students feel on campus, it is important that Black and Indigenous students have the right to feel safe at SFU, an institution that support the learning and academic journey of Black and Indigenous students instead of causing trauma to their Black and Indigenous students. VP Student Services condemned threats, racist comments, gaslighting comments that has been made to SFSS Board members and allies. Re-stated VP Student Life's earlier comment, in supporting Let Us Speak and Black Lives Matter. He stated that allies who support Black and Indigenous students can not pick and choose when they want to support Black and Indigenous people.
- English Representative expressed that the student was not causing harm and mentioned mixed accounts of following COVID guidelines due to mixed messaging from SFU. Regardless, SFU should be a safe space for its community especially BIPOC. English Representative stated that while SFU and SFU security failed the alumnus and the SFU community, the main fault lies with SFU security as the alum was given permission to be on campus and was arrested the next day. Overall, the police should not have been called. Students have been calling for decreased police presence on campus for some time and this highlights the need for this call to be answered.
- Faculty of Environment Representative thanked Black students for speaking out on this matter and highlighted the emotional labour done by Black Students. Faculty of Environment representative is in support of Council because environmental rights are human rights. Campus should be made safer for Black and Indigenous students. Faculty of Environment Representative mentioned messages received by several Black students who mentioned that they no longer feel safe on campus because of racist students and the comments that have been made online (FB). Students who are posting racist comments online must be aware of the active harm they are causing to Black students and other marginalized folks.
- Faculty of Science Representative stands by SFSS statement and condemns offensive comments

made by students online. He expressed disappointment in students writing comments online that are causing active harm to marginalized students. While students have the right to criticize the SFSS Board, it is not appropriate to make threats and harass others. These are safety concerns that have been raised by the Black community on campus and they must be addressed. SFU must be called out for their failure in this matter, and SFU their use of this situation as a “learning opportunity” as per the SFU statement. The safety of Black students must be prioritized in this situation.

- Sociology and Anthropology Representative expressed support to Council signing onto this letter citing the impacts of intergenerational racism towards Black people. All SFU students deserve to feel safe on campus and nobody should experience discrimination on campus. Sociology and Anthropology Representative referenced 2 incidents last year that involved dangerous weapons including one incident with a fake gun that did not end in a violent police confrontation. Security was more lenient and delayed calling 911 although one of the incidents involved a, at the time, suspected firearm. Regardless of claims made against the Black alumnus, it was SFU security that chose to escalate the situation.
- SOCA Representative stated that SOCA is in support and that the Black student body is in shock and traumatized by the incident and by the SFU community response and referenced the SFSS President receiving death threats and threats made against Black SFU students. While SFU is trying to be more inclusive and prioritise equity and diversity, it is not an inclusive space. Black students pay school fees and yet they do not feel safe. This all demonstrates how there is much implicit and explicit bias in SFU students. SOCA Representative highlighted that the alumnus was being compliant and even had his SFU ID on him and yet he was arrested, pepper sprayed and tasered. SFU students should consider if they are OK with what is happening at SFU when Black students are not safe to walk around and go to the dining hall. SFSS and Council needs to reflect if they are actively doing their best to protect students including Black students on campus.
- Gender, Sexuality, and Women’s Studies Representative stated that signing onto the letter is a start, and that President Johnson’s email was empty with no tangible action items and exhibited a lack of care towards Black students. SFU must be held accountable, the Council must continue to hold SFU accountable for racism on campus.
- Criminology Representative mentioned that as a white student on campus who has lived on residence throughout the pandemic, she has not had to show her ID multiple times to SFU security besides entering buildings, even then not always, and mentioned that students walk around without masks inside disregarding the COVID guidelines set out by SFU. The alumnus was not presenting a health threat. Additionally, the RCMP should only be called when there is an immediate threat – for instance someone’s immediate safety is at risk. Attempts to justify RCMP and SFU security failures by claims that the alumnus was living in WMC or that the violence was justified when he put an officer in a headlock while being arrested are simply excuses that would not be made if the alumnus was white. Criminology Representative referenced incident with a suspected gun that did not end in a violent police confrontation. Criminology Representative highlighted that despite making up a small percentage of the population, Black Canadians are more likely to be arrested and shot by police. Criminology Representative mentioned that the Supreme Court of Canada has recognized that BIPOC often do not have fair intervention when faced with police and this fact must be considered by Council.
- SAAC is in favour of the letter. Council should discuss more concrete things that should be done and do more.
- VP University Relations condemned SFU, SFU President, SFU security, and Burnaby RCMP and highlighted the emotional labour being done by Black students. He emphasized that SFU security made the mistake and is at fault. When asked to show ID, the victim complied and showed ID and yet he was asked to leave. Instead of de-escalation, SFU security called de-escalating. This is an example of SFU policies being applied disproportionately on Black students. Calling the RCMP on a Black person is dangerous and potentially fatal. There was no reason to call police as the student was not an active threat. VP University Relations stated that if the RCMP had not been called, he believes that the situation would not have escalated. This all comes after discussion about cultural

