

1. CALL TO ORDER

Call to Order – 4:31 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^wməθk^wəyəm (Musqueam), Sk̓wx̓wú7mesh Úxwumixw (Squamish), Sel̓íl̓wítulh (Tsleil-Waututh), kw̓ik^wəłəm (Kwikwetlem) and q̓icəy̓ (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

Applied Science	<i>Vacant</i>
Archeology	Damon Tarrant
Art, Performance, and Cinema Studies	<i>Vacant</i>
Asia Canada Studies	<i>Vacant</i>
Bachelor of Environment	Tiana Andjelic
Behavioral Neuroscience	Aarthi Srinivasan
Biology	Nicolas Bonilla
Biomedical Physiology & Kinesiology	Kashish Mehta
Business	<i>Vacant</i>
Chemistry	<i>Vacant</i>
Cognitive Science	Nicole Kirigin
Communications	Ashran Bharosha
Computing Science	<i>Vacant</i>
Criminology	Charlotte Taylor-Baer
Dance	<i>Vacant</i>
Data Science Student Union	Warren Ho Kin
Earth Science	<i>Vacant</i>
Economics	Mahindhar Kumar
Education	Jihye (Jin) Choi
Engineering Science	Sarah Raisuddin
English Councillor	Liz Giardin
Environmental Science	Chloe Homenuke
Faculty of Applied Science	<i>Vacant</i>
Faculty of Communications, Arts and Technology (FCAC)	<i>Vacant</i>
Faculty of Environment Event	<i>Vacant</i>
Film Student Union	<i>Vacant</i>
Fine and Performing Arts	<i>Vacant</i>
French Councillor	Kylee Poernich
Gender, Sexuality, and Women’s Studies (Vice Chair)	<i>Vacant</i>

Geography	Natasha Kearns
Gerontology Student Union.....	<i>Vacant</i>
Global Asia Studies Student Union	Eunice Kwok
Health Science	Jocelle Refol
History	<i>Vacant</i>
Humanities.....	<i>Vacant</i>
Indigenous Studies Student Union (ISSU)	<i>Vacant</i>
Interactive Arts and Technology (IAT).....	Jeremy Felix
International Studies Student Association (ISSA).....	Deanna Short
Labour Studies.....	Justin Chen
Latin American Studies	<i>Vacant</i>
Linguistics	Alev Maleki
Mathematics	Ben Tischler
Mechatronics System Engineering	Ryley McWilliams
Molecular Biology & Biochemistry (MBB).....	Avneet Kaur
Music Student Union.....	<i>Vacant</i>
Operations Research	Ashutosh Dubal
Performing Arts	<i>Vacant</i>
Philosophy	Tony Yu
Physics.....	Graham Rich
Political Science	Abhishek Parmar
Psychology	Tiffany Liu
Public Policy	<i>Vacant</i>
Science Undergraduate Society (SUS).....	Zaid Lari
Semester in Dialogue.....	<i>Vacant</i>
Society of Arts and Social Sciences (SASS)	Akum Sidhu
Sociology and Anthropology.....	Kayla Chow
Software Systems	Shashank Thanalapati
Statistics and Actuarial Science (SASSA).....	Jia So
Sustainable Community Development	<i>Vacant</i>
Sustainable Energy Engineering Student Society	Mohammad Al-Sheboul
Theatre Student Union.....	<i>Vacant</i>
Visual Arts.....	<i>Vacant</i>
World Literature	Sara Aristizabal Castaneda

Constituency Group Representatives

Disability and Neurodiversity Alliance (DNA).....	<i>Vacant</i>
First Nations, Métis & Inuit Student Association (FNMISA).....	Keianna James
International Student Advocates.....	Quynh Chi Bui
Out on Campus Collective (OOC)	<i>Vacant</i>
Students of Caribbean & African Ancestry (SOCA).....	Linda Kanyamuna
Women Centre Collective (WCC).....	Nim Basra

Affiliated Student Groups

Residence Hall's Association (RHA)	<i>Vacant</i>
Student Athlete Advisory Committee (SAAC)	Paul Ursu

SFSS Executive Committee

President (Chair).....	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
Policy, Research, Community Affairs (PRCA) Coordinator	Beaty Omboga
Administrative Assistant.....	Simar Thukral
Building Manager	John Walsh

3.3 Regrets

English Councillor	Liz Giardin
International Studies Student Association (ISSA).....	Deanna Short

3.4 Council Alternates

International Studies Student Association (ISSA).....	Yasmin El-Hariri
Science Undergraduate Society (SUS).....	Shariq Ahsan

3.5 Guests

DNA Executive.....	Vivan Ly
Member	Angela Calla
Member	Helen Sofia Pahou
Member	Simran

3.6 Absent

Economics	Mahindhar Kumar
Policy, Research, Community Affairs (PRCA) Coordinator	Beaty Omboga

4. CONSENT AGENDA

4.1 CONSENT AGENDA

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

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

4.1.1. RATIFICATION OF REGRETS FROM ENGLISH COUNCILLOR- MOTION COUNCIL 2022-01-19:01

Be it resolved to ratify regrets from Liz Giardin for the January 19th Council Committee meeting due to travel plans.

4.1.2. RATIFICATION OF REGRETS FROM ISSA COUNCILOR - MOTION COUNCIL 2022-01-19:02

SUBMITTED BY: President (Chair) “Gabe Liosis”

Be it resolved that Council ratify regrets for Deanna Short for the Spring 2022 Council meetings due to an academic conflict.

