

## 1. CALL TO ORDER

Call to Order – 4:36 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), S<sup>k</sup>w̓xwú7mesh Úxwumixw (Squamish), Selílwitulh (Tsleil-Waututh), k<sup>w</sup>ik<sup>w</sup>əłəm (Kwkwetlem) and qícəy̓ (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 .....	Vacant
Archeology .....	Damon Tarrant
Art, Performance, and Cinema Studies .....	Vacant
Asia Canada Studies .....	Vacant
Bachelor of Environment .....	Tiana Andjelic
Behavioral Neuroscience .....	Aarthi Srinivasan
Biology.....	Nicolas Bonilla
Biomedical Physiology & Kinesiology.....	Gurleen Grewal
Business.....	Vacant
Chemistry .....	Vacant
Cognitive Science .....	Aaron Fung
Communications .....	Alan Ropke
Computing Science.....	Shariq Ahsan
Criminology .....	Ava Wood

Dance .....	Vacant
Data Science Student Union.....	Vadym Shakhraichuk
Earth Science .....	Eden Lien
Economics .....	Rafid Rahman
Education .....	Christine Yoo
Engineering Science .....	Liam Feng
English Councillor .....	Gabe Liosis
Environmental Science .....	Chloe Homenuke
Faculty of Applied Science .....	Vacant
Faculty of Communication, Art and Technology .....	Rastko Koprivica
Faculty of Environment Event .....	Vacant
Film Student Union .....	Rio Huenemann
Fine and Performing Arts .....	Vacant
French .....	Ethan Dungey
Gender, Sexuality, and Women’s Studies .....	Simran Basra
Geography.....	Natasha Kearns
Gerontology Student Union .....	Vacant
Global Asia Studies Student Union.....	Vacant
Health Science.....	Priyanka Dhesa
History.....	Matthew Reed
Humanities .....	Vacant
Indigenous Studies Student Union .....	Anita Shen
Interactive Arts and Technology .....	Jung-yeon Lee
International Studies Student Association .....	Sude Guvendik
Labour Studies.....	Vacant
Latin American Studies.....	Vacant
Linguistics.....	Alev Maleki
Mathematics .....	Ben Tischler
Mechatronics System Engineering.....	Ryley McWilliams
Molecular Biology & Biochemistry .....	Vacant

Music Student Union.....	Vacant
Operations Research.....	Vacant
Performing Arts.....	Vacant
Philosophy.....	Ashley Flett
Physics.....	Daniel Alder
Political Science.....	Brydan Denis
Psychology.....	Mark Giles
Public Policy.....	Vacant
Science Undergraduate Society.....	Ayooluwa Adigun
Semester in Dialogue.....	Vacant
Society of Arts and Social Sciences.....	Hilary Tsui
Sociology and Anthropology.....	Arthur Lee
Software Systems.....	Gurmehar Singh
Statistics and Actuarial Science (SASSA).....	David Tael Ahn
Sustainable Community Development.....	Vacant
Sustainable Energy Engineering Student Society.....	Mohammad Al-Sheboul
Theatre Student Union.....	Vacant
Visual Arts.....	Vacant
World Languages and Literature.....	Raghava Payment

**Constituency Group Representatives**

Disability and Neurodiversity Alliance.....	Vivian Ly
First Nations, Métis & Inuit Student Association.....	Keianna James
International Student Advocates.....	Vacant
Out on Campus Collective.....	Vacant
Students of Caribbean & African Ancestry.....	Linda Chobang
Women Centre Collective.....	Nim Basra

**Affiliated Student Groups**

Residence Hall’s Association (RHA).....	Emmanuel Adegboyega
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Student Athlete Advisory Committee (SAAC) ..... Vacant

**SFSS Executive Committee**

President (Chair) ..... Helen Sofia Pahou  
 VP Internal and Organizational Development..... Judit Nagy  
 VP Finance and Services ..... Abhishek Parmar  
 VP University and Academic Affairs ..... Nicole Kirigin  
 VP External and Community Affairs ..... Eshana Baran  
 VP Equity and Sustainability..... Rea Chatterjee  
 VP Events and Student Affairs..... Vaibhav Arora

**3.2 Society Staff**

Operations Organizer ..... Ayesha Khan  
 Board Organizer ..... Emmanuela Droko  
 Policy, Research, Community Affairs Coordinator ..... Beaty Omboga  
 Administrative Assistant ..... Simar Thukral  
 Building Manager ..... John Walsh

**3.3 Regrets**

Mechatronics System Engineering ..... Ryley McWilliams  
 Faculty of Communication, Art, and Technology ..... Rastko Koprivicia  
 Statistics and Actuarial Science ..... David Taeil Ahn

**3.4 Guests**

SFU Radius..... Yara  
 SFU Radius..... Nada Elmasry

**3.5 Absents**

Engineering Science ..... Liam Feng  
 Environmental Science..... Chloe Homenuke

English Student Union.....	Gabe Liosis
International Studies Student Association .....	Sude Guvendik
Political Science.....	Brydan Denis
Psychology Student Union .....	Mark Giles
Sustainable Energy Engineering Student Society .....	Mohammad Al-Sheboul
First Nations, Métis & Inuit Student Association .....	Keianna James
Residence Hall’s Association (RHA) .....	Emmanuel Adegboyega

## **4. CONSENT AGENDA**

### **4.1 CONSENT AGENDA**

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

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

#### **4.1.1. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES-Committee Minutes-MOTION COUNCIL 2022-07-06:01**

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

- ECAC 2022-06-14

#### **4.1.2. RATIFICATION OF REGRETS-MOTION COUNCIL 2022-07-06:02 SUBMITTED BY: VP Internal and Organizational Development “Judith Nagy”**

Be it resolved to ratify regrets from Mechatronic Systems Engineering Councillor “Ryley McWilliams”, Faculty of Communication, Art, and Technology Councillor “Rastko Koprivicia”, and Statistics and Actuarial Science Councillor “David Taeil Ahn” for the July 6<sup>th</sup> Council Meeting.

Be it further resolved to ratify regrets from VP University and Academic Affairs “Nicole Kirigin” English Councillor “Gabe Liosis”, and Linguistic Councillor “Alev Maleki” from the June 22<sup>nd</sup> Council Meeting.

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

### **5.1 MOTION COUNCIL 2022-07-06:03**

**Anita / Ben**

Be it resolved to adopt the agenda as presented.

#### **CARRIED AS AMENDED**

- Mathematics Councilor moved to strike 8.2.
- Mathematics Councilor moved to include new business item 9.1
- Mathematics Councilor moved to strike in-camera discussion title “Contract Negotiations” and replace it with “Review of Public Report” and “CCBC Report”.
- Mathematics Councilor moved to reorder In-Camera item to be 9 and move Ex-Camera item 10 before New Business.
- DNA Councilor moved to include discussion item 10.5.
- Women Centre Collective Councilor moved to include discussion item 10.6.
- Indigenous Student Union Councilor moved to reorder discussion item 12.5 to 12.4.

## **6. PRESENTATION**

### **6.1 Fall Street Fest**

**SUBMITTED BY:** VP Events and Student Affairs “Vaibhav Arora”

#### **ATTACHMENT:**

- VP Events mentioned the before COVID-19, the street fest used to occur every summer semester.
- They are planning to collaborate with SFU this time.
- They would have food vendors, clothing vendors, and any other groups who would like to sell anything.
- SFSS would offer performances and would provide space to the clubs who would like to exhibit their talents.