sensitivity and anti-racism training with SFU. SFU continues to claim that BIPOC students are safe on campus, however this is not an unprecedented event. He referenced the incident with a fake gun that did not end in a violent police confrontation. Although there was RCMP everywhere on campus, there were no harms towards the perpetrator while this individual was perpetuating active harm towards the community.

- Cognitive Science Student Society stated firm support for the BIPOC Community firmly but are uncertain about signing on to a letter written by others. Raised concerns about the verbiage in the letters and statements released. He stated that fellow members and community have expressed concern.
- Cognitive Science Representative Called Into Question.

### **7.3 Condemnation of Board Response Procedures MOTION COUNCIL 2020-12-16:05**

#### **Rollin/Ryan**

*Whereas an alumnus was detained after being asked for identification and checked for enrollment status on campus and found to be in violation of Simon Fraser University's (SFU) COVID-19 response policy and this incident devolved into a violent confrontation between the alumnus and an SFU security officer,*

*Whereas the race of the alumnus has been identified as a possible factor in the escalation,*

*Whereas current first-party accounts and evidence are inconclusive and full information is still being reviewed,*

*Whereas board members of the Simon Fraser Student Society (SFSS) have actively encouraged the dismissal of the statement from the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) and have shared articles that may fail to convey an accurate and unbiased view of the incident,*

*Whereas the board of the SFSS released a statement regarding the incident on December 14, 2020,*

*Whereas this statement appears to contain factual errors and omissions, and calls for very strong policy changes and responses,*

*Whereas council was not informed of this statement before its release nor included in its drafting,*

*Whereas response on social media to the statement be issued by the SFSS has been divisive,*

*Be it resolved that council condemns the actions taken by the board in response to the incident by not informing or including council, by misrepresenting the facts in their official statement, by encouraging disinformation to the council,*

*Be it further resolved that council asks the board to retract or amend their statement to more accurately reflect the situation as it is currently known.*

#### **NOT CARRIED**

- **Opposes (23): Bachelor of Environment, BPK, Chemistry, Criminology, Data Science Student Union, Earth Sciences, Economics, Education, Engineering, English, Environmental Science, Gender, Sexuality, and Women's Studies, Geography, International Studies, Mechatronics, Political Science, Psychology, SUS , Software Systems, World Literature, DNA, SOCA, WOC**
- **Abstain (0): None**
- **In Favour (5): Biology, Cognitive Science, Computer Science, Philosophy, Sustainable Engineering Society**
- International Studies Student Association Representative expressed confusion as to why Council should pass this motion considering the previous motion signing onto the letter was already passed and the majority of Council agreed that incident was racist. Asked for clarification on what an unbiased opinion is. Reiterated that racism isn't simply a checklist.
- English Representative stated that while the SFSS statement has been criticized for being one sided and premature, but the statement was released early while the situation was developing. Early release of the statement was crucial to allow for more information to news coverage about the

incident. The SFSS was doing their job to represent the voices of BIPOC students on campus. The “agenda pushing” many online claimed the SFSS is doing is an agenda of equality and respect for all BIPOC students on campus. The SFSS acted to the best of their ability. Any comments made by the Board on social media are separate from the statement released by the SFSS.