**4.1.3. STEPS FORWARD POLICY AMENDMENT
NOTICE OF MOTION GIVEN AT LAST MEETING BY VP INTERNAL &
ORGANIZATIONAL DEVELOPMENT - CORBETT GILDERSLEVE-MOTION
COUNCIL 2022-01-19:00-MOTION COUNCIL 2022-01-19:03
SUBMITTED BY: President (Chair) "Gabe Liosis"**

Whereas STEPS Forward has approached the SFSS requesting that their members be charged the student activity fee and become full members of the SFSS;

Whereas the STEPS Forward program supports SFU students with developmental disabilities to complete university courses;

Whereas these students are registered in SFU courses making them a member of the SFSS;

Whereas these courses are listed as being audited in SFU's system;

Whereas in the early 1980s Forum (Board of Directors) passed a motion to exempt students solely taking audit courses from paying student society fees;

Whereas this is not fully reflected in FP-1 Student Society Fees;

Be it resolved that Council approve adding the following sentence to FP-1 Student Society Fees - Exemptions and renumber the policy accordingly: "Students only enrolled in auditing courses.

a) notwithstanding the above, students through SFU's Inclusive Post-Secondary Education partnership with STEPS Forward students will be charged Student Society Fees"

**4.1.4. CONCURRENT STUDIES POLICY AMENDMENT
NOTICE OF MOTION GIVEN AT LAST MEETING BY VP INTERNAL &
ORGANIZATIONAL DEVELOPMENT CORBETT GILDERSLEVE-MOTION
COUNCIL 2022-01-19:04**

SUBMITTED BY: President (Chair) "Gabe Liosis"

Whereas the SFSS has the ability to set policy around the collection of SFSS student activity fee including exemptions;

Whereas SFU has approached the SFSS asking for students in the Concurrent Studies program to be exempted from being charged the student activity fee;

Whereas the students in the Concurrent Studies program are BC high school students with high academic standing and who can take one or two SFU lower division courses while in high school;

Whereas the number of students in this program are 44 per year and as such would not have significant impact on SFSS fee revenue if their fees were not collected;

Whereas by being exempt from the student activity fee, they would no longer be members of the SFSS and would not receive services and benefits;

Be it resolved that Council approve adding the following sentence to FP-1 Student Society Fees -Exemptions and renumber the policy accordingly "Concurrent Studies students are exempt from all Student Society Fees"

Be it further resolved that Council approve amending FP-1.14 with the following:

"d) students enrolled in the Concurrent Studies program,"

Be it further resolved that Council approve amending FP-1.15 with the following:

"e) students enrolled in the Concurrent Studies program."

**4.1.5. SFSS Credit Card Limit Increase-MOTION COUNCIL 2022-01-19:05
SUBMITTED BY: VP Internal & Organizational Development "Corbett Gildersleve"**

Whereas the SFSS has a credit card used to make online purchases and payments;

Whereas the limit to that credit card was lowered to \$10,000 in previous years;

Whereas with the change to more remote work and virtual events over the pandemic has required the SFSS to make more online purchases and payments;

Whereas some large-cost projects like space furnishing purchases have been well above the current limit causing delays in purchases;

Whereas the Financial Coordinators have recommended an increase from \$10,000 to \$25,000;

Be it resolved that Council approve increasing the SFSS credit card limit from \$10,000 to \$25,000

**4.1.6. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES- Council Minutes-MOTION
COUNCIL 2021-12-01:06**

Be it resolved to receive and file the following minutes:

- Council 2021-12-01

**4.1.7. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES-Committee Minutes-MOTION
COUNCIL 2021-12-01:07**

Be it resolved to receive and file the following minutes:

- EXEC 2021-11-29

5. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

5.1 MOTION COUNCIL 2021-12-01:08

Corbett/Abhishek

Be it resolved to adopt the agenda as amended.

CARRIED AS AMENDED UNANIMOUSLY

- Corbett explained that it is vital to appoint two seats for finance administrative committee. This term is really important for the budget and a bunch of be development and it's good to have a full committee for that.

6. PRESENTATION

6.1 SFSS Response to COVID-19 Omicron Case Surge

Presented by Matthew, Jess, Gabe

Gabe

- Between December to January 19th Executive Committee has had to take a lot of decisions in terms of how to properly respond to COVID-19 and case surge. Hospitalizations continue to go up, and so this is stuff that we're keeping a close eye on while making any decision.
- Since early on in December as soon as we realized that the COVID-19 situation was worsening, the executive committee and all of our management staff so this includes John our building manager, Ayesha operations organizer and Ella as board organizer, have been having daily COVID 19 re-groups to essentially meet for at least one hour sometimes an hour and a half, every day to go over progress being made on the COVID-19 front on a

variety of different aspects, so this could mean responding to any new public health orders that have arisen that seems to keep coming. Whether or not we need to adjust things like events, whether or not we need to adjust our internal operations and things like that. Things do come up quite quickly and frequently and so it's important that we had a group, like this to quickly respond.

Jess

- So, on December 23rd 2021, this was the last day before SFSS officially closed for the holiday break, so we were in back to back meetings from five to six hours that day just trying to figure everything out.
- So, the first thing that we did was talk about events, because we had some student groups have events over the holiday break, so we implemented changes over the holiday break due to the recent and abrupt changes in PHO guidelines in response to COVID-19.
- So, over the holiday break we expected our membership and sub tenants to adhere to these rules pertaining to your event and indoor and outdoor gatherings.

Matthew

- Everyone met the following week shortly after the holiday season to discuss certain measures because there was still a need to be prompt and urgent to respond to the changes. So, we made the decision to go into a reduced capacity model for the Student Union Building. Other temporary measures include, reducing capacity and temporarily closing some spaces, it would help to mitigate exposure and transmission and changing the work model for the staff and requiring them to work remotely as much as possible considering factors such as mental health as some staff opted to come in the office.
- We were interested in the idea of rapid testing to keep everyone safe, so, I registered SFSS through the Government of Canada website. But, since then there have been no updates. I have also contacted some pharmacies to see if we can have access to the rapid testing kits as a Student Society.
- So, on January 8th, we had been working on a survey to send up to membership on hearing their concerns about the return to in person classes on January 24th as SFU was not doing any Survey to hear any comments or views from their community members.

