

# 1. CALL TO ORDER

Call to Order – 4:32 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>wx<sup>w</sup>ú7mesh Úxwumixw (Squamish), Selílwitulh (Tsleil-Waututh), k<sup>w</sup>ik<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 Council Composition

### Student Union Representatives

|  |                       |
|--|-----------------------|
| Archeology .....   | Damon Tarrant         |
| Art, Performance, and Cinema Studies .....                         |                       |
| Bachelor of Environment.....                                       | Evan McFee            |
| Behavioral Neuroscience .....                                      | Aarthi Srinivasan     |
| Biology .....  | Nicolas Bonilla       |
| Biomedical Physiology & Kinesiology.....                           | Kashish Mehta         |
| Business.....  |                       |
| Chemistry .....  | Gwen Bui              |
| Cognitive Science .....  | Joanna Cheong         |
| Communications .....   | Ashran Bharosa        |
| Computing Science .....  | Ryan Vansickle        |
| Criminology .....  | Charlotte Taylor-Baer |
| Dance.....   |                       |
| Data Science Student Union .....                                   | Warren Ho Kin         |
| Earth Science.....   |                       |
| Economics .....  | Sandra Pal            |
| Education.....   | Jihye (Jin) Choi      |
| Engineering Science .....  | Sara Raisudin         |
| English.....   | Liz Giardin           |
| Environmental Resource.....  |                       |
| Environmental Science .....  | Chloe Homenuke        |
| Film Student Union.....  | Amélia Simard         |
| French .....   | Kyllee Pocrnisch      |
| Gender, Sexuality, and Women’s Studies ( <i>Vice Chair</i> ) ..... | Devynn Butterworth    |
| Geography .....  | Monikka Tayag         |
| Gerontology Student Union.....                                     |                       |
| Global Asia Studies Student Union.....                             | Eunice Kwok           |
| Health Science.....  | Jocelle Refol         |
| History .....  | Alan Saunderson       |
| Humanities .....   |                       |
| Indigenous Studies Student Union (ISSU).....                       | Estephanie Henriquez  |

|  |                            |
|--|----------------------------|
| Interactive Arts and Technology .....                  | Jeremy Felix               |
| International Studies Student Association (ISSA) ..... | Deanna Short               |
| Labour Studies .....                                   | Justin Chen                |
| Linguistics .....                                      |                            |
| Mathematics .....                                      | Nosa Efemwonkieke          |
| Mechatronics System Engineering .....                  | Ryley McWilliams           |
| Molecular Biology & Biochemistry .....                 |                            |
| Music Student Union .....                              |                            |
| Operations Research .....                              | Ashutosh Dubal             |
| Philosophy .....                                       | Tony Yu                    |
| Physics .....  | Graham Rich                |
| Political Science .....                                | Helen Pahou                |
| Psychology .....                                       | Tiffany Liu                |
| Science Undergraduate Society (SUS) .....              | Zaid Lari                  |
| Society of Arts and Social Sciences (SASS) .....       | Akum Sidhu                 |
| Sociology and Anthropology .....                       | Kayla Chow                 |
| Software Systems .....                                 |                            |
| Statistics and Actuarial Science (SASSA) .....         | Stephanie Chung            |
| Student Athlete Advisory Committee .....               | Paul Ursu                  |
| Sustainable Community Development .....                |                            |
| Sustainable Energy Engineering Student Society .....   | Mohammad Al-Sheboul        |
| Theatre Student Union .....                            | Samantha Walters           |
| Visual Arts .....                                      |                            |
| World Literature .....                                 | Sara Aristizabal Castaneda |

#### **Constituency Group Representatives**

|   |                     |
|---|---------------------|
| Disability and Neurodiversity Alliance (DNA) .....    | Constantin Lozitsky |
| First Nations Students Association (FNSEA) .....      | Keianna Keianna     |
| International Student Advocates .....                 | Fizza Parsayan      |
| Out on Campus Collective (OOC) .....                  |                     |
| Students of Caribbean & African Ancestry (SOCA) ..... | Linda Kanyamuna     |
| Women Centre Collective (WCC) .....                   | Nisha Manhas        |

#### **Affiliated Student Groups**

|   |             |
|---|-------------|
| Residence Hall's Association (RHA) .....        |             |
| Student Athlete Advisory Committee (SAAC) ..... | Ryan Stolys |