- Science Representative requested a Point of Order as this motion would nullify the previous motion unless the previous motion were amended or reconsidered. Chair mentioned that this would not be in contradiction as this motion addresses the SFSS statement, not the letter by Black SFU community members which Council voted to sign onto in the previous motion.
- Cognitive Science Representative stated that this is not a motion to oppose condemning what happened, wants to bring up concerns regarding reprehensible Board behaviour. He stated that the Board actively sought to share disinformation with Council and community through their statement. Additionally, Cognitive Science Representative raised concerns about the disingenuous exclusion of Council by the Board when the statement was being drafted. Regardless of agreement with the motion, the SFSS should consult with the Council when releasing statements. He stated it is disingenuous of the Board to release a statement when they have been fighting to increase Council power within the SFSS. Overall, Cognitive Science Representative stated that this motion is about Council telling the Board that “their actions are unacceptable, and that representation, communication, and factual information are paramount to the SFSS” and to ensure that the SFSS Board acts in a responsible manner.
- SFSS President stated that the above motion is inaccurate as the only physical altercation was between alumnus and RCMP and not SFU security. Additionally, omissions were only made because there was missing information as the event was developing and information was supplied by SFU Campus Safety Director Andrea Ringrose. She stated that she was not aware of previous issues regarding SFSS statements and requested clarification about the factual inaccuracies the motion refers to.
- Cognitive Science Representative raised concerns about the 3rd paragraph of the SFSS statement that refers to a lack of de-escalation and the assertion of racist intent. He stated that he was informed that de-escalation was apparently employed and was not aware of systemic racism involved. Requested that the SFSS should have waited for an unbiased source to provide information about the event.
- President reiterated previous statements about how calling the RCMP is an escalation of the situation and stated that SFSS is still trying to receive more information about what happened between the police call and police arriving. SFSS President mentioned that since there is no current mechanism to check if someone is a current SFU student, the policy is to check for an SFU ID card; however, this individual was asked about enrolment status which is not typical. This highlights the need to make COVID policies less vague at SFU. Additionally, for Black people, interaction with the police is more deadly and dangerous than for others. The SFSS will continue to work on making SFU a safer space for all its students.
- Council Members raised comments regarding previous motions passed by the council supporting Black Lives Matter and no concerns regarding previous statements made by the SFSS.
- VP University Relations stated that non-BIPOC can not determine what is racism and what is not. He mentioned difficulty believing that this motion was raised in good faith as the Cognitive Science Representative voted against the previous motion which had no relation to the Board Statement. VP University Relations raised concerns about the motion considering that this motion is inaccurate and is contradictory to the previous motion, the vast majority voted for the previous motion, and that most of the Council agreed that there was racism involved in the incident. All facts in the statement were taken from evidence such as the video of the incident, bystander reports, and the RCMP

statement. The statement release did not contradict previous motions by Council or Board.

- Political Science Representative stated that she disagree with the comment about misinformation in the statement. The alumnus was treated as a criminal even though he wasn't committing a crime. Might be a need to have collaboration of Council with Board on the statement, but overall, the statement was made with good intentions. Stated that this motion is not productive considering the previous motion.
- Philosophy Representative mentioned that this motion aims to keep "accuracy in what is going on". He stated that information about the situation will become available as the situation progresses, but Council must consider the possibility of racial bias despite the persons character. While anecdotal evidence of the person's character doesn't give justification to the violence, but a lack of information should not "warrant insertion of our personal narratives and personal biases". The Board had an assumed narrative. The dissenting opinion should not be considered an attack and allies should be allowed to be critical of the situation at hand. Inaccuracies about the situation would hurt the progressive movement.
- Brianna Malott reiterated that it is not up to non-BIPOC to determine what racism is and what it is not. Stated that it's problematic to say that we need an unbiased opinion because there is always bias. Additionally, according to the previous motion, the SFSS motion was clearly in accordance with majority of Council. In platforms, Board stated they would support BIPOC students on campus, and they are continuing their campaign promises. She also mentioned that the online comments about an "SFSS agenda" are unfounded since it has always been very clear that the Board supports and advocated for BIPOC and other marginalized students.
- Point of Information. Question about whether the motion is about the stance or the procedure that the Board has. Cognitive Science Representative stated that the motion is about both.
- Constantin Lozitsky reiterated that there is always bias, and that non-Black people should not be centering themselves in this conversation. Expressed that Councillors should not vote for this motion.
- Faculty of Arts and Social Science Representative reiterated that the SFSS put out factual information in the statement. Highlighted that there is a difference between selecting facts to serve and agenda and selecting facts that are relevant a situation. The past does not nullify the violence of this situation.
- Aidan Lee stated that collectively most or all people at this meeting should be against racism it is not acceptable to use racial slurs or death threats. However, he feels the specific incident is lost in this conversation. He stated that racism is more than racial slurs and considers discrimination and how people are treated by others for instance "at the airport people might get searched extra than other people". He stated that racism and police brutality exist. Regarding what the President of the SFSS and the SFSS statement has said, Aidan Lee mentioned that he believes that facts were left out and referenced to the 4<sup>th</sup> paragraph of the SFSS statement about when the victim was tasered. He stated that the chokehold was left out of the statement but stated that he understood that it was left out because it would be distracting from the overall message.
- Marie Haddad asked students to use trigger warnings when speaking about specifics of the situation. She expressed solidarity with the Black and Indigenous community at SFU and expressed that several of them have received threatening messages. There is a need to understand the implications of security escalation and the threat to Black safety on campus. Suggested that Councillors instead support Black labour and apply necessary pressure to make SFU a safe place for BIPOC students.
- Nimrit Basra disappointed by the response to the situation. At University, the experience should be focussed on academics, not fear of police brutality. Nimrit Basra asked for clarity as to why Black and Indigenous students must continue to write statements as to why they deserve to exist safely at SFU and stated that staying objective is choosing to be on the side of the oppressor.
- Olumoroti Soji-George expressed that those who suggested the motion explore why they feel it is necessary and while accountability is important if this motion could have been done at a better time. Additionally, he emphasised that the RCMP is not unbiased particularly regarding violence against