7. IN-CAMERA

7.1 MOTION COUNCIL 2022-01-19:09

SUBMITTED BY: President "Gabe Liosis"

Matthew/Abhishek

Be it resolved to go in-camera for the remainder of the meeting.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

- Staff Safety During Omicron Surge and the SUB

8. EX-CAMERA

8.1 MOTION COUNCIL 2022-01-19:10

Ben/Abhishek

Be it resolved to go ex-camera.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**5 Minute-break taken at 6:03 PM*

9. NEW BUSINESS

9.1 RECOMMENDATION FROM THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE TO COUNCIL ON CLOSURE OF STUDENT UNION BUILDING AS A RESPONSE TO THE COVID-19 CASE SURGE AND SAFETY OF STAFF AND MEMBERS -MOTION COUNCIL 2022-01-19:11

SUBMITTED BY: President (Chair) “Gabe Liosis”

Marie/Jeremy

Whereas, the Executive Committee has implemented measures to reduce capacity in the Student Union Building, encourage staff and Executive Officers to work remotely, and move all in-person services to be offered virtually;

Whereas, COVID-19 cases, driven by Omicron, continue to rise, and present a significant safety risk to staff and members.

Whereas, there already exist a risk that the Student Union Building would need to close intermittently for short periods of time where there are COVID positive cases amongst the staff team or as a result of exposures from Members;

Whereas, the Executive Committee believes that the measures implemented up until now do not do enough to protect the health and safety of our Staff and Membership;

Whereas, the Executive Committee does not want to make such a big decision on its own, despite it being an operational decision within its jurisdiction, without involving the larger body of Council;

Be it further resolved that Council approve a closure of the Student Union Building until at least February 18th, 2022;

Be it further resolved that, as its February 16th, 2022 meeting, Council decide whether to extend the building closure for an additional period of time, or revert back to opening the Student Union Building, with reduced capacity, as passed by the Executive Committee as its January 18th, 2022 meeting.

CARRIED AS AMENDED UNANIMOUSLY

Carried (38 in Favour, 3 Against, 1 Abstentions)

In favor: Gabe Liosis (President), Corbett Gildersleve (VP Internal and Organizational Development), Alman Phangura (VP Finance and Services), Serena Bains (VP University and Academic Affairs), Matthew Provost (VP External and Community Affairs), Marie Haddad (VP Equity and Sustainability), Jess Dela Cruz (VP Events and Student Affairs), Damon (Archeology), Tiana Andejlic (Bachelor of Environment), Nicolas Bonilla (Biology), Kashish Mehta (Biomedical Physiology and Kinesiology), Nicole Kirigin (Cognitive Science), Kylee Pocrnich (French), Ashutish Dubal (Operations Research), Abhishek Parmar (Political Science), Shashank Thanalapati (Software Systems), Mohammad Al-Sheboul (Sustainable Energy), Ashran Bharosha (Communications), Charlotte Taylor-Baer (Criminology), Sarah Raisuddin (Education), Chloe Homenuke (Environmental Science), Natasha Kearns (Geography), Eunice Kwok (Global Asia Studies), Jeremy Felix (Interactive Art and Technology), Yasmin El-Hariri (International Studies), Justin Chen (Labour Studies), Alev Maleki (Linguistics), Ryley McWilliams (Mechatronic), Avneet Kaur (Molecular Biology and Biochemistry), Graham Rich (Physics), Tiffany Liu (Psychology), Zaid Lari (Science Undergraduate Society), Akum Sidhu (Society of Arts and Social Science), Jia So (Statistics), Keianna James (First Nations, Meits and Inuit Student Association), Quynh Chi Bui (International Student Advocates), Nim Basra (Women Centre Collective)

Against: Aarthi Srinivasan (Behavioral Neuroscience), Jocelle Refol (Health Science), Ben Tischler (Mathematics)

Abstentions: Warren Ho Kin (Data Science)

**9.1.1 Call a Council meeting for Friday, January 21, 2022 – Motion Council 2022-01-19:12
Ben/Chloe**

Be it resolved that when Council adjourned, we meet again on January 21st .

NOT CARRIED (1 YES, 35 NO, 5 ABSTENTIONS)

- Mathematics Council mentioned that especially given this as surrounding an issue of the membership opinions that by having Council vote on the matter before we can see the full results of the membership survey, we might not be getting the full picture of the opinion of the membership.
- VP External mentioned that we have Gondola Town Hall and then the press conference during the afternoon also, the staff would need to be notified as it would be after hours.
- VP Events mentioned that the rest of membership are not employers so as non executive we are employers. This decision is heavily based on your role as well, so we have to make that call urgently and as soon as possible to ensure the safety of our staff. With the discussions that were done in-camera and ex-camera I would urge the staff to be extremely thoughtful about this.
- The President spoke against the motion and mentioned that it would be useful to have the survey data in order for the council to approve the decision. But, another issue is that, Friday, after 4:30 pm, that are after hours, and council will not likely make that decision until late in the evening. And, we do not have the tools necessary to actually prepare proper communication, prepare social media responses, put out statements, connect with the relevant people, give staff a heads up before people go home on the weekend on Friday. The only people who can work over the weekends are our executives and our management. We are unionized work environment and we cannot force our communications team to work over the weekend and then this would be like making a last minute decision. I do not think it is smart to make a last minute decision especially for something that related to public health.
- VP Finance mentioned that I do not think that it is viable that we have meeting on such short notice, because some of us might have other commitments like work classes, etc., I think it should be at the regular countable timings because we have had so many things lined up perfectly with things moving so quickly and then we have a press conference on the same day.
- Sustainable Energy motioned that they are both for and against this motion. He expressed that as our president mentioned, we should have the survey results because no matter what we decide if our constituents are against it, they can overwhelm us at the end of the day, they are our constituents. And, whether we are the employers or not, we also have it up towards our constituents it is not just our employees it is the sadness of the matter, we can not help it at the same time, I do agree that we don't have a lot of time to certainly set up a meeting and it is such short notice and like I hope I am not offending anyone with this, but I would like not to spend my Friday on a Council Meeting.
- Interactive Arts and Technology Councilor mentioned that a lot of people do not have the time, they are working, I feel like it is really unreasonable to call a meeting last minute where a lot of people might be busy. As well as I do not want to spend too much time on this as well, so I want to move into calling the question.