#### **SFSS Executive Committee**

|  |                     |
|--|---------------------|
| President ( <i>Chair</i> ) .....                 | Gabe Liosis         |
| VP Internal and Organizational Development ..... | Corbett Gildersleve |
| VP Finance and Services .....                    | Almas Phangura      |
| VP University and Academic Affairs .....         | Serena Bains        |
| VP External and Community Affairs .....          | Matthew Provost     |
| VP Equity and Sustainability .....               | Marie Haddad        |
| VP Events and Student Affairs .....              | Jess Dela Cruz      |

#### **3.2 Society Staff**

|                            |             |
|----------------------------|-------------|
| Operations Organizer ..... | Ayesha Khan |
|----------------------------|-------------|

Board Organizer..... Emmanuela Droko  
Administrative Assistant..... Christina Kachkarova

**3.3 Leave of Absence**

VP Finance and Services ..... Almas Phangura

**3.4 Council Alternates**

Biology.....  
English ..... Victoria San Martin  
Film Student Union..... Amanda Blake  
Health Science.....  
International Student Advocates (Communication Coordinator)..... Kirtana Menon

**3.1 Regrets**

Archeology ..... Damon Tarrant  
Biology ..... Nicolas Bonilla  
English ..... Liz Giardin  
Film Student Union..... Amélia Simard  
Health Science..... Jocelle Refol  
History ..... Alan Saunderson  
International Student Advocates ..... Fizza Parsayan

**3.2 Absent**

Cognitive Science ..... Joanna Cheong  
Disability and Neurodiversity Alliance (DNA) ..... Constantin Lozitsky  
Geography ..... Monikka Tayag  
Mathematics ..... Nosa Efemwonkieke

**4. CONSENT AGENDA**

**4.1 CONSENT AGENDA**

*Be it resolved to adopt the consent agenda by unanimous consent.*

**CARRIED**

**4.1.1.MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES-Council Minutes-MOTION  
COUNCIL 2021-06-16:01**

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

- Council 2021-06-02

**4.1.2.MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES-Executive Minutes-MOTION  
COUNCIL 2021-06-16:02**

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

- EXEC 2021-05-25

**4.1.3.MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES-Accessibility Minutes-MOTION  
COUNCIL 2021-06-16:03**

*Be it resolved to receive and file the April 26th, 2021, Accessibility Committee minutes*

- AC 2021-04-26

#### **4.1.4.RATIFICATION OF REGRETS-MOTION COUNCIL 2021-06-16:04**

**SUBMITTED BY: Councillor “Nicolas Bonilla” for June 16th Council Meeting**

*Be it resolved to ratify regrets from Councillor Nicolas Bonilla (Travelling Time Conflict).*

**SUBMITTED BY: Councillor “Amélia Simard” for June 16<sup>th</sup> Council Meeting**

*Be it resolved to ratify regrets from Councillor Amélia Simard (Alternate Councillor Amanda Blake shall be attending the June 16<sup>th</sup>, 2021 Council meeting on her behalf).*

**SUBMITTED BY: Councillor “Jocelle Refol” for June 16th Council Meeting**

*Be it resolved to ratify regrets from Jocelle Refol (Conflict with contract work. Will be present from 4:30 - 6:00 pm.).*

## **5. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

### **5.1 MOTION COUNCIL 2021-06-16:05**

**Zaid/Kashish**

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

**CARRIED AS AMENDED UNANIMOUSLY**

- Add section 6.1 Ratification of Regrets
- Add section 11. Notice of Motion
- Add Notice of Motion Item 11.1 Non-Executive Council Work Reports Policy Change

## **6. RATIFICATION OF REGRETS**

### **6.1 MOTION COUNCIL 2021-06-16:06**

**Sandra/Aarthi**

*Be It resolved to ratify regrets from Alan Sanderson, Liz Giardin, and Damon Tarrant.*

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

- Alan Sanderson unable to attend due to co-op conflict.
- Damon Tarrant unable to attend due to midterm conflict.
- Liz Giardin unable to attend due to unexpected family circumstances.

