

1. CALL TO ORDER

Call to Order - 4:39 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^wəyʻəm (Musqueam), Skwxwú7mesh Úxwumixw (Squamish), Selílíwitulh (Tsleil-Waututh), k^wik^wəλ̇əm (Kwikwetlem) and ḍicə̈y (Katzie) Nations. Unceded means that these territories have never been handed over, sold, or given up by these nations, and we are currently situated on occupied territories.

3. ROLL CALL OF ATTENDANCE

3.1 Council Composition Student Union Representatives

| Archeology Student Society (ASS) | Seniha Inceoz |
|--|------------------------|
| Bachelor of Environment Student Union | Tiana Andjelic |
| Behavioral Neuroscience Student Society (BNSS) | Aarthi Srinivasan |
| Biology Student Union (BSU) | Nicolas Bonilla |
| Biomedical Physiology Kinesiology Student Union | Jovan Gnjatovic |
| Business Administration Student Society | Meha Sidhu |
| Chemistry Student Society | Xiaohan (Hana) Li |
| Cognitive Science Student Association | Bhuban Karim |
| Collective of Arts and Cultures Studies Students | Vacant |
| Computing Science Student Society | Mabel Ling |
| Criminology Student Association | Henry Do |
| Dance Student Union | Vacant |
| Data Science Student Society | Jennifer Hung |
| Earth Science Student Union | Eden Lien |
| Economics Student Society | Rafid Rahman Chowdhury |
| Education Student Association | Vacant |
| Engineering Science Student Society | Tony Kooliyath |
| English Student Union | Vacant |
| Environmental Science Student Union | Grayson Barke |
| Faculty of Applied Science | Vacant |
| Faculty of Communications, Arts and Technology | Vacant |
| Film Student Union | Vacant |
| Fine and Performing Arts Student Union | Vacant |
| Gender, Sexuality, & Women's Studies | Vacant |
| Geography Student Union | Erik Makinen |
| Global Asia Studies | Vacant |
| Health Science Undergraduate Student Union | Ishika Rathore |
| History Student Union | Emilio Da Silva |



| Humanities Student Union | Vacant |
|--|-------------------|
| Indigenous Studies Student Union | Evan Accettola |
| Interactive Arts and Technology Student Union | Vacant |
| International Studies Student Association (ISSA) | Vacant |
| Labour Studies Student Union | Vacant |
| Linguistics Student Union | Vacant |
| Mathematics Student Union | Vacant |
| Mechatronics System Engineering Student Society | Aiden Maymandy |
| MBB Student Union (Vice-Chair) | Sam Killawee |
| Music Student Union | Vacant |
| Operations Research Student Union | Vacant |
| Philosophy Student Union | Nava Karimi |
| Physics Student Association | Vacant |
| Political Science Student Union | Aliyah Apolonio |
| Psychology Student Union | Vacant |
| Science Undergraduate Society (SUS) | |
| Semester in Dialogue Student Union | Vacant |
| Society of Arts and Social Sciences (SASS) | Rajdave Gill |
| Sociology and Anthropology Student Union (SASU) | Andres Sosa |
| Software Systems Student Society | |
| Statistics and Actuarial Science Student Association | Van Nguyen |
| Sustainable Energy Engineering Student Society | |
| Visual Arts Student Union | Vacant |
| World Languages and Literature Student Union | Richa Daiya |
| Constitute on the Constitute of the Constitute o | |
| Constituency Group Representatives Disability and Neurodiversity Alliance (DNA) | Den Arias Guillen |
| First Nations, Métis & Inuit Student Association | |
| International Student Advocates | |
| Out on Campus Collective (OOC) | |
| Students of Caribbean & African Ancestry (SOCA) | |
| Women Centre Collective | |
| | |
| Affiliated Student Groups | |
| Residence Hall's Association (RHA) | |
| Student Athlete Advisory Committee (SAAC) | |
| Teach Support Staff Union (TSSU) | - |
| Embark Sustainability | |
| SFPIRG | Tuleen Awad |