In favor (1): Ben Tischler (Mathematics)

Against (35): Gabe Liosis (President), Corbett Gildersleve (VP Internal and Organizational Development), Almas Phangura (VP Finance and Services), Serena Bains (VP University and Academic Affairs), Matthew Provost (VP External and Community Affairs), Marie Haddad (VP Equity and Sustainability), Jess Dela Cruz (VP Events and Student Affairs), Damon (Archeology), Aarthi Srinivasan (Behavioural Neuroscience), Nicolas Bonilla (Biology), Ashran Bharosha (Communications), Charlotte Taylor-Baer (Criminology), Sarah Raisuddin (Education), Chloe Homenuke (Environmental Science), Natasha Kearns (Geography), Eunice Kwok (Global Asia Studies), Jocelle Refol (Health Science), Jeremy Felix (Interactive Art and Technology), Yasmeen El-Hariri (International Studies), Justin Chen (Labour Studies), Alev Maleki (Linguistics), Ryley McWilliams (Mechatronic), Avneet Kaur (Molecular Biology and Biochemistry), Graham Rich (Physics), Tiffany Liu (Psychology), Zaid Lari (Science Undergraduate Society), Akum Sidhu (Society of Arts and Social Science), Kayla Chow (Sociology and Anthropology), Jia So (Statistics), Keianna James (First Nations, Meits and Inuit Student Association), Quynh Chi Bui (International Student Advocates), Nim Basra (Women Centre Collective), Nicole Kirigin (Cognitive Science), Kylee Pocrnich (French), Ashutish Dubal (Operations Research), Kashish Mehta (Biomedical Physiology and Kinesiology)

Abstentions: Tiana Andejlic (Bachelor of Environment), Warren Ho Kin (Data Science), Abhishek Parmar (Political Science), Shashank Thanalapati (Software Systems), Mohammad Al-Sheboul (Sustainable Energy)

9.1.2 Call to Question – Motion Council 2022-01-19:13

Gabe/Kayla

Passed with 2/3 – The motion to call the question has been approved

In Favor (32): Gabe Liosis (President), Corbett Gildersleve (VP Internal and Organizational Development), Almas Phangura (VP Finance and Services), Serena Bains (VP University and Academic Affairs), Matthew Provost (VP External and Community Affairs), Marie Haddad (VP Equity and Sustainability), Jess Dela Cruz (VP Events and Student Affairs), Damon (Archeology), Tiana Andejlic (Bachelor of Environment), Aarthi Srinivasan (Behavioral Neuroscience), Nicolas Bonilla (Biology), Ashran Bharosha (Communications), Charlotte Taylor-Baer (Criminology), Sarah Raisuddin (Education), Chloe Homenuke (Environmental Science), Natasha Kearns (Geography), Eunice Kwok (Global Asia Studies), Jocelle Refol (Health Science), Jeremy Felix (Interactive Art and Technology), Yasmeen El-Hariri (International Studies), Justin Chen (Labour Studies), Alev Maleki (Linguistics), Ryley McWilliams (Mechatronic), Avneet Kaur (Molecular Biology and Biochemistry), Graham Rich (Physics), Tiffany Liu (Psychology), Zaid Lari (Science Undergraduate Society), Akum Sidhu (Society of Arts and Social Science), Kayla Chow (Sociology and Anthropology), Jia So (Statistics), Keianna James (First Nations, Meits and Inuit Student Association), Quynh Chi Bui (International Student Advocates), Nim Basra (Women Centre Collective)

Against (9): Ben Tischler (Mathematics), Kashish Mehta (Biomedical Physiology and Kinesiology), Nicole Kirigin (Cognitive Science), Warren Ho Kin (Data Science), Kylee Pocrnich (French), Ashutish Dubal (Operations Research), Abhishek Parmar (Political Science), Shashank Thanalapati (Software Systems), Mohammad Al-Sheboul (Sustainable Energy)

9.1.3 Move to add COVID-19 Survey Results- MOTION COUNCIL- 2022-01-19:14

Abhishek/Ben

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

- Political Science Councilor explained that the survey was done with the undergraduate

students at SFU, it was protected by SFU email, so we know 100% of the responses are from SFU Undergraduate Students. But essentially what the results kind of shows that the student base body is pretty split. For example, we asked the question, do you support moving spring 2020 completely online due to the Omnicom variant and I think we had a slight majority in favor, but it was by no means conclusive, we also asked questions that would be relevant to this in like how people felt about SFU safety measures. For that, a majority of students mentioned that they would prefer stricter COVID safety measures. So losing the sub wouldn't technically correlate positively to that. So, if you don't have any data or anything, this is at least something for counselors to look at and maybe get an indication as to where students heads are at.

9.1.4 Motion to Move In-Camera-MOTION COUNCIL 2022-01-19:15

Matthew/Ben

Be it resolved to go in-camera for the remainder of the meeting.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

- Discuss the preliminary results for the survey.

9.1.5 Motion to Move Ex-Camera-MOTION COUNCIL 2022-01-19:16

Gabe/Marie

Be it resolved to go ex-camera for the remainder of the meeting.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

9.1.6 Request to change date from February 14th to 18th for Student Union Building closure 2022-01-19:17

Gabe/Abhishek

CARRIED

In Favor (41): Gabe Liosis (President), Corbett Gildersleve (VP Internal and Organizational Development), Alman Phangura (VP Finance and Services), Serena Bains (VP University and Academic Affairs), Matthew Provost (VP External and Community Affairs), Marie Haddad (VP Equity and Sustainability), Jess Dela Cruz (VP Events and Student Affairs), Damon (Archeology), Tiana Andejlic (Bachelor of Environment), Aarthi Srinivasan (Behavioral Neuroscience), Nicolas Bonilla (Biology), Ashran Bharosha (Communications), Charlotte Taylor-Baer (Criminology), Sarah Raisuddin (Education), Chloe Homenuke (Environmental Science), Natasha Kearns (Geography), Eunice Kwok (Global Asia Studies), Jocelle Refol (Health Science), Jeremy Felix (Interactive Art and Technology), Yasmeeen El-Hariri (International Studies), Justin Chen (Labour Studies), Alev Maleki (Linguistics), Ryley McWilliams (Mechatronic), Avneet Kaur (Molecular Biology and Biochemistry), Graham Rich (Physics), Tiffany Liu (Psychology), Zaid Lari (Science Undergraduate Society), Akum Sidhu (Society of Arts and Social Science), Kayla Chow (Sociology and Anthropology), Jia So (Statistics), Keianna James (First Nations, Meits and Inuit Student Association), Quynh Chi Bui (International Student Advocates), Nim Basra (Women Centre Collective), Kashish Mehta (Biomedical Physiology and Kinesiology), Nicole Kirigin (Cognitive Science), Warren Ho Kin (Data Science), Kylee Pocrnich (French), Ashutish Dubal (Operations Research), Abhishek Parmar (Political Science), Shashank Thanalapati (Software Systems), Mohammad Al-Sheboul (Sustainable Energy)