## **7. REPORT FROM COMMITTEES**

### **7.1 Report from Executive Committee**

**SUBMITTED BY: President “Gabe Liosis”**

- President provided his Bi-weekly report.
  - President summarized several meetings he had attended over the past two weeks including the Free Palestine Working Group, and Uyghur Solidarity Working Group. He also attended a conversation with Hillel SFU members on how to keep Jewish students safe when discussing the topic of BDS. Other issues raised included antisemitism, concerns about the criteria being used for BDS as well as the scope. Free Palestine Working Group is working on a Free Palestine Issues Policy that will include our stance on BDS, while also ensuring that both Jewish

and Palestinian students are safe on campus. He mentioned that there was a view circulating that Hillel was apologetic to the State of Israel which is not the case, and he agreed this was a harmful view. President emphasized that the SFSS will always seek to ensure that student safety is protected.

- President mentioned a meeting with MP Terry Beech to discuss Student Relief Funding and Commitments to Reconciliation by the Federal Government.
- President discussed Surrey Director Search Town hall.
- President mentioned that Executive Committee and HR & Personnel Committee had met. He mentioned that the SUB working group had started on a reopening plan for Fall 2021.
- VP Internal and Organizational Development provided his Bi-weekly report.
  - VP Internal and Organizational Development discussed meetings attending regarding Building Coordinator Job description, Coop Discussion with SFU Coop, SFSS Bursary tax requirements, Council Development sessions planning, as well as SUB Working Group.
  - VP Internal and Organizational Development mentioned that both the Executive Committee and Human Resources and Personnel had met with the later approving multiple job descriptions.
- VP University and Academic Affairs provided their Bi-weekly report.
  - VP University and Academic Affairs provided updates on start up of Accessibility Committee, University and Academic Affairs Committee, and Steering Committee for Community Engagement on Personal Safety. Discussed updates regarding Access for All working group and Protests in Colombia working group
  - VP University and Academic Affairs mentioned ongoing collaboration with SFU350 regarding Climate Emergency Declaration open letter and the ongoing worker justice campaigns.
- VP External and Community Affairs provided his Bi-weekly report.
  - VP External and Community Affairs discussed meetings he had attended including meeting with Terry Beech, Metro Vancouver Alliance, SFPIRG Board of Directors, and Aboriginal Reconciliation Committee.
  - VP External and Community Affairs mentioned that he is currently focusing his advocacy work on a response to the Kamloops Indian Residential School findings including working on improving supports for community members and holding SFU accountable to ensure that they commit their promises of reconciliation.
  - VP External and Community Affairs mentioned that he applied to sit on the Upass Advisory Council as an SFSS Representative.
- VP Equity and Sustainability provided her Bi-weekly report.
  - VP Equity and Sustainability discussed Free Palestine Working Group which has created a draft statement and will be working on an Issues Policies that will be drafter in a way that ensures Jewish people and Palestinians are safe on campus. She emphasized the need to center the safety of Jewish students as well as show solidarity with Palestinians.
  - VP Equity and Sustainability briefly mentioned work being done by the Uyghur Working Group, Circular Economy Working Group, and Steering Committee on Campus Safety.

- VP Equity and Sustainability discussed conversations with SFU, particularly Student Services and CAL regarding the opening and accommodations and adjustments for students to ensure student safety and inclusion.
- VP Events and Student Affairs provided her Bi-weekly report.
  - VP Events and Student Affairs discussed recent event via IG Live with SFU Rec and upcoming event with SFU We Were Here We Were Queer as well as potential Understanding Land Acknowledgement event with Indigenous Student Centre.
  - VP Events and Student Affairs mentioned she had met with SFU Staff/Faculty/Departments to discuss on-campus events.
  - VP Events and Students Affairs discussed the work of the Events and Room Bookings SUB opening working group which will determine who is allowed to book rooms.
  - VP Events and Students Affairs congratulated SASS Cllr. Akum Sidhu for being appointed Associate VP Events and Student Affairs.

## 8. NEW BUSINESS

### 8.1 Financial Policy 12.1 Space Expansion Fund-Correction-MOTION COUNCIL 2021-06-16:07

**SUBMITTED BY: VP Internal “Corbett Gildersleve”**

**ATTACHMENT: FP 12.1 Space Expansion Fund - Corrections**

**Gabe/Jeremy**

*Whereas the 2020 Referendum History Report shows a different wording for the Space Expansion Fund compared to what is listed in our Financial Policies 12;*

*Whereas there were changes to the Space Expansion Fund's purpose in 2001 and 2010;*

*Whereas we have sought legal advice on the wording of the referendums to develop updated policy;*

*Be it resolved that Council amend FP-12 Space Expansion Fund as presented in the attachment.*

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

- VP Internal and Organizational Development discussed that the during the 2020-21 Board term, it became clear that certain policies did not match the changes made via referendums. The changes in this motion are fixing the wording to be used as a previous referendum intended so that the fund can be flexibly used, as it was intended.