### **6.2 SFU Radius Refugee Livelihood Lab**

**SUBMITTED BY:** VP Equity and Sustainability “Rea Chatterjee”

**ATTACHMENT:** Refugee Claimants Accessing Higher Education Debrief – June 6<sup>th</sup> Draft.pdf

- Radius refugee livelihood lab is within the Beedie School of Business and

- are non for profit based.
- A Refugee Claimant is a person who has applied for refugee protection status while in Canada and is waiting for a decision on his/her/their claim from the Immigration and Refugee Board of Canada.
  - Refugee claimant students face multiple barriers to higher education such as reduced completion rates and substantial stress.
  - One of the toughest barriers is one that universities have control over: classifying refugee claimants as international students.
  - But, guidelines issues by the BC Ministry of Advanced Education and Skills Training describe allowable exceptions to international student classification, including explicitly that “refugee claimants who have yet to be determined convention refugees are eligible or considered to be domestic students”.
  - The two problems that they currently face is the “longer waiting time” for the decision from IRB and the “international student fees” that they have to incur as they wait for the decision.
  - They expressed that this is a matter of an internal policy change within the SFU. SFU provides convention refugees with access to domestic tuition rates, but excludes refugee’s claimants from domestic tuition exceptions without any explanation.
  - By charging domestic rates for refugee claimant students, SFU would be the first University in BC to remove a systemic barrier to access for refugee students.
  - SFU would be acting on commitments to advancing EDI, specifically, in around affordability and “developing initiatives and partnerships to help increase accessibility”, and to enhance inclusion or equity-deserving groups.
  - They would like to ask SFU to amend its policy and include refugee claimants in the category of those eligible for domestic tuition fees.
  - They would like to request SFSS for their support in the form of endorsement to raise awareness i.e. posts in SFSS social media to be able to reach wider audience.

## **7. OLD BUSINESS**

### **7.1 Vancouver Campus Committee Elections –Motion COUNCIL 2022-07-06:04**

**SUBMITTED BY:** VP Internal and Organizational Development “Judit Nagy”

**Helen / Abhishek**

Be it resolved to elect Councillor(s) Nicole Kirigin and Judit Nagy to serve on the Vancouver Campus Committee for the council terms of 2022-2023.

#### **CARRIED AS AMENDED**

- Three calls for nomination were called by the chair.
- VP University and Academic Affairs nominated themselves.
- VP Internal nominated themselves.

## **8. Report from Committees**

### **8.1 Executive Committee Report**

- President:
  - SFSS / GSS Executive reception at Joy Johnson’s residence.
  - Meeting with red bull.
  - Meeting with Student Care.
  - JHSC meeting.
  - Signed peak lease agreement.
  - Staff check-in.
  - Administrative work.
- VP Internal and Organizational Development:
  - Sponsor meeting.
  - Staff check-in’s.
  - Member’s meeting planning committee.
  - Governance committee.
  - Nominations committee.
  - Dev sessions schedule finalization.
  - Student Care strategy meeting.
  - Orientation feedback.
  - Policy Review and Notices.
  - Staff meeting structure WG.



- Bridging for the future WG.
- Cheque requisition and other administrative tasks.
- Assisting with auditing.
- Notice of motion section on the website.
  
- VP Finance :
  - Meeting with auditors and relevant stakeholders such as FIC.
  - AVP Finance search committee.
  - SFSS/GSS reception.
  - Alliance of BC Students meeting and tour.
  - Meeting with various student groups.
  - Governance committee.
  - Meeting with Student Care.
  - Reviewed Council work reports.
  - Administrative work such as bank requisition, payroll, and emails.
  
- VP University and Academic Affairs :
  - Strategic Planning: University and Academic Affairs Committee.
  - AVP University and Academic Affairs Search Committee.
  - Meetings with university administrators.
  - Formation of the VP UAA Annual Plan.
  - Formation of the Internal Communications Working Group (Executive Committee & Council).
  - Formation of the Bridging for the Future Initiative Working Group (Arthur Lee Leading).
  - Meetings with Various Student Groups.
  - Investigation of accessibility concerns at the university.
  - Project: Investigation of optimal student communications and policy limitations.
  - Project: low-barrier meet-and-greets on campus for student engagement.
  - Project: Regular office hours for student engagement.
  - SFSS/GSS Executive reception at Joy Johnson's residence.
  - Administrative work.

- VP External and Community Affairs:
  - Meeting with City of Vancouver Councilors.
  - Preparation for the Water drive.
  - The Migrant Students United town hall to eliminate the International student fees.
  - SFSS / GSS Executive reception.
  - Meeting with the BC Federation of Students.
  - Meeting and walkthrough of SUB Ballroom with folks who want to host a blood drive.
  - Student Societies consultation – Societies Act meeting.
  - ECA updates.
  - No Cops on Campus meeting.
  - Weekly meetings with MSU.
  - ECA committee meeting.
  - Working towards presentation for Council.
  - Meeting with SFU on the Provincial funding review.
  - Monthly meeting with other student societies (AMS +UVSS).
  - Meeting with Alliance of BC Students.
  - Attended the Tran slink roundtable in Maple Ridge.
  - Contract Workers rally.
  - Meeting with Erin Biddlecombe.
  - Meeting with SFU Campus Sustainability Manager.
  - Attended Council development session.
  - VP External and AVP External check-in meetings.
  
- VP Equity and Sustainability:
  - MSU Town hall.
  - MSU meetings.
  - FNMISA X Embark x Hi-Five nature walk planning.
  - Student Services Equity Director role hiring.
  - No Cops on Campus.
  - Temporary accessibility staff role shift.
  - ABCS X SFSS meeting in the SUB.

- Meeting with Rita Steele from SFU Sustainability.
  - Anti-O and Equitable Governance Development session.
  - CG Portal.
  - TSSU X CWJ workers united rally at BOG meeting.
  - Worked towards setting up committees.
- VP Events and Student Affairs:
    - Hosted Summer Fest Burnaby on June 22<sup>nd</sup> and June 29<sup>th</sup>.
    - Planning and preparing for movie night event on July 27<sup>th</sup> in Burnaby and on July 26<sup>th</sup> at Surrey Campus.
    - Planning and preparing for paint night on July 20<sup>th</sup>.
    - Professional photo shoot on July 14<sup>th</sup>.
    - Attended SFSS/GSS reception at SFU President's place.
    - Community Vibrancy planning committee.
    - SFSS X Red bull.
    - Events committee set-up.

## **9. IN-CAMERA**

### **9.1 MOTION COUNCIL 2022-07-06:05**

**Abhishek / Nicole**

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

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

- Review of Public Report.
- CCBC Report

## **10. EX-CAMERA**

### **10.1 MOTION COUNCIL 2022-07-06:06**

**Ben / Ayooluwa**

Be it resolved to go ex-camera.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

## **11. NEW BUSINESS**

### **11.1 CCBC – MOTION COUNCIL 2022-07-06:07**

**SUBMITTED BY:** Mathematics Councilor “Ben Tischler”

**Ethan / Matthew**

Whereas the CCBC has presented to Council In-Camera about evidence that it has received;

Whereas concerns about the CCBC’s transparency have been raised by members of Council;

Be it resolved to authorize CCBC to continue all currently ongoing investigations.

Be it further resolved to task the Governance Committee with developing an amendment to policy that would make the CCBC only able to begin future investigations upon the recommendation of Council, or another committee.