Against (1): Ben Tischler (Mathematics)

**10 Minute-break taken at 7:42 PM*

9.2 APPOINTING AN ACTING VICE-PRESIDENT INTERNAL & ORGANIZATIONAL

DEVELOPMENT-MOTION COUNCIL 2022-01-19:18

SUBMITTED BY: President (Chair) “Gabe Liosis”

Gabe/Marie

Whereas Gabe Liosis, SFSS President, has announced his resignation for January 24th, 2022 at 5:00pm;

Whereas Bylaw 11.7.j has the VP Internal and Organizational Development “assume the duties and obligations of the President if the President is unwilling or unable to act, or in the event that the President position becomes vacant”;

Whereas By-Law 14.2.b.i. states that “Council may then appoint a temporary replacement to the [Office of the Vice President Internal & Organizational Development] from amongst the members of Council, other than members of the Executive Committee, to the Office of the Vice-President Internal and Organizational Development for such a period of time that the Vice-President Internal and Organizational Development is occupying the Office of the President.”

Be it resolved that Council appoints X as Acting Vice-President Internal & Organizational Development, starting January 24th, 2022 at 5:01pm, until April 30th, 2022.

Be it further resolved that Chloe be appointed as a signing officer, starting January 24th, 2022 at 5:01pm, until April 30th, 2022.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

- Three calls for nomination was called by the President:
Abhishek Parmar from Political Science Nominates Chloe from Environmental Science.

9.3 VACANCY: COUNCIL VICE CHAIRSHIP -MOTION COUNCIL 2022-01-19:19

SUBMITTED BY: President (Chair) “Gabe Liosis”

Shashank/Abhishek

Whereas, there is a vacancy in the Council Vice Chairship.

Whereas, the By-Laws state that "Council shall appoint a member of Council, other than a member of the Executive Committee to serve as Vice Chair of Council."

Be it resolved that Council appoint Abhishek Parmar as the Vice Chair of Council until April 30th, 2022.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

- Three calls for nomination was called by the President:
Abhishek Parmar from Political Science nominates himself

9.4 Referendum 2022 Questions - Council Endorsement -MOTION COUNCIL 2022-01-19:20

SUBMITTED BY: VP Internal & Organizational Development “Corbett Gildersleve”

Corbett/Abhishek

Whereas, on December 13th, 2021, the Executive Committee approved multiple motions to support and add multiple referendum questions to the list of Spring 2022 SFSS Referenda Questions;

Be it resolved that Council endorse and approve these referendum questions passed by the Executive Committee on December 13th, 2021:

- *SOCA Black Student Support Fund and DNA Disabled and Neuro Divergent Student Support Fund*
- *Question FNMISA Student Fund Increase*

- *Question Non-Binding Plebiscite on Society Projects*

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

9.5 Meeting time Extension-MOTION COUNCIL 2022-01-19:21

Gabe/Corbett

Be it resolved to extend the meeting until 9:30 pm.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

9.6 Flood Support Donation Drive Reallocation of Funds-MOTION COUNCIL 2022-01:19:22

SUBMITTED BY: VP External and Community Affairs “Matthew Provost”

Matthew/Jess

Whereas, the Flood Donation drive was extremely successful in the month of December 2021 in response to the Floods that affected many in the province of BC and lower mainland,

Whereas the Simon Fraser Student Society in collaboration with a broad range of departments within

SFU received and collected of just over 2000 physical items to support those affected by the BC Floods,

Whereas, a donation truck was filled with the physical items and delivered to Langley airport; and in collaboration with West Coast Pilots, the items were successfully delivered to remote communities,

Whereas, the amount of \$4000.00 was spent from the \$6000.00 donation from Council allocated to the purchase of physical items, leaving there to be \$2000.00 amount of money leftover,

Whereas, SFU partners has reallocated their leftover funds of \$1000.00 to be handled at the discretion of the SFSS, leaving a total of \$3000.00 remaining between the SFSS and SFU to be allocated through a monetary donation,

Be it resolved, the remaining funds of \$1000.00 will be donated to West Coast Pilots Club for the payment of their gas and travel expenses, and \$2000.00 will be donated to the First Nations Emergency Services Society.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

- Jess explained that they have some left-over money so once everyone regrouped after the holiday season we learned that the West Coast pilots actually spent \$93,000 in gas of their own from their own money. But they also receive \$50,000 in monetary donations and physical as well. So, part of the funding that we're going to give is to help pay for gas which is only \$1,000.

9.7 MOTION COUNCIL 2022-01-19:23

SUBMITTED BY: President (Chair) “Gabe Liosis”

Gabe/Jess

Be it resolved to appoint Abhishek and Jeremy, to the finance and administrative services committee.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

- Three calls for nomination was called by the President for the two seats open:

Abhishek Parmar from Political Science nominates himself and Jeremy from Interactive Art and Technology

10. REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES

10.1 Report from Executive Committee

- Postponed

10.2 Report from Executive Officers

- Postponed

11. DISCUSSION ITEM

11.1 Committee Meeting Update and Review

SUBMITTED BY: VP Internal and Organizational Development “Corbett Gildersleve”

BLURB: Discuss if Council members want to change committees and what is needed to get all of them meeting.

