

## 1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting will be called to order by President Gabe Liosis.

## 2. TERRITORIALACKNOWLEDGMENT

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>əy̓ əm (Musqueam), Skwxwú7mesh Úxwumixw (Squamish), Sel̓íl witulh (Tsleil-Waututh), k<sup>w</sup>ik<sup>w</sup>ə̓ λə m (Kwikwetlem) and 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. APPOINTMENT OF THE CHAIR

The Members will nominate and appoint a Chairperson for the Annual General Meeting.

### 3.1 MOTION AGM 2021-10-27:01

**Abhishek Parmar/Jess Dela Cruz**

*Be it resolved to appoint President Gabe Liosis as the Chairperson of the 2021 Simon Fraser Student Society Annual General Meeting.*

**CARRIED**

- Voting: 93% in favour and 7% against.

## 4. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA AND REVIEW OF MEETING RULES

The assembly will consider the agenda as prepared by the Board of Directors. Changes or additions to the agenda may be proposed at this time.

The Chairperson will provide a brief overview of Robert's Rules of Order, a system of meeting rules and procedures that the Society uses for the AGM.

### 4.1 MOTION AGM 2021-10-27:02

**Marie Haddad/Joel Gilani**

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

**CARRIED**

- Voting: 92% in favour and 8% against.

## 5. RECEIPT OF THE MINUTES

The minutes of the 2020 Annual General Meeting will be available for receipt and filing by Members.

### 5.1 MOTION AGM 2021-10-27:03

**Matthew Provost/Shashank Thanalapati**

*Be it resolved that the minutes of the October 26th, 2020 Annual General Meeting of the Simon Fraser Student Society be received and filed.*

**CARRIED**

- Voting: 96% in favour and 4% against.

## 6. SPECIAL RESOLUTIONS

### 6.1 By-Law Proposal #1 (6.1 SFSS Bylaw Cleanup) – MOTION AGM 2021-10-27:04

The assembly will now consider the By-Law amendment proposals contained in By-Law Proposal Package #1.

Abhishek Parmar/Xenon Tynan

*Whereas the SFSS passed a significant number of bylaw changes at the October 26th, 2020 AGM;*

*Whereas a review of the updated bylaws found some small grammar and typo errors;*

*Whereas that review also identified areas to improve clarity and consistency;*

*Be it resolved that the Society approve the following changes to the SFSS By-Laws: Change all references to "Society Act" with "Societies Act"*

*Add a definition in 'Bylaw: 1 Interpretation' inserted in the alphabetically appropriate position, re-ordering other definitions subsequently - ' "Member local" means a student union, constituency group or affiliated student group that each non-Executive Councilor represents at Council '*

*In bylaws 1(27), remove the first occurrence of "or" that is decorated with the strikethrough*

*Amend Bylaw 4(10)(a) by replacing "the Executive Committee and Council meeting at any time" with "an Executive Committee meeting or a Council meeting at any time"*

*Change By-Law 4(10)(b) to read "Be an ex-officio voting member of all Committees of Council."*

*Add a clause to By-Law 4(11) that reads "Shall train and advise the incoming Vice-President Internal and Organizational Development."*

*Add subsection 6(11)(a): "In addition to the Council that are empowered to establish any and all regulation of the society, the Membership may by a simple majority vote, also add, amend or remove Issues-Based Regulation previously established by the Council or the Membership, that establishes the Society stance on socio-political, economic or justice-based issues important to the society Members."*

*Amend By-Law 6(16)(d) to read "Act as a liaison between their Student Union, Constituency Group, or Affiliated Student Group, and Council,"*

*With Bylaw 6(19) that reads "Quorum for a meeting of Council shall be a majority of the seats filled, including a majority of Executive Officers.", add a subsection Bylaw 6(19)(a) that reads: "the requirement for a majority of Executive Officers does not apply to a special meeting of Council, if the need arises, for the purposes of initiating impeachment proceedings, or for the purposes of appointing the IEC Chief and Commissioners or ratifying the Executive election results"*

*Add a subsection under By-Law 6(24) that reads "If a Councilor represents an Affiliated Student Group, their Alternates must be a member of their respective Affiliated Student Group."*

*In By-Law 10, replace "If the members of a proposed Student Union" with "If members of a faculty or department unrecognized not currently recognized by Council"*

*Amend bylaw 11(5) by replacing "two thirds (2/3) of the members of Council" to "two thirds (2/3) majority vote of Council."*