**CARRIED**

**In Favor (36):** Archeology, Bachelor of Environment, Behavioral Neuroscience, Biology, BPK, Cognitive Science, Communications, Computing Science, Criminology, Data Science, Earth Science, Education, French, Film, GSWS, Geography, History, Health Science, IAT, Linguistics, Mathematics, Philosophy, Physics, Psychology, Society of Arts and Social Sciences, Science Undergraduate Society, Sociology and Anthropology, Software Systems, World Languages and Literature, SOCA, Women’s Centre, President, VP Internal, VP Finance, VP University, VP Events

**Against (1):** Indigenous Studies.

**Abstentions (0)**

*\* English Councillor left the meeting at 6:45 PM*

*\* Disability and Neurodiversity Alliance left the meeting at 6:45 PM*

*\* VP Equity and Sustainability left the meeting at 6:45 PM*

*\* VP External and Community Affairs left the meeting at 6:45 PM*

### **11.1.1 Amendment to the Motion - MOTION COUNCIL 2022-07-06:08**

**Ethan / Ayooluwa**

Let it be further resolved that Council shall replace members of the Council Committee on Breaches of Confidence whenever Council believes by, simple

majority vote and with appropriate legal advice, members of the Council Committee on Breaches of Confidence are in a potential conflict of interest.

**NOT CARRIED**

**In Favor (2):** Behavioral Neuroscience, French.

**Against (35):** Archeology, Bachelor of Environment, Biology, BPK, Cognitive Science, Communications, Computing Science, Criminology, Data Science, Earth Science, Education, Film, GSWS, Geography, History, Health Science, Indigenous Studies, IAT, Linguistics, Mathematics, Philosophy, Physics, Psychology, Society of Arts and Social Sciences, Science Undergraduate Society, Sociology and Anthropology, Software Systems, World Languages and Literature, SOCA, Women's Centre, President, VP Internal, VP Finance, VP University, VP Events.

**Abstentions (0)**

- Based on the discussions that occurred earlier, Mathematics Councilor spoke in favor of this motion.
- Indigenous Student Union Councilor expressed that it could become very political and there can be different stances where it could be "us vs them" and lead to clicky dynamic between folks. They also mentioned that they are not very knowledgeable about this as they are new to Council.
- Science Undergraduate Society Councilor in response to ISU councilor expressed that the situation has gone beyond that and it is more than appropriate to let the committee who has the resources available to do its work properly.
- French Councilor moved to include amendment to the motion.
- VP Finance strongly spoke against the amendment raised by French Councilor.
- Mathematic councilor spoke against the amendment brought up by the French Councilor.

**11.2 Move to Call the Question on the amendment - MOTION COUNCIL 2022-07-06:09**

**Ben / Vaibhav**

**CARRIED**

**In Favor (33) :** Archeology, Behavioral Neuroscience, Biology, BPK, Cognitive Science, Communications, Computing Science, Criminology, Data Science, GSWS,

Geography, Health Science, Bachelor of Environment, History, Film Student Union, Interactive Arts, and Technology, Linguistics, Mathematics, Philosophy, Physics, Psychology, Society of Arts and Social Sciences, Science Undergraduate Society, Sociology and Anthropology, Software Systems, World Languages and Literature, SOCA, Women's Centre, President, VP Internal, VP Finance, VP University, VP Events.

**Against (4):** Earth Science, Education, French, Indigenous Student Union.

**Abstentions (0)**

**11.3 Moved to Call the question - MOTION COUNCIL 2022-07-06:10**

**Ben / Judit**

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

*\* 4 minutes break taken at 7:16 PM.*

**11.4 Acceptance of Resignation –MOTION COUNCIL 2022-07-06:11**

**SUBMITTED BY:** VP Internal and Organizational Development “Judit Nagy”

**Aaron / Ethan**

Be it resolved to accept the resignation of the Environmental Science Councillor “Chloe Homenuke”.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**11.5 Budget Approval for Fall Street Fest for \$10,000 –MOTION COUNCIL 2022-07-06:12**

**SUBMITTED BY:** VP Events and Student Affairs “Vaibhav Arora”

**Vaibhav / Aaron**

Whereas, Street Fest was a major event in the past prior to COVID;

Whereas, thousands of students attended this event the last time this was held;

Whereas, the budget for this event is above \$50000 and SFU is putting in more than \$30000;

Whereas, SFSS is equal in partnership for the event and offering support in terms

of clubs' participation;

Be it resolved, that \$10000 to be approved for the Fall Street Fest.

Be it further resolved, that the budget to be taken from the line item 816/20 Large-Scale Events.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

- VP Events expressed that this is one of the biggest event of the year.
- SFSS would have 50% partnership with SFU and they as SFSS would be putting in 20% of funds.
- This event would help enhancing relationship with the Ancillary Services.

**11.6 Computing Science Student Society Space Expansion Fund -MOTION  
COUNCIL 2022-07-06:13**

**SUBMITTED BY:** Computing Science Councillor “Shariq Ahsan”

**ATTACHMENT:** CSSS Furnishings Proposal Briefing Note.pdf

**Ayooluwa / Ethan**

Whereas the space expansion fund has roughly \$580,000 in unspent funds and collects around \$350,000 in student levies;

Whereas the fund has been used to furnish student group spaces in the last year;

Whereas this fund is meant to be used to furnish student spaces around campus;

Whereas the CSSS common room has not seen any significant furnishings;

Be it resolved that Council approves the spending of up to \$14,000 CAD for basic furnishing expenses for the Computing Science Student Society from the space expansion fund.

Be it further resolved that John Walsh will help oversee the purchase, implementation and removal of all furniture from the room.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

- Computing Science Councillor expressed that space expansion fund has

been used last year to furnish spaces. It was used to furnish SASS common rooms, and groups such as DNA, SOCA, prayer room, WC, and FNMISA.

They expressed that last year in September it was stated by the previous VP Internal and Organizational Development that this fund would be available for student unions to obtain items for their common rooms. The mentioned that this was done in consultation with the Building Manager to have different tiers of furnishing.

- VP Internal spoke in favor of this motion and expressed that any funding for the welfare of students would be beneficial so spaces can have a balance between longer term and comfortability.
- Mathematics Councillor spoke in favor of this motion and expressed that the space expansion fund is used to furnish student spaces and this fund will be used in doing that.

### **11.7 Formation of SFSS Natural Disaster Response Working Group -MOTION COUNCIL 2022-07-06:14**

**SUBMITTED BY:** President “Helen Sofia Pahou”

**Abhishek / Arthur**

Whereas 1,168 forest fires have occurred in British Columbia since April of 2021, burning 338,897 hectares of land;

Whereas the province, this past year, has experienced the impacts of severe flooding and deadly heat waves;

Be it resolved that Council strike the SFSS Natural Disaster Response Working Group that will be readily available to conduct natural disaster relief work, such as donation campaigns and food hamper drives, when in the case a natural disaster occurs.

Be it further resolved to appoint Councilors Vaibhav Arora, Gurleen Grewal, Arthur Lee, Priyanka Dhesa, and Judit Nagy as members of the Working Group.

#### **CARRIED AS AMENDED**

- The President expressed that living in BC does come with heat wave as we



experience the previous year. There is always a possibility to have forest fires. The main idea behind this motion is to have a working group established to go out do some positive work in the community that are going to be affected by extreme weather conditions and natural disaster. They mentioned that it is essential that we use our resources and be there for people who may be impacted by this as we get close to the summer season.

- The President expressed that the nomination is done to establish the working groups and members are able to come along and work for this cause in the future.
- Three calls for nomination were called by the President.
- VP Finance nominated BPK Councillor and they accepted the nomination.
- Sociology and Anthropology councillor nominated themselves.
- VP Internal nominated themselves.
- Health Science Councillor nominated themselves.
- VP Events nominated themselves.