- Postponed

11.2 Exit Reports of Council Members

SUBMITTED BY: VP Finance and Services “Almas Phangura”

BLURB: The report must have a list of major projects done throughout the year and a short blurb about them to ensure accountability and better transparency.

- Postponed

12. NOTICE OF MOTION

12.1 AMENDMENTS TO SFSS PERSONNEL POLICIES REGARDING OFFICE CLOSURES AND BUILDING CLOSURES -MOTION COUNCIL 2022-01- 19:24

SUBMITTED BY: President (Chair) “Gabe Liosis”

Whereas, recent inclement weather events have demonstrated that SFSS Personnel Policy 1 (Office Closure) is inadequate and outdated.

Whereas, the Society needs robust and clear policies and processes regarding closure of spaces due to inclement weather or other reasons.

Whereas, the President, alongside Management, have drafted policy language for the consideration of Council regarding Office Closures and Building Closures.

Whereas, the Executive Committee, at its January 4th, 2022 meeting, recommended that Council pass the draft policy.

Be it resolved that Council approve the amendments to SFSS Personnel Policy 1 (Office Closure)

Be it further resolved that Council approve establishing the new SFSS Personnel Policy (Building Closure), designating it as SFSS Personnel Policy 2, and renumbering subsequent Personnel Policies as required.

- Postponed

13. 30 MINUTES Q&A

14. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- 14.1 **President Gabe Liosis Resignation Takes Effect January 24th, 2022, at 5pm.**
- 14.2 **[Event] Simon Fraser Student Society (SFSS) COVID-19 Press Conference; January 21st, 2022, via Zoom.**
- 14.3 **[Leave of Absence Notification] VP Equity & Sustainability, January 1st-13th, COVID-19 with intense symptoms, Paid**
- 14.4 **[Leave of Absence Notification] VP Internal & Organizational Development, December 27-31, Personal Mental Health, Paid**
- 14.5 **Vacancy, HR & Personnel Sub-Committee, Council Seat. Reach out to the President if you are interested in filling this seat.**

15. ATTACHMENT

- 15.1 **Briefing Note_Spring 2022 Referendum – Dedicated Fees for Equity Support**
- 15.2 **Official Resignation Letter**
- 15.3 **Proposal - Personnel Policies_ Closures**

16. ADJOURNMENT

- 16.1 **MOTION COUNCIL 2022-19-01:25**
Matthew/Ben
Be it resolved to adjourn the meeting at 8:53pm
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Briefing Note: Spring 2022

Referendum - Dedicated Fees for Equity Support

Author: VP Internal and Organizational Development

ISSUE

The SFSS has two dedicated fees that provide equity support, the Accessibility Fund fee (to support removing barriers for SFSS members to attend events and classes) and the First Nations Student Fund fee (to support Indigenous SFSS members and the FNMISA). With the creation and recognition of additional constituency groups on Council, it makes sense to develop dedicated funds for these groups to pay for programming and operating costs to support the constituencies they represent. To do this, we need to create dedicated fees through a referendum.

BACKGROUND

Fees and Referendums

SFSS Fees can only be created, removed, or changed through referendums as required by the University Act. As such, we usually have referendums in the fall or spring term. Looking at the SFSS's referendum history, students have more often agreed to create or increase fees when they are dedicated to a specific improvement (club grants) vs. a general increase (SFSS membership fee).

It's hard to know if the failed referendums were due to the political environment at the time, the quality and effort of the campaign, or if students prefer to vote for something concrete. For instance, in 2005, the SFSS requested both a general increase in the student activity fee of \$0.65/FT/term and \$0.33/PT/term (which narrowly failed), the creation of the Accessibility Fund and a U-Pass Fee increase (which both solidly passed). Either way, I recommend asking for dedicated fees for specific groups vs. a general fee increase as they seem to be more successful historically.

Dedicated Vs. General Funding

General Funding in this case is defined as student fees that go into or come from the General/Operating Fund as listed in the SFSS audited financial statements. Our General Fund covers the vast majority of the SFSS's operations and programming costs. Operations

costs include everything from insurance, office, staffing, finance, software, and many other areas that let the SFSS carry out its mission. Programming costs can include member services, grants, events, bursaries, and other items that benefit students. Because the majority of costs for the SFSS (outside of the SUB) is covered by the SFSS membership fee in the General Fund, everything competes for the same pool of funds. Last year we saw a sizable increase in overall insurance costs due to the pandemic, which means we had less money available for hiring staff or to go towards programming.

Dedicated Funds are separate from the General Fund and can only be used for specific purposes. They're created through referendums if worded as a new fee. The strength of a dedicated fund is that any unused surplus funds are kept in that dedicated fund from year-to-year. It also provides stable revenue for whatever programming or operational cost it's covering. The weakness of a dedicated fund is that you can only spend the money on what the referendum question said. If you write the wording badly, then you might not be able to spend it on the things you want. So, if you need some flexibility you need to write that into the referendum question.

The SFSS has a number of dedicated funds such as the Space Expansion Fund, Health and Dental Plan Fund, Accessibility Fund, First Nations Student Fund, and the Build SFU Fund.

FNSA Funding

The SFSS created their first dedicated fee for equity support in 2002 when it passed through referendum a \$0.75/FT/term and \$0.38/PT/term to fund the First Nations Student Association. The fund that collects this is listed in the SFSS audited financial statements as the First Nations Student Fund. The referendum question below:

Whereas the FNSA currently receives no funding from the SFU administration or SFSS;
Whereas only 6.3% of aboriginal persons enroll in post-secondary education as compared to 11.8% of the general population (Statistics Canada, 1998-1999);
Whereas it is vital for peer-based services to be available that recognizes the cultural perspective and position of aboriginal students;

Do you support funding SFU First Nations Student Association at a cost of \$0.75 per full time student per semester for the purposes of community building, cultural awareness and support services? This will increase the Student Activity Fee by \$0.75 per full time student per semester.