### 8.2 Councillor Appointment to Events & Student Affairs Committee-MOTION COUNCIL 2021-06-16:08

**SUBMITTED BY: VP Events and Student Affairs “Jess Dela Cruz”**

**Gabe/Jess**

*Whereas, the Events & Student Affairs Committee has a vacant position,*

*Be it resolved that Paul Ursu will be appointed to the Events & Student Affairs Committee for the 2021-2022 year.*

**CARRIED AS AMENDED**

- VP Events and Student Affairs nominated Paul Ursu.
- Paul Ursu accepted nomination.
- Kashish Mehta nominated self.
- Paul Ursu won the vote 27:11.

**8.3 External and Community Affairs Committee Appointments -MOTION COUNCIL 2021-06-16:09**

**SUBMITTED BY: VP Internal “Corbett Gildersleve”**  
*Sandra/Corbett*

*Whereas there is one councilor seat available on the External and Community Affairs Committee due to a recent resignation;*

*Be it resolved that Council appoint Fizza Parsayan to the External and Community Affairs Committee.*

**CARRIED/NOT CARRIED/CARRIED AS AMENDED**

- VP External and Community Affairs discussed the creation of resources for the External and Community Affairs Committee on public speaking and engaging with the community. He emphasized that once COVID restrictions are eased, Committee members will go into spaces where they will speak to MLAs, MPs etc.
- Fizza Parsayan nominated self.
- Nisha Manhas nominated self.
- SUS Representative raised a Point of Order reminding alternates not to vote.
- Fizza Parsayan won the vote 27:12.

*\*Fizza Parsayan and Jocelle Refol left the meeting at at 6:00 PM*

*\*10-minute break taken at 6:11 PM*

**8.4 Members Meeting Planning Committee-MOTION COUNCIL 2021-06-16:10**

**SUBMITTED BY: VP Internal “Corbett Gildersleve”**  
**Gabe/Marie**

*Whereas there are two councilor seats vacant on the Members Meeting Planning Committee;*

*Be it resolved that Council appoint Deanna Short and Kashish Mehta to the Members Meeting Planning Committee.*

**CARRIED AS AMENDED UNANIMOUSLY**

- VP Internal and Organizational Development emphasized that the Annual General Meeting of the SFSS is a very important Meeting that occurs in mid to late fall. He emphasized that planning for the AGM needs to start early. He mentioned that this committee is flexible and does not meet for the whole year.
- Deanna Short nominated self.
- Kashish Mehta nominated self.

**8.5 Access for All working group letters-MOTION COUNCIL 2021-06-16:11**

**SUBMITTED BY: VP University and Academic Affairs “Serena Bains”**  
**ATTACHMENTS: Letter to SFU & Letter to the province**  
**Serena/Jeremy**

*Whereas on June 2nd 2021 Council struck an Access for All working group to draft letters to*

*SFU and the province of B.C. advocating for the demands outlined in the Access for All briefing note,*

*Whereas the working group has completed drafting the letters to SFU and the province of B.C.,*

*Be it resolved that Council approves of the drafted letters and signs onto the letters,*

*Be it further resolved that Councillors who vote in favor of the motion sign onto both letters as individual Councillors and on behalf of their DSU's, CG's, SU's, and SG's,*

*Be it further resolved that Councillors who vote in favour distribute the letters to their respective groups and encourage their members to sign on to the letters*

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

- VP University and Academic Affairs mentioned that the Access for All Work Group letters advocate for the standardization of resources, release of a COVID Re-Opening plan, and increased health counselling resources. They discussed encouraging the province to increase representation from SFU staff and student on the steering committee for mandatory COVID-19 return to in-person education practices and a commitment to providing resources.
- ISSA Representative suggested that calls to action should be stronger and more demanding ex. A capacity limit or a mask mandate.
- SEESS Representative asked how the SFSS would allocate its own resources to keep students safe.
- President reiterated that this motion is not exhaustive and the SFSS will continue to demand more from SFU and the province as well as what the SFSS can do as an organization to keep its members safe.