## 12. DISCUSSION ITEMS

### 12.1 Electronic Voting for Council

**SUBMITTED BY:** VP Internal and Organizational Development “Judit Nagy”

**BLURB:** Governance Committee is ready to propose an e-voting option for Council, but a bylaw amendment would most likely be required.

- VP Internal expressed that this was a discussion that occurred previously as the role call vote takes a lot of time. The governance committee has been working on this to make sure Council meeting runs efficiently. Electronic voting at Council is difficult as by-laws are against it. Governance Committee would be proposing at the AGM for the electronic voting to have council meeting efficiently.
- The software that can be used is Election budding and it is compatible with zoom and allows us to track and see who voted for whom. It would be beneficial for council as it would save a lot of meeting time just by doing the votes electronically.
- Mathematics councillor with the experience of counting votes during

the council meeting expressed that this would be beneficial as the current system in place to count votes is very inefficient.

- Women Centre Collective councillor spoke in favour of this as during the meeting there could be many motions and counting each one of them via roll call of attendance takes up a lot of time. So, it would be beneficial for council as a whole and would save us a lot of time.
- Sociology and Anthropology mentioned that the electronic voting is a good option in terms of accessibility and they would like to strongly support this.

### **12.2 Surrey Campus Hybrid Meetings**

**SUBMITTED BY:** VP Internal and Organizational Development “Judit Nagy”

**BLURB:** In policy, it says that we are meant to hold a meeting at all three campuses.

- VP Internal mentioned that under Council Policy R-7 it says that one of the Council meeting should happen at Surrey and Vancouver campus. Also, it was brought up by the students that they would like to attend the meeting in Surrey but most of the meeting occur hybrid and at Burnaby Campus.
- They mentioned that this would be a good way to engage membership and lead to increase participation by having meetings at other locations.
- The President and Mathematics councillor spoke in favour of this.
- VP Events expressed that they go to SFSS offices in Surrey and have noticed that people are not aware about the SFSS operation in Surrey or Vancouver. And, the WC also are trying to expand their presence at the Surrey location.

### **12.3 2022/23 Council Retreat**

**SUBMITTED BY:** President “Helen Sofia Pahou”

- President expressed that it is in the by-law that Council Retreat should occur. It is the first time things are being done in person and it is the first time operations of building are getting back on ground so it would be great to do something to have everyone engage and

connect with one another.

- In response to the President regarding what activities the councillor would like to have to be able to engage, the SUS councillor mentioned that it would be great to have a dodge ball game or haunted house,
- The President mentioned that a poll would be sent out in the future to everyone to see what everyone would like to do.
- Sociology and Anthropology councillor expressed that a connection event on campus to come together as a society is a great opportunity for everyone. Ball room is a great place to have Council movie or social night.
- Women Centre Collective expressed that we can look into options that are more accessible and end up spending less on student budget.

#### **12.4 Hiring position for staff leave and potential administrative restructuring**

**SUBMITTED BY:** DNA Councillor “Vivian Ly”

- Mathematics Councillor mentioned that the discussion is not appropriate to go through the Council ex-camera and should go through HRP in-camera as the process planning should be done through HRP as they are the special committee to take care of this matter.
- The President expressed that this would be also brought up at the Executive Committee this coming Friday as a next step to go about this.
- **POSTPONED.**

### **13. New Business**

**13.1 Move to extend the meeting until 9:00 PM-MOTION COUNCIL 2022-07-06:15**

**Ben / Abhishek**

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

## **14. Discussion Item**

### **14.1 Dealing with Spam Links and Emails**

**SUBMITTED BY:** President “Helen Sofia Pahou”

- President expressed that the employee emails should be used for professional and organizational purposes only. And, they requested everyone to not to use the SFSS email for any other purposes.
- VP Internal expressed that they were looking into restricting certain email list they can block or restrict to get emails from. However, this would block external parties such as students, other clubs, etc. to be able to reach to us. They are looking into what they could do further to block certain email mailing list.

### **14.2 SFSS Women’s Centre Bans off our Bodies Solidarity rally**

**SUBMITTED BY:** Women Centre Collective Councillor “Nimrit Basra”

- Women Centre Collective Councillor expressed that on June 24<sup>th</sup>, 2022 the US Supreme Court overturned the precedence that protected the right to protection of abortion on federal level. This decision will impact the groups who had historically been excluded and faced oppression or are marginalized be at the front of this injustice. This is not just prohibited in USA and that is not the only country as there are currently 24 countries that prohibit abortion.  
They mentioned that they would like SFSS to stand in solidarity to those who do not have right to or have access to safe and legal abortion on global scale and have members attend the rally as much in their capacity to show their support.  
They mentioned that they wanted to bring this forward to raise awareness and also because SFSS does have Issues Policy on people right to choose and right to accessing reproductive rights.
- The President highly recommended council to attend the rally to support this.

## **15. New Business**

### **15.1 Move to extend the Meeting until 9:30 PM- MOTION COUNCIL 2022-07-**

**06:16**

**Abhishek / Shariq**

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

## **16. NOTICE OF MOTION**

### **16.1 Procedural Change to IEC-9 - MOTION COUNCIL 2022-07-06:17**

**SUBMITTED BY:** Mathematics Councillor “Ben Tischler”

Whereas IEC-9 has procedural issues or omissions that result in either a lack of clarity on certain procedures, or procedures that are inconsistent with SFSS By-Laws;

Whereas these procedures outlined under IEC-9 should be corrected so that they can be unambiguously understood and consistently applied in the future, if deemed necessary.

Be it resolved to amend IEC-9.5 by striking the word “may” and replacing with “shall”.

Be it further resolved to amend IEC-9.6 by striking it and replacing with:

9.6. The IEC can verify the election of the Councillor in question is in line with the Society Bylaws and Society Regulation. If the Chief Commissioner of the IEC believes that the Non-Executive Council election in question is unverifiable, this must be communicated to the Chair of Council, and Council may order, by a 2/3rds majority vote, that a re-election for that position takes place.

### **16.2 Housekeeping Changes to the Terms of Reference of the Committee for the recommended appointment of an IEC- MOTION COUNCIL 2022-07-06:18**

**SUBMITTED BY:** Mathematics Councillor “Ben Tischler”

Whereas the terms of reference for the CRAI currently contain several minor typos;

Whereas the purpose listed in the terms of reference for the CRAI is currently inaccurate;

Be it resolved to amend the “Purpose” section in the CRAI Terms of Reference by striking it and replacing it with “The purpose of this committee is to interview candidates for the IEC Commissioner Positions and make a recommendation to Council for the appointment of candidates to the IEC”.

Be it further resolved to amend the “Deliverables” section in the CRAI Terms of Reference by striking all occurrences of the word “Board” and replacing it with “Council”.

Be it further resolved to amend the first sentence of the section “Communications” in the CRAI Terms of Reference by striking the words “in person”.

Be it further resolved to amend the second bullet point of the section “Relevant Bylaws and Policies” in the CRAI Terms of Reference by striking it and replacing it with “SFSS Elections and Referenda Policies.”

**16.3 Clarification to the Executive Officer Committee Stipend Reduction Rule - MOTION COUNCIL 2022-07-06:19**

**SUBMITTED BY:** Mathematics Councillor “Ben Tischler”

Whereas R-4.15(a), the rule on when the stipend of an executive officer is reduced for not sitting on enough committees, is currently ambiguous in its application;

Whereas R-4.15(a) should be clarified to ensure that it is clearly worded and can be applied consistently, if necessary, without any ambiguity about its meaning;

Be it resolved to strike Section R-4.15(a) and replace it with the following: (a) The stipend of an Executive Officer will be reduced by \$200 when they are named to zero (0) committees, and by \$100 when they are named to one (1) committee.