This fee hasn't changed in 20 years and should be increased to help support the increased cost in programming due to inflation as well as helping to cover the coordinator and office costs. This would make the group more self-sufficient and free up funds in the General/Operating Fund that currently pays for HR costs. This fund's spending is under the control of the First Nations Student Association (now renamed the First Nations, Metis, and Inuit Student Association).

Accessibility Funding

The Accessibility Fund was created in 2005 through a referendum. It was developed to make campus activities/events accessible to students with disabilities. The fee is \$0.75/FT/term and \$0.38/PT/term and hasn't changed in 17 years. The referendum question below:

Whereas there is currently no funding available from the SFU administration or the SFSS to make campus activities/events accessible to students with disabilities,

Whereas it is imperative that students with disabilities are not excluded from taking an active part on campus life,

Whereas 42% of students with disabilities' accessibility needs are unmet in post-secondary schools (Statistics Canada: Participation and Activity Limitation Survey, 2001)

Do you support establishing an accessibility fund at a cost of \$0.75 per full time student per semester for the purposes of increasing the accessibility of (and removing barriers to participation in) campus activities and events for students with disabilities? This will increase the Student Activity Fee by \$0.75 per full time student per semester.

This fund's spending is under the control of the SFSS Accessibility Committee. It has traditionally been underutilized due to a previously confusing and restrictive granting process and poor advertising to disabled students. There have been changes made to better utilize the fund including improving the granting form, the Disability and Neurodiversity Alliance being formed to advocate, disabled students (including DNA members) sitting on the committee, hiring an accessibility assistant, and exploring using some of the funds for an accessibility bursary. As such, it's not recommended to increase this fee at this time.

New and Increasing Dedicated Funding Requests

As part of the outreach conducted by myself in the fall term as it relates to the spring referendum, I contacted DNA and SOCA asking if they were interested in creating new dedicated fees. I also reached out to FNMISA asking if they would be interested in increasing the First Nations Student Fund fee. After speaking with representatives from each group and talking about the referendum process, campaign needs, what the funds could be used for, and how much revenue certain fee amounts would generate, they were all interested and had capacity to help run a referendum campaign.

FNMISA proposed an increase of \$0.75/FT/term and \$0.37/PT/term to double their current fee. SOCA and DNA agreed to do a joint referendum campaign to request two separate fees of \$1.00/FT/term and \$0.50/PT/term for each group. This is why there is one referendum question for both SOCA and DNA. As this was decided after the Council meeting on Dec. 1st, 2021, the Executive Committee met on Dec. 13th, 2021 and passed motions to submit the questions for the Spring 2022 Referendum.

The spending of each fee would be under the control of the respective constituency group. It would go towards programming to support their constituency's needs. The amounts are too low at the moment to cover all HR and office costs, and I strongly encourage future Councils

to run referendum campaigns to bridge that gap. This would allow the constituency groups to be self-sufficient and would free up funds in the General/Operating Fund to be used in other ways.

REVENUE ESTIMATES

Fee Revenue

The SFSS has around 26,000 members it represents each year. The SFSS Activity Fee ,which includes the SFSS membership fee, Build SFU fee, Space Expansion Fund fee, and others, is charged each term. Additionally, the fee amount is charged differently based on if you are full-time (4+ credits) or part-time (3 or less credits). Not all SFSS members take classes each term, nor the same amount of classes. Taking headcounts from SFU reports for each term, sorted by credit thresholds, and you get a \$1/FT/term and \$0.50/PT/term fee generating around \$65,000/year in revenue.

First Nations, Metis, and Inuit Student Association: Increase of around \$55,000/year
Students of Caribbean and African Ancestry: Increase of around \$65,000/year
Disability and Neurodiversity Alliance: Increase of around \$65,000/year

KEY CONSIDERATIONS

It's important for these constituency groups to have control over the budgeting and spending of these funds and are supported by the SFSS Finance Office. These groups have a better idea on what their membership needs are. It's the same concept as student union's having control over their core funding. It also gives these student leaders the opportunity to develop skills around budgeting, membership consultation, service/programming development, etc.

Creating Dedicated Funds for Constituency Groups, allows for these groups to be more self-sufficient and helps meet their members specific needs.

The SFSS's Letter of Agreements with FNMISA, SOCA, and DNA have provisions in them that lays out how a dedicated fee would be handled, role of the Finance Office, signing officers, and other procedural items. As such, the SFSS is in a good position to easily implement the fund if the relevant referendum passes.

The SFSS has three relevant Issues Policies SFSS supports disability justice (IP-4), Indigenous inclusion and reconciliation (IP-7), and anti-racism (IP-8). The policies support multiple actions including but not limited to equitable education, access to funding and resources, and eliminating barriers for Indigenous, Black, Disabled, and People of Color. The missions for FNMISA, SOCA, and DNA fit within the goals of these policies and providing them access to stable funding through dedicated fees is important in fulfilling these policies and the goals of the SFSS.

RECOMMENDATIONS

General Recommendation

Recommend Council endorse and approve of the referendum questions submitted by the Executive Committee.

Future Dedicated Funding Recommendations

I believe it would be beneficial for the SFSS to develop more dedicated funds over the next few years so that each major service and support has based funding approved by students. Some examples would be to develop funding for the other three constituency groups (Women's Center Collective, Out on Campus Collective, and International Student Advocates). Other examples would be a dedicated fund for core and grant funds for student groups like student unions, clubs, and constituency groups. That's our largest member services program and it would be good to have base stable funding for it. However, because it's a large program (costing around \$10/FT/term and \$5/PT/term in student fees), it should be part of a separate referendum.

Our bylaws allow for Faculty Student Unions to have dedicated fees. The referendum and fee is a little different (only members of that FSU vote on the creation of and are charged that fee), so revenue estimation is quite different and a bit more challenging to determine. Additionally some policies need to be created/fleshed out as the SFSS has allowed for FSU fees since 2013 but have not yet implemented any.

MEDIA AND COMMUNICATION

Communications would be part of the SFSS 2022 Spring Referendum campaign. Council members help in sharing that communication and encouraging members to vote 'Yes' would be helpful.