## 9. DISCUSSION ITEMS

### 9.1 Fall 2021 Return on Campus

**SUBMITTED BY: Councillor “Warren Ho kin”**

- Data Science Representative inquired as to what Councillors should communicate to their respective DSUs.
- During JOG meetings, it had been made clear that SFU Working Groups for a return had only been started in June but are expected later in the week. Councillors expressed frustration with the lack of time and conversations not being centred on marginalized students.
- VP University and Academic Affairs mentioned that SFU has made it clear that it appears that SFU will be relying heavily on academic concessions for students as well as professors. It is not clear whether policies will be mandated or centralized. They suggested having a centralized student space with a student advocate where students can seek assistance. Mentioned that this will put more labour on students and increase barriers to accessing education.
- President reiterated that this issue is up to SFU to figure out, as the province is restricted by labour agreements and is unable to tell SFU how to implement policies for student concessions.
- VP Events and Student Affairs discussed Working Groups that have been put in place to ensure a safe opening of the SUB including Services, Building, Consultation, Operations & Staff, Events, Room Booking, Advocacy, Communications, and COVID-19 Safety.



## 9.2 Council General Check-In

### SUBMITTED BY: President “Gabe Liosis”

- GSWS Representative asked that councillors use Zoom reactions instead of writing “++” in the chat to indicate support.
- CSA Representative asked councillors to download documents and resend instead of editing in Outlook.
- SUS Representative inquired as to why certain channels on discord are not accessible to everyone. President asked VP Internal and Organizational Development to preform an audit of discord to ensure that all channels are accessible.

## 10. 30 MINUTES Q&A

- No questions.

## 11. NOTICE OF MOTION

### 11.1 Non-Executive Council Work Reports Policy Change

- Non-executive work reports from semi-monthly to monthly. Considered at next Council meeting.

## 12. ANNOUNCEMENTS

12.1 [For SFSS Members] Next Council Meeting: Wednesday, June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2021, 4:30pm - 8:30pm (PST) via Zoom [Bi-weekly]

12.2 Leave of Absence for Criminology Councillor from August 21<sup>st</sup> – 31<sup>st</sup>.

12.3 Advertising Student At Large Committee Membership June 7<sup>th</sup> at 12:00pm.

- Corbett asked councillors to share.

## 13. ATTACHMENTS

13.1 FP 12.1 Space Expansion Fund – Corrections

13.2 Letter to SFU

13.3 Letter to the Province

## 14. ADJOURNMENT

14.1 MOTION COUNCIL 2021-06-16:12

Marie/Matthew

*Be it resolved to adjourn the meeting at 7:12 PM.*

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

## Policy

12.1 The Space Expansion Fund is established to provide for the support the future expansion, renovation, and ongoing maintenance of existing and future space for the students, student groups and student activities at SFU

(a) The Space Expansion Fund Levy was created by referendum in Oct. 1989 and updated and expanded on by referendum in 2001 and 2010.

(b) The Space Expansion Fund Levy is non-refundable.

(c) The levy shall be collected within the same restrictions as the Student Activity Fee.

12.2 The Space Expansion Fund's use is restricted to space that is solely used for students, student groups, or student activities at SFU, but is not restricted to Society-leased or Society-owned space. However, to ensure a space is solely for the benefit of students, student groups, or student activities the Society should seek to lease that space when appropriate.

## Process

12.3 Proposals for accessing the Space Expansion Fund are submitted in writing to the Chair of Council using the Grant Request Form.

(a) Departmental coordinators may submit a proposal to the Chair of Council on behalf of student groups.

12.4 Proposals must include a budget and a link between the proposed budget and the purpose of the Space Expansion Fund.

12.5 Where a proposal is accepted, the proponent must submit a report on the use of the funds and the impact on the membership of the SFSS.

(a) A template will be provided to all proponents for required proposals and reports.

**June 15, 2021**

## **Letter to SFU Administration - Access for All Campaign**

### Introduction

On May 31st, 2021, Simon Fraser University's (SFU) Administrative team proposed a close-to-full transition to in-person course delivery. This decision to make a stage 4 (80-100% density) return to campus was informed by newly released provincial guidelines. Since then, student leaders across educational institutions have raised concerns about the disproportionate impact this return to campus plan will have on marginalized communities. The Access for All campaign was created as a result of said concerns. The campaign provides a thorough plan of possible avenues through which students, staff, faculty, and most importantly SFU Administration can create a more accessible plan for return to campus. The purpose of this letter is to express concerns regarding the impact that SFU's rapid transition back to in-person education may have on several vulnerable groups.