**16.4 Housekeeping Changes to R-4- MOTION COUNCIL 2022-07-06:20**

**SUBMITTED BY:** Mathematics Councillor “Ben Tischler”

Whereas there are several minor typos and consistency issues R-4 of Council’s

Policies;

Whereas these minor issues should be corrected to ensure the clarity of R-4;

Be it resolved to strike the words “Council or committee meeting.” in R-4.11(b) of Council Policies and replace it with “Council or committee meeting without approved regrets”.

Be it further resolved to strike the word “Council” in R-4.14(a) and replace it with “Committee”.

Be it further resolved to strike the word “Council” in R-4.14(b) and replace it with “Committee”.

Be it further resolved to strike the words “a will” in R-4.16(a) and replace it with “a Non-Executive Councillor will”.

**16.5 Correction to R-4.5 and R-4.6 of Council Policies - MOTION COUNCIL 2022-07-06:21**

**SUBMITTED BY:** Mathematics Councillor “Ben Tischler”

Whereas R-4.6 of Council Policies was amended on June 30th, 2021, to transition the SFSS to a monthly work report submission for Non-Executive Councillors, rather than a bi-weekly submission;

Whereas this amendment was incorrectly worded, as R-4.6 referred to the submission deadline for semester reports, rather than the submission deadline for work reports;

Whereas this requires correction to ensure we are operating on a clear set of policies under R-4.

Be it resolved to strike section R-4.5 of Council Policies and replace it with the following: 4.5 All work reports are due at 11:59pm. Non-Executive Councillors must submit monthly work reports to Council on the 1st of every month. All

Executive Officers must submit semi-monthly work reports to Council on the 1st and 16th of every month. (a) The stipend of an Executive Officer will be reduced by \$100 where a work report is late or incomplete. (b) The stipend of a Non-Executive Councillor will be reduced by \$50 where a work report is late or incomplete. (c) Stipends shall not be paid for months where the work report is submitted more than one month late, unless Council has authorised a prior exception.

Be it further resolved to strike section R-4.6 of Council Policies and replace it with the following: 4.6. Semester reports must be submitted by Executive Officers to Council by midnight of the last day of the month following the end of a semester (a) The stipend of an Executive Officer will be reduced by \$100 per day for a maximum reduction of the value of one complete pay period where the report is late, and all stipends will be withheld until the report is submitted.

**16.6 Constituency and Affiliated Student Group Censure Policy Corrections -  
MOTION COUNCIL 2022-07-06:22**

**SUBMITTED BY:** Mathematics Councillor "Ben Tischler"

Whereas Constituency Group and Affiliated Student Group representatives currently do not have membership in any Faculty Caucus;

Whereas this causes issues for these representatives if they were ever to be censured for a breach of confidence, as unlike Student Union representatives, they would then begin to lose a portion of their stipend as outlined under R-4.16(a);

Whereas this should be changed so that a censure for a breach of confidence would have a consistent effect on a Non-Executive Councillor, no matter the nature of the group that they represent;

Be it resolved to add a new section SO-21.4 of Council Policies (and renumber other sections accordingly that reads: 21.4. Members of Council who represent Constituency Groups and Affiliated Student Groups who belong to a University Faculty shall also be members of that Faculty Caucus.



**16.7 NP-1 Language-Governance Model Synchronization- MOTION COUNCIL  
2022-07-06:23**

**SUBMITTED BY:** VP Internal and Organizational Development “Judit Nagy”  
Whereas NP-1 references Executive Committee Elections;

Whereas NP-1 still references the old Board model;

Be it resolved to strike “Board of Directors” and replace it with “Executive Committee.”

**16.8 NP-3 Language and Safeguards Updates- MOTION COUNCIL 2022-07-06:24**

**SUBMITTED BY:** VP Internal and Organizational Development “Judit Nagy”

Be it resolved to strike NP-3.2 and replace it with: “No candidate is permitted to run for more than one position during the Executive Committee Elections”.

Be it further resolved to strike NP-3.3 and replace it with: “Proposed candidates must conduct themselves in accordance with the Elections Referenda Policies and Bylaws set out by the SFSS. Breaching said regulation may be escalated to the IEC”.

Be it further resolved to add NP-3.3(a) to read as: “3(a). As per SFSS Bylaw 13(3), elected candidates cannot hold department student union (DSU), faculty student union (FSU), constituency group (CG), affiliated student group (ASG), or club executive seats concurrently to their SFSS Executive Officer terms”.

Be it lastly resolved to strike “Board of Directors” in NP-3.6 and replace it with “Executive Committee”.

**16.9 NP- Documentation Correction- MOTION COUNCIL 2022-07-06:25**

**SUBMITTED BY:** VP Internal and Organizational Development “Judit Nagy”

Whereas there are incorrect references to relevant referenda documents in NP-4;

Be it resolved to strike the word “candidate” from NP-4.8(a) and replace it with “referendum submission”.

Be it further resolved to strike “Nomination Form” from NP-4.8(a)(ii) and replace it with “SFSS Referendum Question Submission Package”.

**16.10 ERPP-1 Bylaw Reference Update- MOTION COUNCIL 2022-07-06:26**

**SUBMITTED BY:** VP Internal and Organizational Development “Judit Nagy”

Be it resolved to strike reference to “Bylaws 15(11), 15(13), and 15(22)” in ERPP-1 “Policy” and replace it with “Bylaw 13: 13(11), 13(13), and 13(23)”.

Be it further resolved to strike reference to “Bylaw 16” in ERPP-1 Policy: “Executive Committee By-Elections and Referenda must be completed by the end of the tenth (10th) week of the Summer and/or Fall semesters, including three periods (nomination period, campaigning period, and voting period) in accordance with By-Law 16(3). Executive Committee By-Elections and Referenda also require at least two (2) weeks of pre-Election or pre-Referendum planning, and two (2) weeks of Post-Election or Post-Referendum reporting”.

Be it further resolved to replace it with: “Executive Committee By-Elections and Referenda must be completed by the end of the tenth (10th) week of the Summer and/or Fall semesters, including three periods (nomination period, campaigning period, and voting period) in accordance with Bylaw 14 subsection 3 through 8. Executive Committee By-Elections and Referenda also require at least two (2) weeks of pre-Election or pre-Referendum planning, and two (2) weeks of Post-Election or Post-Referendum reporting”.

Be it further resolved to strike references to Bylaw 17 in ERPP-1 Policy: “This section does not limit the time by which a referendum can be conducted if it is a special resolution to impeach a Councillor or Executive Officer, whereby impeachment may be called at any time in any semester with thirty (30) days notice following a Member petition or a vote of Council in accordance with By-Law 17”.

Be it further resolved to replace it with: “This section does not limit the time by which a referendum can be conducted if it is a special resolution to impeach a

Councillor or Executive Officer, whereby impeachment may be called at any time in any semester with thirty (30) days notice following a Member petition or a vote of Council in accordance with By-Law 15”.

Be it lastly resolved to strike references to “Bylaw 16(3)” in ERPP-1.8 and replace it with “Bylaw 14(3)”.