*Amend Bylaw 15(13) by replacing "The campaign period for Executive Committee elections shall begin Monday after the completion of week three of classes and close at the end of week five of classes in the semester." with "The campaign period for Executive Committee elections shall begin the Monday following the completion of week three of classes, and shall end no less than two (2) weeks following the nomination period and no more than three (3) weeks following the nomination period."*

*Amend Bylaw 15(23) and its subsections 15(23)(a), 15(23)(b), and 15(23)(c) to read: "Voting shall take place during a period of no less than two (2) or more than four (4) days. Voting period must the day follow the end of the campaign period and voting period must end by the end of week 6 of classes, unless week 6 coincides with the University's reading break."*

- a. In the case that the University's reading break coincides with the week six (6) of classes, campaign period shall be extended to include the University's reading break, and voting period shall be postponed to the next week of regularly scheduled classes*
- b. Polling for all positions shall occur at least between the hours of 9:30am and 7:30pm.*
- c. The Independent Electoral Commission may establish on and off-campus polling stations in those areas, where, in its view, numbers warrant."*

*Add a section under By-Law 16 that reads "By-elections shall not be scheduled during the University's reading break"*

*Add "In accordance with By-Law 16," at the beginning of By-Law 16(8)(b)*

*Add Bylaw 16(2) that reads "Notwithstanding By-Law 16(1), Council by-elections must be open to all members of their respective Student Union or Constituency Group, with at least one week's notice of the election given to its members" and renumber the subsections under bylaws 16 accordingly*

*Amend By-Law 17(5)(b) to read "in accordance with the Constitution and Bylaws of the Student Union, Constituency Group\*\*, or Affiliated Student Group\*\* the Councilor represents\*\*."\*\**

*Replace the word "by-laws" in By-Law 19(1)(b) with "constitution".*

## **CARRIED**

- Voting: 93% in favour and 7% against.
- VP Internal and Organizational Development Corbett Gildersleve explained that the goal of the motion was to fix typos and grammatical changes in the SFSS By-Laws and to add clarifying language for certain clauses like updating the name of the BC legislation that governs student societies. Other changes were more technical, including changing quorum language like fixing the loophole that would prevent Council from going through with impeachment measures for executives, and voting language clarification to ensure no By-Elections during reading week.

- In response to an inquiry about when a situation had occurred where the loophole to prevent Executive impeachment had been used, VP Internal and Organizational Development Corbett Gildersleve explained that this had not occurred, but it was a potential issue. He added that the current quorum By-Laws had required half of Executives to attend and that by not attending, Council could not be called to order. The By-Law change would fix this possible loophole, allowing Council to start impeachment proceedings with less than half of the Executives present.

## **6.2 By-Law Proposal #2 (SFSS Bylaw Renumbering) - MOTION AGM 2021-10-27:05**

The assembly will now consider the By-Law amendment proposals contained in By-Law Proposal Package #2.

### **Marie Haddad/Eric**

*Whereas the SFSS passed a significant number of bylaw changes at the October 26th, 2020 AGM;  
Whereas it would improve clarity and structure to rearrange and renumber the By-Laws;*

*Be it resolved that the SFSS Membership approve the renumbering and reordering of the SFSS By-Laws as follows:*

*By-Law 1: Interpretations*

*By-Law 2: Membership*

*By-Law 3: Powers, Duties and Obligations of Members*

*By-Law 4: Powers, Duties and Obligations of Members' Meetings*

*By-Law 5: Council By-Law 6: Powers, Duties and Obligations of Council*

*By-Law 7: Powers, Duties and Obligations of the Executive Committee*

*By-Law 8: Student Unions*

*By-Law 9: Student Union Levies*

*By-Law 10: Constituency Group*

*By-Law 11: Auditors*

*By-Law 12: Amendments*

*By-Law 13: Elections*

*By-Law 14: By-Elections*

*By-Law 15: Resignation, Impeachment, or Abandonment*

*By-Law 16: Referenda*

*By-Law 17: Accountability in External Provincial and National Student Organizations*

*By-Law 18: The Seal of the Society*

*By-Law 19: Dissolution*

*By-Law 20: Records*

*By-Law 21: Prohibitions on Discrimination*

*By-Law 22: Primacy of By-Laws*

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

- Voting: 95% in favour and 5% against.
- VP Internal and Organizational Development Corbett Gildersleve explained that since there were a number of significant By-Law changes made at the 2020 Annual General Meeting, there were gaps in the By-Laws due to merges and various other changes. The decision was made by the Governance Committee to reorganize the By-Laws and Renumber them, with all new By-Laws being added to the end.
- A member pointed out that By-Law 10, which read “Constituency Group” should instead read

“Constituency Groups”. President Gabe Liosis mentioned that since this was a simply typo, the change would be made in the final motion.