BIPOC people. He reiterated the gun incident when a white student brought a fake gun on campus and he was not tasered or violently arrested. He stated that there is much work to do. Encouraged Cognitive Science Representative to think about his intent with the motion.

- Computing Science Representative stated that he speaks on behalf of “a lot of students”, he stated he has seen 100 posts from students that believe the SFSS is acting without the input of their members and that the Board is clearly picking a side when they do not know the facts. Computing Science Representative stated that “speakers have attempted to tell white students that they should have less input on the matter at hand” and said that the SFSS should represent all students and in releasing this the SFSS did not take into account the views of a large portion of their student body.
- Brianna Malott stated that white students should not have a say in this as white people will never understand what it is like to be a Black person having an interaction with police.
- VP University Relations stated that he was horrified at the earlier statement and that white students should not oversee how BIPOC feel about racism and discrimination. Reiterated the Board’s commitment to protecting Black and Indigenous Students and mentioned that the SFSS has no intention of retraction this statement as they have been chosen by students and have the right to make statements on behalf of students and advocate for their safety.
- President responded that that while a meeting with the undergraduate population would be ideal, this would be unrealistic. She stated that she has been open about her beliefs when running for the elections. The Board of Directors were elected by students and have the right to make statements on behalf of the society. President stated that she has had communication with students about this issue and described an email she had received from a past Board member with threatening and violent language. She stated “when the SFSS puts out statements, we (the SFSS) don’t do it lightly, we do it with the facts that are given to us and we do it in the way that we think are going to protect our students”. President reiterated that the SFSS will continue to protect their student body.
- Chair asked Council to redirect comments to the motion.
- DNA Representative reiterated that it is not up to non-Black/non-BIPOC students to determine what racism is and is not and reiterated that nothing is without bias.
- Engineering Representative expressed that they will not condemn the Board as they are elected representatives and are informed about events around campus. Council should be more proactive in cooperative with the executive team.
- Joshua Fang expressed that although he does not agree with the motion, there should be increased accountability as he was a witness to a portion of the incident. He stated that the statement a “knee-jerk reaction” and there was a need for further discussion before the statements were released to the student body. He stated that as a witness felt unsafe at the situation. Joshua Fang mentioned that the statement should have gathered more information by posting on Social Media like Facebook before stating that this was a racist incident/situation. He mentioned certain statements made by certain individuals towards SFU were “reactive statements”, Other stated that Board members posted in social media channels asking for witnesses.
- Connor Nutley expressed that the statement should have been released and it is a privilege position to say that the SFSS should have waited before releasing the statement.
- Chair called Into Question.

## 8. DISCUSSION

### 8.1 Tuition Increase

- Postponed to next meeting.

### 8.2 P/F Petition & DSU Online Learning Survey

- Postponed to next meeting.

### 8.3 Dining Hall Incident

- Postponed to next meeting.

### 8.4 DearSFU Holiday Card Campaign

- Postponed to next meeting.

## 9. ANNOUNCEMENTS

### 9.1 Next Council meeting date TBD

## 10. ATTACHMENTS

### 10.1 Holiday Cards Toolkit Action

## 11. ADJOURNMENT

### 11.1 MOTION COUNCIL 2020-12-16:06

**Sandra/Nicolas**

*Be it resolved to adjourn the meeting at 7:43 PM.*

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

## Concordia-Specific Holiday Cards Toolkit Action

Launch December 21st 2020

Running date until: January 10th 2020

### What is the current situation in Concordia?

Over the summer, many students evaluated the alternatives of attending school during this global pandemic. This fall semester had students feeling overwhelmed, overworked, and undervalued by both the administration and the government.