| President (Chair) | . Ashley Flett . Jadvinder Bolina . Thomas Lueth . Navleen Brar . Priyanka Kaur Dhesa |
|---|---|
| 3.2 Society Staff | |
| Facilities Manager | . Vacant |
| Temporary Operations Organizer | |
| Policy, Research, Community Affairs Coordinator | |
| Administrative Assistant | _ |
| | |
| 3.3 Guests | |
| Member | . Abhishek Parmar |
| Member | . Abden Cox |
| Member | . Abdul Aziz Hamoui |
| Member | . Alaa Al-Shaer |
| Member | . Anne Avery |
| Member | . Arwa Adnan |
| Member | . Brendan Routh |
| Member | . Chloe Arneson |
| Member | . Christina Salvador |
| Member | . Daniel Salcedo |
| Member | . Deanna Short |
| Member | . Eden Chipperfield |
| Member | . Elyse Gawley |
| Member | . Emily Blyth |
| Member | . Erica Dong |
| Member | . Gerogia Hume |
| Member | . Eshana Baran |
| Member | . Joel Gilani |
| Member | . Jaden Dyer |
| Member | . Jordana Stern |
| Member | . Laiba Khaliq |
| Member | . Levi Mymko |
| Member | . Marwan Saleh |
| Member | . Maryam Niaz |
| Member | . Nebula |
| Member | . Spirit Mayo |



| Member | Sumaiya Tufail |
|---|------------------------|
| Member | Vanessa Yuen |
| Member | Wajahat Ullah |
| Member | Zayed Khan |
| Member | - |
| | |
| 3.4 Regrets | |
| Philosophy Student Union | Nava Karimi |
| Science Undergraduate Society (SUS) | Catherine Ho |
| Biomedical Physiology Kinesiology Student Union | Jovan Gnjatovic |
| | |
| 3.5 Alternates | |
| Mechatronics System Engineering Student Society | Vatsal Shah |
| | |
| 3.6 Absents | |
| Bachelor of Environment Student Union | Tiana Andjelic |
| Chemistry Student Society | Xiaohan (Hana) Li |
| Cognitive Science Student Association | Bhuban Karim |
| Data Science Student Society | Jennifer Hung |
| Economics Student Society | Rafid Rahman Chowdhury |
| Geography Student Union | - |
| Society of Arts and Social Sciences (SASS) | |
| Sociology and Anthropology Student Union (SASU) | |
| World Languages and Literature Student Union | |
| | • |

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 – Council and Committee Minutes - MOTION COUNCIL 2024-01-03:01

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

- Council 2023-11-22
- Council 2023-12-06
- HRP 2023-12-04
- MSAC 2023-11-20

4.1.2. Ratification of Regrets- MOTION COUNCIL 2024-01-03:02

Be it resolved to ratify regrets from Philosophy Student Union, History Councillor, Mechatronics System Engineering Councillor, Political Science Councillor, Science Undergraduate Society

Online Via Zoom



(SUS), and Biomedical Physiology Kinesiology Student Union Councillors for the Council January 3rd meeting.

5. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

5.1 MOTION COUNCIL 2024-01-03:03

President / Archeology

Be it resolved to adopt the agenda as presented.