### **6.3 By-Law Proposal #3 (SFSS Divestment Bylaw) - MOTION AGM 2021-10-27:06**

The assembly will now consider the By-Law amendment proposals contained in By-Law Proposal Package #3

#### **Abigail Herd/Marie Haddad**

*Whereas the Climate Crisis is real and the SFSS has a responsibility to current and future generations to act; Whereas the SFSS has ISP-1 (Investment Statement Policy) that includes restrictions on directly investing in fossil fuels;*

*Whereas the SFSS has IP-6 (Issues Policy: Climate Justice and Sustainability) that includes full divestment from fossil fuels, supporting investments in green and renewable infrastructure, and supporting student-led climate justice initiatives;*

*Whereas the SFSS and SFU350 worked together last year to bring forward an SFSS spring referendum question to enshrine the SFSS's fossil fuel free investment policy in the By-Laws;*

*Whereas the referendum question received a 79% yes vote, well above the 2/3rds majority threshold, but did not meet the 5% of members voting quorum and therefore was not binding on the SFSS;*

*Be it resolved that the SFSS approve the following By-Law: SFSS Investment Restrictions*

*All direct investments made by the Society shall be fossil fuel free, which includes oil, gas and coal producers, pipeline companies, natural gas distribution utilities, and liquefied natural gas operations.*

*All Indirect investment is limited to equities whose company only derives at most 5% of their gross revenue from fossil fuel investments*

#### **CARRIED**

- Voting: 89% in favour and 11% against.
- Members of SFU350 gave a detailed presentation regarding the motion. They explained that the goal of the motion was to commit to divesting funds from the fossil fuel sector, including companies that were involved in extraction, processing, refining, and transporting fossil fuels. They added that the overall goal of divestment was revoking the social license of fossil companies to operate with impunity.
- In response to a member's inquiry about SFSS' past investments in fossil fuel companies, VP Internal and Organizational Development Corbett Gildersleve explained that the SFSS had never directly invested in a fossil fuel company but had likely invested indirectly through money that had been stored in the bank. He added that the money was now being managed through an asset manager through and held in a fossil fuel free account.
- In response to a member's question about how this By-Law would impact travel vouchers and other expenses, another member clarified that the By-Law exclusively referred to investments held by the SFSS. One of the SFU350 members clarified that this By-Law highlighted the need to systematically decarbonized, mentioning that only after that can there be a discussion about individual actions such as those referenced by the member's question.
- In response to a member's concerns about how this By-Law would hurt student choice and negatively impact students who wanted to have a career in the fossil fuel industry, and SFU350 member clarified that the goal of divestment was not to bankrupt these companies but to reduce their social license. She clarified that SFU350 and 350 Canada support a transition for those in the fossil fuel industry and support legislation like the Just Transition Act. Another member mentioned that this By-Law would not negatively impact individual students and that they would not face repercussions because of it.

- In response to a member's inquiry about the financial investments of the SFSS, VP Internal and Organizational Development explained that divesting from fossil fuels would be beneficial in the long run since it would reduce volatility from a stock perspective. He added that 65% of the SFSS' investments were held in government bonds and 35% in stocks and equity which was diversified.

## 7. SOCIETY STANCES

### 7.1 Accessible Course Practices Campaign Support - MOTION AGM 2021-10-27:07

**Kashish Mehta/Serena Bains**

*Whereas the SFSS Council launched the Accessible Course Practices Campaign to urge SFU faculty to standardize lecture recording to enhance the accessibility of education.*

*Whereas the SFSS Council has collected data from students that reflects significant anxiety from the student body upon return to campus whilst still in a pandemic*

*Whereas a majority of the students surveyed expressed that they would like their lectured to be recorded  
Whereas the working group has also collected data from SFU professors that shows that approximately 65% of the faculty will be recording lectures in the future and 35% are reluctant to do so*

*Whereas the SFSS acknowledges that recording lectures may be difficult for different teaching styles, but we believe that it is necessary to overcome the multiple barriers to education*

*Be it resolved that the SFSS Membership agrees that the Simon Fraser University and SFU faculty should answer to all the calls of action in the Accessible Courses Open letter, which includes:*

- SFU faculty should provide students with recordings of lectures whether it is audio, video, or even prior recorded lectures. Professors and instructors should also encourage their colleagues to adopt similar practices
- The Simon Fraser University should provide help to instructors through their IT department and invest in resources that better equip faculty to record their lectures
- The University should also incentivize instructors that standardize lecture recordings in their classrooms and agree to not use the lecture recordings without the instructors 'permission'