MOTION

Whereas, on December 13th, 2021, the Executive Committee approved multiple motions to support and add multiple referendum questions to the list of Spring 2022 SFSS Referenda Questions;

Be it resolved that Council endorse and approve these referendum questions passed by the Executive Committee on December 13th, 2021:

SOCA Black Student Support Fund and DNA Disabled and Neuro divergent Student Support Fund Question

FNMISA Student Fund Increase Question

Non-Binding Plebiscite on Society Projects

APPENDIX

[SFSS Referendum History 2020 Report](#)



Gabe Liosis
President
Executive Committee

SUB 3100
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Dear Simon Fraser Student Society Membership,

This letter serves as my notice that effective January 24th, 2022, at 5pm, I will be resigning as Simon Fraser Student Society President.

Serving as an Executive, first as Vice-President University Relations on the 2020-21 Executive Committee, and then as President on the 2021-22 Executive Committee, has been the greatest honour of my life. This experience has been like none other than I have ever had the privilege of experiencing. Engaging in activism and advocacy on behalf of 25,000+ students and influencing change at the highest levels of this University, and beyond, is extremely rewarding. Activism has always held a special place in my life – to know that my voice, energy, and time can contribute to changing systems to benefit people within the community.

But in the face of these wonderful experiences, this job has also presented many challenges for me personally that I want to share with you openly which has led to my resignation .

My journey with the Simon Fraser Student Society started in Spring 2020, as the COVID-19 pandemic was entering our lives. As the world was grappling with these unprecedented times, I – like many people my age were – began to grapple with deep mental health challenges associated with social isolation and burnout, which worsened over the next 21 months.

What I am experiencing is severe anxiety and depression. Anxiety has always been something I have battled, as an introvert and generally a person who sets high standards for themselves. However, it became increasingly unbearable over the last two years, not only because of the pandemic, but performing an incredibly difficult job on top of that. My anxiety has become particularly bad since returning to campus for in-person learning in September 2021.

I have done everything in my power to address my mental health challenges, while maintaining my position. But when you decide to run for President of a student society, you take on a big responsibility. You are required to be highly accessible and responsive to members, Council, staff, and SFU at all hours of the day. That alone can be quite difficult for someone who is an introvert, where social interactions can be draining. You also bear the burden of representing and advocating for your friends, your peers, and marginalized communities – you are expected to perform your best as anything less will result in harm to those people and groups.



Gabe Liosis
President
Executive Committee

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It is safe to say that I have not prioritized my mental health in the way that it needs to be prioritized. I believe that staying in this position will only do further harm to myself and exacerbate the existing issue, and furthermore, it will harm others if I am unable to provide the support that is required of me in my role.

I care deeply about this Society and its members, and the steps we must take to make it better. During my nearly three years with the Simon Fraser Student Society, in varying positions, I have worked hard with others to reform and rebuild the Society for it to work better for its Membership. Right now, I do not believe I can be the person to lead the charge in moving the Society in the direction that it needs.

This was a hard decision for me to make; I grappled with this for a long time. But I do not, and will not, regret taking any actions I deem necessary to protect my mental health, even if it means stepping away from a job that I love with immense passion.

As per By-Law 14, once my resignation takes effect, Vice-President Internal & Organizational Development Corbett Gildersleve will serve as Acting President until May 1st, 2022.

During this interim period, where Corbett is Acting President, Council will appoint a Councillor as Acting Vice-President Internal & Organizational Development, who will serve in that role, until May 1st, 2022.

I am deeply appreciative and grateful to the people who have always, and continue, to support me in the work that I do, and provide me with love, guidance, and friendship. I would never have made it to where I am now, if not for the amazing people that I am surrounded by every day.

In solidarity and a heart full of gratitude,

Gabe Liosis

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Gabe Liosis". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

President, *Simon Fraser Student Society*, May 2021 – January 2022

PP-1: OFFICE CLOSURE

Policy

Employees will not suffer a loss of pay if the Simon Fraser Student Society closes due to inclement weather or other circumstances.

Definitions

“Office Closure” means that the SFSS operation is closed entirely, and that the Office closure is treated as an Office Holiday.

“Office Holiday” means a day off with pay.

Process

The President shall be responsible, with a recommendation from the Operations Organizer, for declaring an Office Closure due to inclement weather.

In the event of inclement weather an employee who is unable to attend work, or who feels that it would be unsafe to attempt to attend work, will receive no pay for that day, unless specifically instructed by the Operations Organizer or their designate to not attend work.

In the event that an employee is at work and requests to leave early because of inclement weather and is allowed to leave work early, they will be paid only for the hours they actually worked that day. In the event an employee is instructed by the Operations Organizer or their designate to leave work early because of inclement weather, the employee will be paid for the balance of hours they were scheduled to work.

If the ~~Operations Organizer or delegate closes the~~ Society closes due to inclement weather or other circumstances, employees will not be expected to work and will not suffer any loss of pay. If circumstances require that the SFSS remain closed beyond 24 hours, the Operations Organizer will review the possibility of layoffs, seeking approval from the Executive committee for any such layoff.

If an employee requests or is directed to work remotely due to inclement weather, and an Office Closure has not been declared, they will receive pay for that day.

PP-X: BUILDING CLOSURE

DEFINITIONS

“Building Closure” means the closure of the Student Union Building, but isn’t an Office Holiday or Office Closure. This definition does not include spaces managed or leased by the Society at the SFU Surrey, Vancouver campuses, or elsewhere.

“Space Closure” means the closure of any Society space that is not the Student Union Building. This includes the SFSS’s space in SFU Surrey and SFU Vancouver.

PROCESS

The President shall be responsible, with a recommendation from the Operations Organizer and/or the Building Manager, for declaring a Building Closure or any Space Closures.

Building Closure

If a Building Closure is declared, employees will be directed to conduct their shifts remotely.

If a Building Closure has not been declared due to inclement weather, and a staff member chooses to stay home or end their shift in the Student Union Building early, staff will be directed to complete the remainder of their shift remotely, where possible.

Space Closure

If a Space Closure is declared at any Society space, employees there may be directed to conduct their shifts remotely.