CARRIED AS AMENDED

- The ISSU Councillor moved to include a new business item titled as "Motion to investigate grammarly subscription for SFSS membership".
- The Archeology Councillor moved to strike the the notice of motion item titled as "Issues Policy Removal".
- The Acting VP Internal and VP Equity spoke in favor of striking the notice of motion titled as "Issues Policy Removal".
- The VP Events spoke in favor of striking the notice of motion titled as "Issues Policy Removal".
- The Acting VP Internal clarified that SFSS will not stop services for the Jewish students. They support the Jewish students as much as they support Palestinian students. They will not discriminate Jewish students on the basis of them being Jewish.
- One of the members mentioned that the Jewish students have been involved in this
 organization throughout this period, including themselves. During their time as the AVP
 Internal, they did a thorough review of IP10, taking into consideration Israeli and Jewish
 scholars of holocaust history.
- The MBB Councillor clarified to the chair that this discussion is taking place to remove the
 notice of motion and there will be no discussion on this after that. They spoke in favor of
 striking this motion.
- The SFPIRG Councillor mentioned that they would like to give their time to the students instead of taking their own speaking list.
- One of the members mentioned that they are speaking today because they are against the motion to repeal all 12 of the issues policies. This mass repeal would undermine and dismiss all of the hard work of various groups that has been undertaken in the last few years to create policy protection of the rights of students including specific marginalized communities within our school, including Palestinian students. From what they are hearing and reading, the repeal of all the issues policies may be happening with the veiled intention of repealing one policy in particular. This is Issue 10, the Palestinian Liberation Issues Policy. This policy protects students in their advocacy for a free Palestine, which means an end to Israeli occupation of Palestinian territories, an end to the oppression of Palestinians by Israeli forces, and an end to the genocide that is currently happening in Gaza by the state of Israel, in which Canada is complicit.
- Repealing these policies would result in the further marginalization of Palestinian students, their families, and those who stand in solidarity with them. They would also affirm that



supporting a free Palestine does not in any way constitute anti-Semitism, and Jewish students have the right to request an issues policy of their own. This motion puts multiple oppressed groups in our school at risk of further marginalization and undermines the rights of all students who deserve affordable tuition, a living wage, climate justice, and other rights laid out in the issues policies.

- From their experience, the world does not afford equality to all, despite rhetoric to the contrary. Power and privilege exist in all societies and to pretend that we are all equal with equal needs is a straight-up lie. These issues policies acknowledge the imbalance of power that exists, and they are important for student advocacy and struggle. Without them, the groups they represent will be pushed back in their efforts and those with more power will move forward in theirs. If there is a desire for equity in this space, then the motion will be struck down.
- One of the members mentioned that they support the striking of the motion to repeal the Issues Policies.
- Before Tedx in November they were targeted by a small group of students because they support the Palestinian people who are facing genocide according to UN experts. They attempted to remove them as a Tedx speaker as my topic ironically talks about their experience with Islamophobia.
- They reached out to a professor in the Is faculty who believed setting up a meeting with the student union president would be helpful. Unfortunately, it was not. On Dec 1st they met with Liam and their professor in a zoom meeting to share their experience. Before they got the opportunity to tell their story Liam brought up his mission to remove the issues policy stating it was divisive. Our meeting had nothing to do with that. They began questioning his reasoning for this and they found his answers inadequate and uneducated. Particularly as this is their area of study.
- Sadly in their department they will be studying this genocide in the future and how people and institutions reacted to it.
 - It is our responsibility as humans to support all people that face genocide, apartheid, occupation and human rights abuses especially when there are people working hard to justify genocide and when our government is complicit in it.
- We have students at SFU who are Palestinian and have had their family members murdered by the state of Israel.
- If you are uncomfortable with the diversity of SFU students and their experiences
 Then you shouldn't have leadership positions in the student union. Repealing this issues
 policy and not standing with Palestine is a grave injustice and does not represent the
 majority of the student body. Therefore, they support the motion for a cease fire and
 referendum
- One of the members mentioned that they are speaking today as they are extremely concerned about the motion to repeal all Issues Policies and they would like to highlight 3 points on why they call on the SFSS Council to strike against this motion.
- Firstly, the SFSS Issues Policies protect equity, justice, and student advocacy at SFU. These