*Be it further resolved that the SFSS will push the university to make captioning with accessible font options available for all recordings.*

### **CARRIED AS AMENDED**

- Voting: 96% in favour and 4% against
- Biomedical Physiology & Kinesiology Councillor Kashish Mehta explained the need for students to have access to recorded lectures and the need to standardize this practice. She added that many students of diverse backgrounds would benefit from having access to lecture recordings including student parents, student athletes, international students, students who work, as well as marginalized students who face a disproportionate struggle to access their education. Referencing statistics collected during the Summer 2020 Accessible Course Practices Survey held by the SFSS, she mentioned that 79% of students had expressed anxiety about returning to in-person education and 95% of students had expressed support for standardizing lecture recordings.
- VP Equity and Sustainability Marie Haddad expressed that the SFSS had been warning SFU that students would face hardships returning to in-person education, including a discussion with SFU President and Vice-Chancellor Joy Johnson. She stated that students should not have to suffer just receive their education.
- A member spoke in favour of the motion, stating that, as a student with a disability, returning to

- campus had been challenging with professors denying the right to record lectures until the Centre for Accessible Learning intervened. The member highlighted that this stance would ensure fair and equitable access for all students.
- Software Systems Councillor Shashank Thanalapati highlighted that students were not asking for a lot from SFU and access to a hybrid education should be normalized. He discussed the wide variety of students who would benefit from having access to lecture recordings and mentioned that this motion was long overdue.
  - International Student Advocates Councillor Quynh Chi Bui discussed how lecture recordings were vital for students who were not native English speakers to give them the ability to review lectures and check their comprehension. This stance would be equitable for all. She urged members to vote in favour of the motion.
  - Data Science Councillor Warren Ho Kin spoke in favour of the motion. He asked members to reflect on times that they have ever missed something in class or had to miss a class and fallen behind in class. He added that missing class should never impede someone's access to education.
  - A member spoke out strongly in favour of the motion but added that there was a need for captioning of the recordings in order to be accessible for disabled students. The member added that disabled students had to fight every term for access to their education and added that disabled students were also student parents, athletes and other students which previous members had mentioned would benefit from the introduction of standardized lecture recordings. The member also discussed the need for remote attendance options.
  - Mathematics Councillor spoke in favour of the motion and urged fellow members to vote for it, mentioning that it would benefit students who attended classes as well.
  - The following amendment was proposed by VP Internal and Organizational Development, "Be it further resolved that the SFSS will push the university to make captioning with accessible font options available for all recordings."
  - The motion to include the amendment in the motion was carried.

## 8. RECEIPT OF REPORT FROM THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

### 8.1 MOTION AGM 2021-10-27:08

**Abhishek Parmar/Corbett Gildersleve**

*Be it resolved that the 2020-2021 report from the Board of Directors be received.*

**CARRIED**

- Voting: 97% in favour and 3% against.

## 9. RECEIPT OF REPORT FROM THE VICE PRESIDENT OF FINANCE

The Simon Fraser Student Society Vice President Finance will provide an overview of the Student Society's finances from May 1st, 2020, through April 30th, 2021.

### 9.1 MOTION AGM 2021-10-27:09

**Marie Haddad/Abhishek Parmar**

*Be it resolved that the 2020-2021 report from the Vice President Finance be received.*

**CARRIED**

- Voting: 94% in favour and 6% against.

## 10. RECEIPT OF REPORT FROM THE AUDITOR

The Simon Fraser Student Society's auditor, Tompkins Wozny LLP, will provide an overview of the Student Society's audited financial statements.

### 10.1 MOTION AGM 2021-10-27:10

**Joel Gilani/Abhishek Parmar**

*Whereas the independent auditor's report is included in the financial statements package. Be it resolved to receive the report from the auditor.*

*Be it further resolved to receive the financial statements for the year ended April 30th, 2021.*

**CARRIED**

- Voting: 95% in favour and 5% against.

## 11. APPOINTMENT OF THE AUDITOR

### 11.1 MOTION AGM 2021-10-27:11

**Audrey Heath/Eric**

*Be it resolved that Thompkins Wozny LLP, Chartered Professional Accountants, be appointed as the Simon Fraser Student Society Auditor for the 2021-22 fiscal year.*

**CARRIED**

- Voting: 96% in favour and 4% against.

## 12. OPEN SPACE

## 13. ADJOURNMENT

### 13.1 MOTION AGM 2021-10-27:12

**Xenon Tynan/Jocelle Refol**

*Be it resolved to adjourn the meeting at 9:58 PM.*

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

- Voting: 97 % in favour and 3% against.