The Concordia University administration reassured students in March that *the University was spending millions to ensure safe and adequate education for its students that would be accessed anywhere, anytime in the world*. After receiving numerous complaints, it's clear that there has not been enough support for students during these difficult times. This led the CSU to hold a town hall to hear students' concerns and begin the mobilization to amplify the students' voices. Which allows us, with the student body, create concrete demands that fit all students' needs, regardless of the faculty.

These are the collective demands:

- Reimplementation of Pass/Fail for all courses
- Universal standards for all professors to follow
- Eliminated invasive systems such as Proctorial and COLE
- Tuition justifications
- Centralized system to voice concerns

During the last few months, Union Executives have pushed concerns to the admins at senate, regular meetings with Provost office, and private meetings. We recognize the administration has allowed us to have one Pass or DISC course, while extending our winter break by a week, however we do not believe this is adequate given the circumstance.

Students are struggling more than ever. Our campus social life has been taken away, removing most of our daily interactions. In these times of isolation, it has affected the mental health of many given concerns on paying bills, finding jobs, taking care of loved ones and avoiding catching this deadly virus on top of our academic lives. We believe there are steps to be taken to ensure students' well-being, and to better support them.

After seeing this semester fall apart, we want to ensure the administration takes the time over the holidays to ensure students will get the proper education they are paying for. This tool kit provides the guidelines of our action plan.

### **So, WHAT'S THE PLAN?**

The CSU is partnering with different committees, faculties, and unions to push the *Holiday Cards - Dear University*. The plan is simple; we encourage students to write a holiday card directed to the administration that expresses their concerns and demands. This would help amplify their struggles, but more so help bring media attention to ensure we are seen.

### **What is the goal of this action?**

The goal of this action is to bring awareness to the administration and ministry of education. We want to ensure our concerns are heard and measures are put in place to accommodate for these circumstances.

Ultimately, this will be the start of our next big push for demands. If they do not announce proper procedures during the holiday break, we can collectively act again in January. This will create a strong united front of students moving forward into the Winter semester.

### **How do we participate?**

As mentioned previously, we want to create **Holiday Cards**. To keep participation simple, we have provided template cards that can be used by filling in the blanks but we do encourage students to make their own.

*Essentially you need to send a card to the Concordia administration; it can be done by physically mailing the card or e-mailed them an online version.*

### **What do you write in the card?**

The card should include motivating for one of the Unions current demands or explaining to them the challenges this semester has presented you. We're facing an unprecedented crisis for our generation. Universities need to understand that students are overwhelmed and take steps to support us, rather than pretending things are business as usual.

### **How will this spread awareness?**

Help this campaign get more attention by sharing a photo of your card online {Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, Tik Tok, etc.} with the hashtag **#DearConcordia**, **#CherMccan**, **#StudentBailout**, and tag some of your friends and challenge them to send a card as well!

[Here are some examples of cards](#)

[Here is the submission link](#)

### **Who are the Targets?**

Internally | Administration

**Concordia University President** | Graham Carr  
**Concordia University Provost Office** | Anne Whitelaw  
**Dean Faculty** | All faculties  
**Associate Dean, Faculty Affairs** | All departments

Externally | Provincial Government

**Quebec Minister of Higher Education** | Danielle Mccan

We recommend targeting your faculty dean, chair, provost, and the president of the University as internal targets. Furthermore, we recommend having the minister of education included in the trend to ensure once again they do not forget us.

### **Support in mobilizing for this campaign!**

**Digital canvassing guidelines:**

1. **State the problem:** Frame the issue and why it should matter to the person you're talking to
2. **Give your solution:** What do you want, who do you want it from and why is it important? Ex. Divest Concordia wanted the administration to exchange fossil fuel investments for socially responsible investments.
3. **Drive urgency:** There's a lot going on in the world, why should they support your campaign right now?
4. **Ask them to take action:** What action do you want the person you're canvassing to take? Make sure you have clear next steps on how they can support you.

**Sample:**

Despite being told the administration is investing millions of dollars into switching to online education,. Between reports of increased workloads to the huge differences in how professors have chosen to teach their courses, to the last minute decisions like the administration's choice to allow students just one pass/fail option for this semester, right after most students who could afford to retake a class had dropped the classes they were struggling with... Students feel overwhelmed, overworked and undervalued by our University. This Semester, students had no idea what to expect, now we know, and we can't take another semester of avoidable stress and confusion. On top of all this, the University is not accepting course evaluations from students this year.

The Winter Semester is only a month away. That's why we're asking you to mail a card to our administration during winter break to explain the impact this semester has had on you, and the changes you want to see to help you get through the next semester, and the next wave of COVID.

Submission link: <https://forms.gle/Zwz4DUJmWZ3Wyc9P7>