- are important values to an engaged and safe SFU community that must be protected.
- Second, the attempt to appeal SFSS Issues Policies is undemocratic. It lacks consultation with all the the student groups impacted and involved with developing the policies as well as the student groups that voted in favor for them. Therefore, the SFSS is not representing its constituents by taking these proposed actions.
- The Issues Policies have been developed over years with careful and intensive consultation of affected groups. Appealing it would effectively undo years of student activism and negatively impact the marginalized communities that these policies support. (as other speakers have discussed.)
- Third, this comes at a time when support for IP10 and beyond is especially relevant. The ongoing genocide in Gaza has killed over 20,000 Palestinians. Student unions such as McGill, UofT and UBC have joined the global solidarity movement with Palestine by adopting pro-Palestine policies. In light of the current events, it is urgent for SFSS to support Palestinian liberation by calling for a ceasefire and calling for ending SFU complicity to genocide; and most certainly NOT removing policies currently in place to support Palestinian students and Palestinian liberation.
- One of the member mentioned that they are a Jewish student at SFU. They mentioned that
 as per Council Policy R-5, they are to represent at Council equally and are not to be
 discriminated against.
- They mentioned that they wanted to respond to our Acting VP Internal comments earlier where they stated that the SFSS does not ban students from SFSS services which is completely untrue.
- On February 2023, the Jewish student union were banned from booking a room in the SUB for an anti-Semitism education event solely due to the fact that the JSA did not use the IP-10 definition of anti-Semitism. One that JSA had no input in its creation. The definition within IP-10 does not represent the lived experience of the entire Jewish student body. It neglects the anti-Semitism that the Jewish people faced due to the conflict. This is a most common type of Semitism they faced today.
- They hope that the Council listen to the Jewish Student Community and have the SFSS rewrites the IP-10 to reflect their lived experiences. As Jewish people, they have the right to express the hate they have experienced not the executives who will never experience the hate or the anti-Semitism during their life time.
- In response the Acting VP Internal mentioned that they agree that it would be terrible if
 Jewish people are referred to as money hungry or other terrible words which causes hurt
 and raises anti-Semitism.
- They feel that they should avoid such languages. They feel that we should be specific on how they criticize Israel on its action to ensure that we are not being anti-sematic and that we are criticizing the political actions of the government and not the religious action of the people.
- They highlighted that its mentioned in IP-10 which explicitly states the difference of criticizing the political actions and not the religious ones.



- In response to the event they were denied at SFSS, they mentioned that, they were not denied for tabling for the Anti-Semitism event, they did end up going to SFU for tabling and not SFSS.
- The member mentioned that it was not tabling it was an anti-Semitism education event.
- The Acting VP Internal mentioned that it was room booking and that they booked a room with SFU and not the SFSS. They did not stop them but provided some suggestions. By no means the issues policies were invoked to ban them from booking a room for the event. In fact, they encourage to do so. But, they went for other options.
- The member mentioned that the policy states that the Jewish student does not have the right to define their lived experience and that they strongly disagree with them. And, that it was stated that their definition does not align with the SFSS.
- The Acting VP Internal in response mentioned that it was not something that was told to them. They apologise for the fact that their definition is different from ours. And, that proper consultation was not done with them before creation of IP-10. But, their definition does not endorse anti-Semitism and they are allowed to book the room. They were not denied to book the room just because of the definition.
- The Archeology Councillor moves to reorder the agenda and take new business item titled as "SFSS Calls for a Permanent Ceasefire and Defends Palestinian Liberation Solidarity at SFU" after the adoption of the agenda.
- The Acting VP Internal moved to amend the old business item titled as "Approval of Finance Policy".

6. NEW BUSINESS

6.1 SFSS Calls for a Permanent Ceasefire and Defends Palestinian Liberation Solidarity at SFU-MOTION 2024-01-03:04

SUBMITTED BY: Archaeology Councillor

ATTACHMENTS: SFSS Motion - 2024 SFSS - Call for Ceasefire and Defend Palestine Liberation

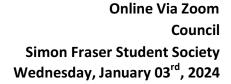
Solidarity at SFU

President / Archaeology

Whereas in 1948, the current state of Israel was established through the expulsion of a majority of the Indigenous Palestinian population, turning them into refugees who decades later still cannot exercise their fundamental right to return as stipulated in UN General Assembly resolution 194;