**16.11 ERPP-2 Language-Governance Model Synchronization- MOTION COUNCIL 2022-07-06:27**

**SUBMITTED BY:** VP Internal and Organizational Development “Judit Nagy”

Be it resolved to strike “VP Finance” from ERPP-2.3 and replace it with “VP Finances and Services”.

**16.12 Housekeeping Changes to R-2 -MOTION COUNCIL 2022-07-06:28**

**SUBMITTED BY:** VP Internal and Organizational Development “Judit Nagy”

Whereas there is a minor error in R-2 based on inconsistent wording due to past amendments not fully considering all language that exists in R-2;

Be it resolved to amend R-2.7 by striking the word “semi-monthly” and replacing it with “monthly.

**16.13 Changes to conflict rules in R-4 -MOTION COUNCIL 2022-07-06:29**

**SUBMITTED BY:** VP Internal and Organizational Development “Judit Nagy”

Whereas concurrently serving as an executive of a group that operates within the SFSS and as an SFSS Executive could give rise to potential conflicts of interest;

Whereas By-Law 13(3) outlines a basic framework for preventing this, although there is no enforcement measure outlined within any council policies;

Whereas one method of ensuring that these rules is a stipend reduction under R-4;

Be it resolved to amend R-4 by adding a new heading "Conflict in Seats Held" that contains a new R-4.17 that reads:

4.17. Executive officers may not sit as an executive of a Faculty Student Union, Departmental Student Union, Constituency Group, or Club at the same time as they are a member of the executive committee.

Be it resolved to amend R-4.17 by adding a new subsection (a) that reads: "The stipend of an Executive Officer will be reduced by \$100 where they fail to comply with this rule".

Be it resolved to renumber the policy accordingly.

**16.14 Housekeeping Changes to R-5 -MOTION COUNCIL 2022-07-06:30**

**SUBMITTED BY:** VP Internal and Organizational Development "Judith Nagy"

Whereas R-5 has several minor errors and typos/spelling mistakes that need to be corrected to ensure the consistency of the policy with established practice;

Be it resolved to amend R-5.1 by striking it and replacing it with:

5.1. Proper operation of a democratic student organization requires that students elected or appointed to Council or a Society Committee be duly responsible to the membership.

To this end, it is imperative that:

Be it further resolved to amend R-5.3 by striking R-5.3 and replace it with "Members of Council and Society Committees shall not".

Be it further resolved to amend R-5.3 by adding the word "the" in between the words "at" and "Council" in R-5.3(c)(v).

Be it further resolved to amend R-5.4 by striking the phrase "- with Council or Council initiating the proceedings for removal." from R-5.4(c).

Be it resolved to renumber the policy accordingly.

**16.15 Housekeeping Changes to R-6 -MOTION COUNCIL 2022-07-06:31**

**SUBMITTED BY:** VP Internal and Organizational Development “Judit Nagy”

Whereas R-6 has several minor issues that should be corrected to ensure that the policy is worded correctly in the event that it needs to be applied;

Be it further resolved to amend R-6 by striking R-6.9(c) and replacing it with “be submitted at least one (1) hour in advance of the meeting in question.

Be it further resolved to amend R-6.11 by striking the word “body organizational unit” and replace it with “body.

**16.16 Procedural Changes to R-7 -MOTION COUNCIL 2022-07-06:32**

**SUBMITTED BY:** VP Internal and Organizational Development “Judit Nagy”

Whereas R-7 has numerous procedures in it that are completely inconsistent with established practice by the previous chair(s) of council;

Whereas R-7 should be corrected to ensure that the procedures within it are consistent with established practice, so that Council begins to follow the policy as written;

Be it resolved to amend R-7.21 by striking all occurrences of “Board” within R-7.21 and replacing it with “Council”.

Be it further resolved to amend R-7.23 by striking all of R-7.23.

Be it further resolved to amend R-7.24 by striking “isnot” and replacing it with “is not”.

Be it further resolved to amend R-7.30 by striking all of it and replacing it with “The agenda, time, and location of Council Meetings shall be published on the Society Website and/or Social Media prior to these meetings”.

Be it further resolved to fix the indenting.

**16.17 Procedural, Definitional, and Housekeeping Changes to SO-18-MOTION**

**COUNCIL 2022-07-06:33**

**SUBMITTED BY:** VP Internal and Organizational Development “Judith Nagy”

Be it resolved to amend SO-18.3 by striking “involves” and replacing it with “involves”.

Be it further resolved to strike the 8th point in the “Composition” section of SO-18.

Be it further resolved to strike the 10th point in the “Composition” section of SO-18.

Be it further resolved to strike “Constrains” and replace it with “Constraints”.

Be it further resolved to amend SO-18.10 by adding a new section (a) that reads: Notwithstanding SO-18.10, the committee may not approve additional funding for projects where funding has already been granted for that project by Council.

Be it further resolved to strike SO-18.11 and SO-18.12, and renumber accordingly.

Be it further resolved to amend SO-18.19 by striking “Annual Budget” and replacing it with “Annual Budgets”.

**16.18 SO-1: Update and Chair Duties -MOTION COUNCIL 2022-07-06:34**

**SUBMITTED BY:** VP Internal and Organizational Development “Judith Nagy”

Whereas there are numerous spacing and numbering errors in SO-1;

Whereas it is unclear how committee meetings are meant to be called without an defined Chair;

Be it resolved that Council approves the following spacing and numbering changes to SO-1, as attached.

Be it further resolved to add section 1.12 in SO-1 to read as the following:

“1.12 Whereby the Chair of the committee is not defined in the composition of

the Standing Order of the committee, the President will be tasked with calling the first meeting of the Committee, where the chair must be elected”.

**16.19 AVP Hour Requirements and R-17 Updates -MOTION COUNCIL 2022-07-06:35**

**SUBMITTED BY:** VP Internal and Organizational Development “Judith Nagy”

Whereas Associate Vice Presidents (AVP) for Executive Committee members do not exist in bylaw, only in policy;

Whereas AVPs are unpaid and are required to work at least fifteen (15) hours weekly for their Executive Officers;

Whereas there is not enough funding to pay AVPs for their work;

Whereas AVPs may be non-executive Council members, but can also be non-Council members students;

Be it resolved to strike the “relevant bylaws” section of R-17.

Be it further resolved to to fix the missing space in R-17.1 and 17.1(a).

Be it lastly resolved to strike R-17.5 and replace it with:

"Associate Vice-Presidents shall work no more than 10 hours per week."

**16.20 R-8 Updates: Alternates - MOTION COUNCIL 2022-07-06:36**

**SUBMITTED BY:** VP Internal and Organizational Development “Judith Nagy”

Whereas R-8 is referencing the wrong bylaws;

Whereas it is unclear who can fill in as an alternate at council meetings;

Whereas alternates under bylaw 6(24)(b) and (c) are entitled to the same voting, speaking, and in-camera privileges as regular directors;

Be it resolved to strike “bylaw 17(7)” from “relevant bylaws” and replace it with

“bylaw 15(7)”.

Be it further resolved to add:

“8.2 (a). As per the membership definition of the SFSS Constitution, any and all, alternative councillors must be in good standing of the Society and must be an undergraduate student at SFU”.

Be it further resolved to add:

“8.3(a). The appointment of alternate councillors must be communicated to the President and VP Internal and Organizational Development prior to the alternate's attendance at the Council meeting.

8.3(a)(i) The groups shall provide the alternate's or alternatives': full name, student number, and student email”.

Be it lastly resolved to strike “bylaw 17(7) from R-8.6 and replace it with “bylaw 15(7)”.