With all the unprecedented events that coincided with the global pandemic, the traditional idea of learning has become accustomed to new norms; our corporal relationships with institutions and traditional classroom education were forced to move online and we committed to a "new normal". Now, students, staff, and faculty at SFU are preparing for a close-to-full transition to in-person course delivery. The reversion to in-person course delivery will reinstate the same barriers to education numerous marginalized students faced prior to the pandemic and introduce new barriers. Thus, the Access for All campaign advocates to secure equitable access to education and work for all students, staff, and faculty and to ensure that the "new normal" doesn't reinstate the same barriers to education that were present before the pandemic.

### Impacts

The COVID-19 pandemic made it necessary for SFU to shift all in-person classes to remote delivery. The transition to remote class delivery resulted in more equitable access to post-secondary education for countless students. In fact, 74% of respondents of the Fall 2020 Undergraduate Student Survey reported being satisfied with SFU's response to the COVID-19 pandemic.<sup>1</sup> Remote learning allowed 75% of students to register for their

required courses, which is statistically higher than the prior year's percentage (68%).<sup>1</sup> We believe that removing the option to attend classes remotely creates barriers to education since remote learning options increased accessibility to required courses. This is especially relevant when 63% of students report taking more time than expected to complete their education, among which 54% is attributed to course availability issues.<sup>1</sup>

SFU's commitment "to creating a diverse, equitable and inclusive (EDI) community where all feel welcome, safe, accepted and appreciated in learning, teaching, research and work" should also directly apply to students, staff, and faculty who were temporarily granted easier access to education and work<sup>2</sup>. We ask that you consider the following impacts on the non-exhaustive list of marginalized and post-secondary communities, participate in meaningful EDI work, and stand in solidarity with these communities by meeting our calls to action.

1. [Disabled and/or neurodivergent people](#)
2. [International and migrant community members](#)
3. [Mature community members](#)
4. [BIPOC community members](#)
5. [Women](#)
6. [People with health conditions that may not identify as disabled](#)
7. [LGBTQIA2S+ community members](#)
8. [Fat community members](#)
9. [Faculty and staff members](#)
10. [Post-secondary community-at-large](#)

## Calls to action

1. **Facilitate alternative methods of course delivery:** SFU's initial response to the pandemic was well organized and helped many students with various accessibility needs attend classes without overcomplication. As restrictions eased, the university has consistently made efforts to ensure students get the hands-on experience they need. Particularly notable is the School For Contemporary Arts, where Film and Dance students had the chance to work in labs or in-studio to complete a core component of their class. However, international students were not penalized for being unable to attend. The university has already demonstrated a capacity to facilitate a hybrid learning style. On a larger scale, hybrid courses would make it possible for a maximum number of students to attend their classes - while still transitioning out of this pandemic.

**2. Standardize resources, accommodations, and academic concessions:**

Throughout this pandemic, many of the generous accommodations made by several professors have been entirely by their discretion. Due to this, some equity issues have been noticeable between departments and even classes at SFU. Providing professors and department heads with an incentive (i.e. teaching credit) would allow for standardized resources, accommodations, and academic concessions.

Recommended changes include professors recording lectures, the removal of mandated in-person participation marks, and accommodating any marginalized student as per their needs.

**3. Release a clear and specific COVID-19 SFU Reopening plan:** SFU should engage in consultation with students, staff, and faculty (with a focus on equity-seeking groups) to create a COVID-19 SFU reopening plan that resolutely mitigates risk for infectious outbreaks that includes, but is not limited to:

- a. Social distancing in lecture halls
- b. Continued COVID-19 testing on campus for all community members
- c. Recommended use of personal masks (with the exception of those with exemptions)
- d. Professional sanitization protocols between classes (Worksafe BC approved)
- e. Air circulation in classes

**4. Increase Health and Counselling (HCS) resources:** many students, staff, and faculty have expressed their worries and anxieties regarding return to campus. Increasing HCS resources would help community members transition to in-person course delivery while mitigating any harm caused.

## Conclusion

SFU must meet its commitment “to [provide] a working and learning environment that allows for the full and free participation of all members of the University community” as outlined in their Human Rights Policy (GP 18).<sup>3</sup> Reverting to in-person delivery of courses without consultation of students, equity-seeking groups, staff, and faculty is antithetical to the full and free participation of all members of the university community.