Whereas since 1967, Israel has occupied and colonized the West Bank, Gaza, and East Jerusalem, building illegal Jewish-only settlements – which the UN has called a "flagrant" violation of international law – as well as an 8-metre segregation wall – condemned by the International Court of Justice;

Whereas Israel is currently conducting a ruthless bombing campaign and genocide killing at least an estimated 20,000 Palestinians and displacing over 2 million people multiple times to date since October 7, 2023 in Gaza and the West Bank, similar to the 2014 and 2021 bombing campaigns on





Gaza in which so many Palestinian civilians were killed by the Israeli military;

Whereas Israel continues to suppress and enact violence and occupation across Palestine, allowing the proliferation of illegal settlements in the West Bank and East Jerusalem, as well as continuing a current siege and military blockade of Gaza, controlling Gaza's air, land and sea ports;

Whereas on July 9, 2005, 171 Palestinian civil society organizations called upon people of conscience around the world to implement a global campaign of boycott, divestment and sanctions (BDS) against Israel, similar to those applied to South Africa in the apartheid era;

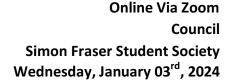
Whereas the SFSS Council Passed a Motion opposing the Colonization of Palestine in May 2021 which called for the end to the Occupation and established a working group to draft and formulate SFSS' support for Palestine through a SFSS Palestine Liberation Issues Policies;

Whereas the SFSS Free Palestine Working Group and various additional groups endorsed the Palestinian Liberation Issues Policy, namely, SFU Student for Justice in Palestine (SJP), UBC Solidarity for Palestinian Human Rights (SPHR), the Palestinian Youth Movement Vancouver (PYM), BDS Vancouver – Coast Salish, SFU Arab Student Association (ASA), SFU Migrants Students United (MSU), SFU International Student Advocates (ISA), SFU First Nations, Métis & Inuit Student Association (FNMISA), SFU Students of Caribbean & African Ancestry (SOCA), SFU Disability and Neurodiversity Alliance (DNA), The Simon Fraser Public Interest Research Group (SFPIRG), SFU Radical Individual's for Solidarity and Equity (RISE), SFU International Studies Student Association (ISSA), SFU 350, Anti-Racism Coalition Vancouver (ARC), Canadian Voices Against Racism (CVAR), and The Caucus among many others;

Whereas all departmental student unions, faculty student unions, constituency groups and affiliated groups as part of the SFSS Council that were present on April 20, 2022, unanimously voted in favour and passed the Palestinian Liberation Policy which outlined SFSS support for Palestine after widespread membership support for and multiple groups endorsing;

Whereas the SFSS constitution outlines the purpose of the society to coordinate and promote all undergraduate student activities, of, by, and for the undergraduate students of Simon Fraser University, to promote, among other goals democratically determined by the Society, the principles of public, universally accessible, high-quality post-secondary education, and of meaningful undergraduate student participation in all aspects of University governance, and to facilitate collective action by undergraduate students at Simon Fraser University, within the Province of British Columbia, and elsewhere in support of these principles, in a manner that is reflective of the anti-oppressive mandate of the SFSS as outlined in SFSS Bylaw 6(16);

Whereas the student movement has historically been a driving force in advocating for social justice and change, actively participating in and supporting various movements, from opposing the Vietnam War, championing the Black Power movement in the 60s, aligning with labour rights





movements, endorsing movements including Idle No More, and opposing apartheid in South Africa up until the 1990s, illustrating our unwavering commitment to societal progress, justice, and equity;

Whereas the SFSS has supported and empowered marginalized students, actively participating in past student movements such as the Tuition Action against government defunding of public education and campaigns for divestment, sanctions, and boycotts against apartheid South Africa, leading to the establishment of the Issues Policies that protect and clarify the society's stances on crucial matters, including Reproductive Rights, Black History Month, Accessibility, Living Wage, Tuition Affordability, Climate Justice, Indigenous Inclusion and Reconciliation, Disability Justice, Anti-Racism, Policing and Militarization, Palestinian Liberation and an ongoing commitment to further causes, in furtherance of Bylaw 6(16) which outlines that all activities and endorsements of the Council reflect the anti-oppressive mandate of the Society;