**16.21 R-3 Updates -MOTION COUNCIL 2022-07-06:37**

**SUBMITTED BY:** VP Internal and Organizational Development “Judit Nagy”

Whereas numerous updates are required for R-3 to make the policy cohesive;

Be it resolved to strike By-Law 4(10)-(16) and By-Law 5(3) from “relevant bylaws” and replace it with “bylaw 7”.

Be it further resolved to strike “By-Law 4(10)-(16)” from R-3.1 and replace it with ‘bylaw 7”.

Be it further resolved to add an extra space in R-3.6 “office hours in-person or electronically on the SFSS website.,” to read as “...in-person or...”.

Be it further resolved to rename the second R-3.7 section as subsection “a”, as it is subsidiary to the first R-3.7.

Be it further resolved to strike “Exit reports shall take the place of work reports



for the Spring Semester which must be completed before the end of Council term.” from R-3.7.

Be it lastly resolved to strike the words “isn’t” from R-3.11 and R-3.12 and replace them with “are not”.

## **17. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**17.1** Archaeology Councillor Leave of absence - July 15<sup>th</sup> to July 17<sup>th</sup>.

## **18. ATTACHMENTS**

**18.1** Refugee Claimants Accessing Higher Education Debrief – June 6<sup>th</sup> Draft.pdf

**18.2** CSSS Furnishings Proposal Briefing Note.pdf

## **19. ADJOURNMENT**

**19.1 MOTION COUNCIL 2022-07-06:38**

**Shariq / Arthur**

Be it resolved to adjourn the meeting at 9:15 PM

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**



# CSSS Common Room Furnishings Proposal

*Submitted by: Computing Science Student  
Society (CSSS) circa 2022/2023*

*Submitted to: Simon Fraser Student Society  
(SFSS) Council circa 2022/2023*

**Main Contact:**

CSSS Council Representative  
[compsci.council@sfss.ca](mailto:compsci.council@sfss.ca)

# Background

Over the last two years as we come out of the pandemic, the importance of common room spaces for DSU's has become more important. The CSSS common room is the most active common room on campus. On any given week it can see hundreds of people come by the space. It has become a place for people of all departments and faculties to meet and socialise. This room has acted as the main lifeline of the society for a very long time, and it has not seen any major upgrades in a number of years.

In terms of furnishings we decided to obtain furniture from Article and Structube. These providers have been used by the SFSS before to renovate spaces such as the women's centre. This furniture selection ensures a balance between comfort and durability. One option employed last year was the purchase of commercial grade furniture. For our needs however, this does not fit the aesthetic of the space and does not necessarily prioritise comfort. The two providers chosen provide a balance between long-lasting products and comfortable ones.

Note: one item is being purchased from Amazon. The link can be found below.

## Space Expansion Fund

For the furnishing we wish to take money from the space expansion fund. This fund is meant to be used to renovate student spaces. Seeing as this fund was used by many groups last year, we feel this is an ideal fund to fund these upgrades. At the September 29, 2021 meeting of council it was stated by the 2021/2022 SFSS VP Internal and Organisational Development Corbett Gildersleve that this fund was available for student groups to purchase items for their spaces. This fund currently has \$580,000 in unspent funds and collects \$350,000 a year in student fees (\$5 for full time students and \$2.50 for part time students every term).

## Recommendations/Considerations

Student union spaces have received very little in terms of furnishings over the last few years. This new furniture would help improve student life for the many members that frequent our common room. This proposal does not ask to replace every item in the room but rather to replace larger scale ones such as couches, chairs, etc. The overall cost might be slightly high but it will ensure that this furniture lasts for a very long amount of time and does not require constant upgrading or replacement. You can find the list of items attached below.

## Breakdown of Items:

<b>Item/Fee</b>	<b>Cost</b>
Timber Charme Black Sofa	\$2999
Birch Ivory Sven Fabric 3 Seater Sofa (x2)	\$2898
Rectangle Oak & White Marble Coffee Table (x2)	\$798
HOMCOM Compact Kitchen Pantry Buffet Server Hutch Storage Cabinet with Microwave Oven Stand Drawer and Shelves, White	\$259.99
SPENCE office chair (x10)	\$1590
HEATH tufted upholstered armchair (x4)	\$1196
Square Oak & Marble Cafe Table	\$529
<b>Total (Before Fees and Tax)</b>	<b>\$10,269.99</b>
12% Tax	\$1232.40
Removal Fee	\$1000
10% Contingency	\$1250
<b>Overall Total</b>	<b>\$13,752.39</b>

## Motion:

Whereas the space expansion fund has roughly \$580,000 in unspent funds and collects around \$350,000 in student levies

Whereas the fund has been used to furnish student group spaces in the last year

Whereas this fund is meant to be used to furnish student spaces around campus

Whereas the CSSS common room has not seen any significant renovations

Be it resolved that Council approves the spending of up to \$14,000 CAD for basic furnishing expenses for the Computing Science Student Society from the space expansion fund.

Be it further resolved that John Walsh will help oversee the purchase, implementation and removal of all furniture from the room

## Links to Furniture Providers:

Article: [Contemporary, Mid Century & Modern Furniture | Article](#)

Structube: [https://www.structube.com/en\\_ca/](https://www.structube.com/en_ca/)

Amazon:

[https://www.amazon.ca/Compact-Kitchen-Storage-Cabinet-Microwave/dp/B093RQ2ZD3/ref=sr\\_1\\_47?crid=1QDQQ61WW9W67&keywords=small+kitchen+cupboard&qid=1655620985&srefix=small+kitchen+cupboard%2Caps%2C131&sr=8-47](https://www.amazon.ca/Compact-Kitchen-Storage-Cabinet-Microwave/dp/B093RQ2ZD3/ref=sr_1_47?crid=1QDQQ61WW9W67&keywords=small+kitchen+cupboard&qid=1655620985&srefix=small+kitchen+cupboard%2Caps%2C131&sr=8-47)

# Memorandum

## Attention:

- Decision Maker A (VP/Pres level?)
- Decision Maker B (head registrar??)
- Decision Maker C Senate/governors?

## From:

- Nada
- Yara
- RADIUS LT member 1
- other?

## Re: Domestic Tuition Rates for Refugee Claimant Students

Date - X

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Refugee claimant students face multiple barriers to beginning or continuing their higher education in Canada, contributing to reduced completion rates, substantial stress and additional precarity, and decreased ability to fully participate in society and the skilled Canadian workforce. One of the toughest barriers is one that universities have control over, classifying refugee claimants as international students who must pay fees over five times what they might pay if classified as domestic students.

Guidelines issued by the BC Ministry of Advanced Education and Skills Training describe allowable exceptions to international student classification, including explicitly that “...**refugee claimants who have yet to be determined Convention refugees are eligible or considered to be domestic students.**”<sup>1</sup> While no public BC universities have chosen to utilize this allowable exception, Toronto’s York University is challenging this inequity by using a similar flexibility in Ontario’s guidelines, offering domestic tuition rates to refugee claimant students through the “Protected Person Program,”<sup>2</sup>

We urge SFU to recognize refugee claimant students as an equity-deserving group, differentiated from international students, with access to domestic tuition fee rates. This is an equity leadership opportunity among universities in BC, within federal and provincial BC guidelines, and directly aligned with SFU’s objectives to enhance inclusion for equity deserving groups and to develop initiatives to improve affordability and accessibility for students.<sup>3</sup>

## **BACKGROUND - REFUGEE CLAIMANTS AND HIGHER EDUCATION**

### Refugee Claimants

“A refugee is different from an immigrant. An immigrant is a person who chooses to settle permanently in another country. Refugees are forced to flee.” (IRCC)<sup>4</sup> There are two primary groups of refugees in Canada, and this brief focused on the specific challenges of refugee claimants. :

- *Convention Refugees* are resettled either by private sponsorship or by referral from international organizations such as the UNHCR and are protected persons upon arrival.
- *A Refugee Claimant* is a “person who has applied for refugee protection status while in Canada and is waiting for a decision on his/her/their claim from the Immigration and Refugee Board of Canada.”