Our calls to action aim to maintain the increased accessibility to education and ensure student, faculty, and staff safety. We ask that you continue to recognize and address community concerns, commit to our calls to action and provide equitable access to

education and work.

## References

1. Wiebe J, Parkhouse J, Sun W. Fall 2020 Undergraduate Student Survey: Preliminary Report Distribution of Responses to Survey Questions [Internet]. Institutional Research and Planning; 2020 [cited 2021Jun16]. Available from: <http://www.sfu.ca/content/dam/sfu/irp/surveys/ugss/2020%20UGSS%20Preliminary%20Report.pdf>
2. Here to grow: Equity, Diversity and Inclusion [Internet]. Equity, Diversity and Inclusion - Simon Fraser University. [cited 2021Jun16]. Available from: <https://www.sfu.ca/edi.html>
3. Human Rights Policy (GP 18) - Policies and Procedures [Internet]. Simon Fraser University. 2021 [cited 2021Jun16]. Available from: <https://www.sfu.ca/policies/gazette/general/gp18.html>

**June 15, 2021**

## **Letter to the province - Access for All Campaign**

### Introduction

The COVID-19 Go-Forward Guidelines for B.C.'s Post-Secondary Sector unfortunately contains many gaps. Many of the recommendations in the guidelines are just that, recommendations. Where post-secondary institutions like Simon Fraser University continuously prove that they will only implement what they have resources for. Many of the recommendations: providing standardized information to international students, working with Indigenous students to develop safety plans and incorporating accessibility considerations for persons with disabilities, have not been met.

With all the unprecedented events that coincided with the global pandemic, the traditional idea of learning has become accustomed to new norms; our corporal relationships with institutions and traditional classroom education were forced to move online and we committed to a "new normal". Now, students, staff, and faculty across the province are preparing for a close-to-full transition to in-person course delivery. The reversion to in-person course delivery will reinstate the same barriers to education numerous marginalized students faced prior to the pandemic and introduce new barriers. Thus, the Access for All campaign advocates to secure equitable access to education and work for all students, staff, and faculty and to ensure that the "new normal" doesn't reinstate the same barriers to education that were present before the pandemic.

### Impacts

The burden has been and will continue to be on students, staff and faculty if we do not receive additional representation and resources from the team of experts from the post-secondary sector, the Office of the Provincial Health Officer, Regional Health Authorities, and the B.C. Centre for Disease Control. We ask that you consider the following impacts on the non-exhaustive list of marginalized and post-secondary communities, participate in meaningful equity, diversity and inclusion work, and stand in solidarity with these communities by meeting our calls to action.

1. [Disabled and/or neurodivergent people](#)
2. [International and migrant community members](#)
3. [Mature community members](#)
4. [BIPOC community members](#)
5. [Women](#)
6. [People with health conditions that may not identify as disabled](#)
7. [LGBTQIA2S+ community members](#)
8. [Fat community members](#)
9. [Faculty and staff members](#)
10. [Post-secondary community-at-large](#)

## Calls to action

1. **Representation from current students, staff and faculty from SFU:** the Steering Committee currently has no representation from current community members of SFU and the Panel of Experts has no representatives from SFU current or past. SFU is a unique post-secondary institution in many ways, we need greater representatives on both the Steering Committee and the Panel of Experts to advocate for the needs of our community.
2. **Representation from marginalized groups:** there needs to be representatives from the marginalized communities we listed. It also needs to be mandated that post-secondary institutions involve equity-seeking groups, students, staff and faculty in reopening working groups. Currently there is no student representation on any of the reopening working groups at SFU.
3. **Mandatory practices:** post-secondary institutions like SFU will only commit to what they are mandated to do. There needs to be clear, direct and specific instructions from the province regarding what post-secondary institutions have to do to ensure a safe, accessible and equitable return-to-campus in the Fall.
4. **Integrating feedback from students:** students are the largest stakeholders and contributors to post-secondary education. There should be regular engagement with students and their feedback should be integrated into the upcoming return-to-campus guidelines.

## Conclusion



As provincial leaders we are asking that you stand in solidarity with students, staff and faculty across B.C. and commit to our calls to action. We have asked that SFU meet the commitment of an equitable return to campus, however, this can only be achieved through adequate resources provided by the province. As a consequence, harm is being caused and will continue to be caused to students, staff and faculty until we are provided adequate representation and resources. We are calling on provincial leaders like yourself to take meaningful action to ensure a safe, equitable and accessible return to campus.