### Refugee Claimant Process

Refugee claimants must wait for a decision from the Immigration and Refugee board of Canada (IRB), leaving them without legal status and thrust into precarious livelihoods for a minimum of 23 months<sup>5</sup>. In the Western region, the Immigration and Refugee Board of Canada reports over 75% of refugee claims were approved in both 2020 and 2021.<sup>6</sup> Once approved, a claimant will receive protected person status and be eligible to apply for permanent residence status.

### Higher Education Access

While refugee claimants have the right to study in Canada, they are largely classified as international students until their claim is approved. Despite the significant likelihood of this approval and eventual right to apply for permanent residence, during this two year waiting period most are effectively barred from higher education by the combination of international tuition rates (5x domestic fees at SFU<sup>7</sup>) and ineligibility for student loans.<sup>8</sup>

To give a sense of the numbers of people being impacted, and the missed opportunity for more inclusive BC universities and a more dynamic BC economy, there were 1,010 youth refugee claimants (under 30) in BC in 2020 alone, with projections for an increase of university-aged claimants in the future.<sup>9,10</sup>

### What is SFU's Policy Regarding Refugee Student Tuition

While SFU provides Convention Refugees with access to domestic tuition rates, the university excludes refugee claimants from domestic tuition exceptions, charging them international tuition fees. No further public explanation is provided.

## **SFU'S OPPORTUNITY TO LEAD IN BC: RECOMMENDATIONS**

By charging domestic rates for refugee claimant students, SFU would be the first university in BC to remove a systemic barrier to access for refugee students. SFU would be acting on commitments to advancing equity, diversity and inclusion, as well as enhancing the student learning experience. Specifically, in terms of concerns around affordability and “developing initiatives and partnerships to help increase accessibility,”<sup>11</sup> and to enhance inclusion for equity-deserving groups.

## CAN WE DO THIS?

BC Ministry of Advanced Education and Skills Training describe allowable exceptions to international student classification, at the universities discretion, including explicitly that “...*refugee claimants who have yet to be determined Convention refugees are eligible or considered to be domestic students.*”<sup>12</sup>

## A CANADIAN EXAMPLE: THE PROTECTED PERSON PROGRAM

York University’s “Protected Person Program” offers domestic tuition rates to undocumented students, including refugee claimant students, and admits 10-20 students annually.<sup>13</sup> Ontario Ministry of Colleges and Universities guidelines allow public post-secondary institutions to determine tuition fee categorization at their discretion. The University of Toronto and Toronto Metropolitan University (Ryerson) are also considering ways to supporting RCS with domestic tuition.<sup>14</sup>

## POTENTIAL RISKS:

**Issue:** Current students paying international fees, will now be eligible for reduced fees. Will this reduce the university income in meaningful ways?

**Response:** This is true. We estimate this to be no more than 20 students per academic year, and this change would be acting on stated principles around equity, inclusion and accessibility.

**Issue:** There may be a surge of demand for university placements from refugee claimants that we are unable to manage or provide appropriate supports for.

**Response:** The total number of university age refugee claimants each year is estimated to be between X and Y, and only a subset of these would likely apply. If these are students who would have otherwise considered higher education to be unattainable, this must be considered a positive outcome. Learning about additional demand on student supports could be done via an initial pilot project, and controlled roll out.

**Issue:** It would seem that based on Canada’s reporting, at a very general level perhaps 25% of claimants may be denied, including refugee claimant students. This could be disruptive to university life and triggering for other students, staff and faculty.

**Response:** It is very likely that rejected claims will undergo an appeal process, and even then, a rejected claim does not mean that a person is not in need of support to access higher education. The claims process is so rigorous that it is unlikely anyone would go through it unless they had no other choice. Furthermore, students drop out all the time, as well as take time off, take a semester break, and have breaks in their status. The only disruption would be for the students themselves, who would likely have to change status from domestic to international students if their claim is rejected, and they’re still not studying for free. It’s not uncommon for non-canadian citizens to have access to domestic tuition, such as graduate students and children of diplomats.



**Issue:** International students may apply for refugee status in order to access domestic tuition rates during the claim assessment waiting period, even if they expect their claim to be denied.

**Response:** The consequences of a failed refugee claim are severe, and unlikely to be worth the risk for students who would not have time to complete their course of study before the review is complete. Any incidence of this would be vanishingly small and mitigating actions might be considered (ie. programs completed under this category cannot be completed until claim status is resolved).

**Issue:** If we do this for refugee students there will be demand to do this for all undocumented students or those with precarious legal status. How do we justify the difference in approach?

**Response:** Refugee claimants are in their own legal category and not everyone can have it as it is a rigorous and difficult process. If SFU is interested in expanding the admissions process to undocumented students in the future, we have a great example from York university to follow. Over the past few years, York university has demonstrated that it's possible to admit both refugee claimants and undocumented people as domestic students, and have demonstrated that the number of students would not be too demanding on SFU's capacity. It is also worth noting that even if SFU changes the domestic/international student categorization, refugee claimant students would still need to go through the admission process, and would still need to do an English proficiency exam, as well as have access to money to afford the tuition.

## **RECOMMENDATION**

We recommend SFU directly amend its policy in alignment with allowable exceptions to international tuition classifications, and include refugee claimants in those eligible for domestic tuition.

## ENDNOTES

- 1 Guidelines respecting international students at post-secondary institutions  
<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/education/post-secondary-education/institution-resources-administration/guidelines-respecting-international-students-public-post-secondary.pdf>
- 2 Aberman, Tanya. Personal Interview. York University. 23 March 2022
- 3 SFU President Priorities <https://www.sfu.ca/pres/the-president/priorities.html>
- 4 How Canada's refugee system works <https://www.canada.ca/en/immigration-refugees-citizenship/services/refugees/canada-role.html>
- 5 IRCC. 2022. Check live processing times  
<https://www.canada.ca/en/immigration-refugees-citizenship/services/application/check-processing-times.html>
- 6 IRB. Refugee Protection Claims Statistics. <https://irb.gc.ca/en/statistics/protection/Pages/RPDStat.aspx>
- 7 SFU. Estimated Costs for International Students. <https://www.sfu.ca/students/financialaid/costs/international-students.html>
- 8 Student aid for protected persons <https://www.canada.ca/en/services/benefits/education/student-aid/protected-persons.html>
- 9 See asylum claims by year <https://www.canada.ca/en/immigration-refugees-citizenship/services/refugees/asylum-claims.html>
- 10 Statista. Number of Refugee Claims in Canada by Province and Age.  
<https://www.statista.com/statistics/1250452/number-of-refugee-claimants-canada-province-age/>
- 11 SFU President Priorities <https://www.sfu.ca/pres/the-president/priorities.html>
- 12 Guidelines respecting international students at post-secondary institutions  
<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/education/post-secondary-education/institution-resources-administration/guidelines-respecting-international-students-public-post-secondary.pdf>
- 13 Aberman, Tanya. Personal Interview. York University. 23 March 2022
- 14 Aberman, Tanya. Personal Interview. York University. 23 March 2022