Whereas the SFSS is yet to make a statement, take action or support student advocacy on campus in the face of the recent bombing campaign, complete siege, and genocide in Gaza to align itself with the SFSS Issues Policies which states the society supports such actions,

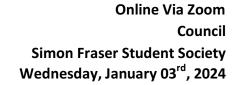
Be it further resolved that the SFSS Council call for a permanent ceasefire in Palestine, the end to the siege and genocide in Gaza, and for an end to the Israeli occupation in occupied Palestinian territories, and reaffirm its support for the current Palestinian Liberation Issues Policy previously passed by Council;

Be it further resolved that the SFSS Council call upon the Canadian Government to put all the resources at their disposal to ensure a permanent ceasefire;

Be it further resolved that the SFSS Council announce the passing of this motion and outline the previous motions passed with the resources in the Background as outlined;

Be it further resolved that the SFSS Council endorse the SFU Students for Justice in Palestine open letter to SFU, currently signed and endorsed by multiple groups including: the SFU Graduate Student Society, Teaching Support Staff Union (TSSU), Palestinian Youth Movement (PYM), Independent Jewish Voices Youth Bloc, United in Struggle, Simon Fraser Public Interest Research Group (SFPIRG), SFU Disability & Neurodiversity Alliance, SFU Ukrainian Students Society, SFU Students of Caribbean and African Ancestry (SOCA), Psychology Student Union (PSU), SFU Music + Sound Student Union, Sociology and Anthropology Graduate Student Association, The Peak Publications Society, Muslim Students Association (MSA), Arab Students Association (ASA), SFU350, Bangladesh Student Alliance (BSA), Undergraduate Student Solidarity (USS), Migrant Students United at SFU, SFU Slam Poetry Club, Ambedkar Reading Group, United Migrant Front, Roots on the Roof, Sustainabiliteens, Thagalyn Muslim Association (TMA), and counting;

Be it further resolved that the SFSS Council put to the next referenda to adopt at Membership





level by referenda, the current Palestinian Liberation Issues Policy previously passed by Council in 2022 as attached, to be voted on by Membership via a vote at referendum, with the submitter of this motion submitting the referendum question, and the question be outlined to membership as follows:

Whereas an Issues Policies may be adopted by Membership at the Membership level and if passed can only then afterwards be repealed at the Membership level, as per bylaw 6(11);

Whereas non-passage of an Issues Policies by referenda would mean the Policy will continue to be an Issues Policies at the SFSS Council level;

Whereas the SFSS Council previously unanimously passed the SFSS Palestinian Liberation Issues Policy in solidarity with the Palestinian people after the previous bombardment of Gaza in 2021, and now there is a continuing genocide and siege on Gaza since October 7, 2023, resulting in the death of an estimated 20,000 Palestinians and further displacement of 2 million people;

Whereas the people of Palestine continue to face occupation and blockade by the current State of Israel and the Palestinian Liberation Issues Policy was adopted to be in solidarity with the Palestinian people and passed unanimously,

Be it resolved that the SFSS Membership adopt the SFSS Palestinian Liberation Issues Policy at the Membership level, as permitted by SFSS Bylaw 6(11)

Be it further resolved that the referendum question is accompanied with the following references as background to be accompanied with the motion for referenda:

- 1) The actual Palestine Liberation Issues policy itself as attached
- 2) Original motion submitted during the original passage of the policy,
- 3) The SFSS Council statement after SFSS Council passed the policy

CARRIED

Abstentions (4): SEES, SSSS, EVCS, and ESSS.

- The SFPIRG Councillor mentioned that this motion is coming at a time of ongoing genocide.
- One of the members mentioned that this is not political, this is humanitarian, this is students for justice.
 - The MBB Councillor moved to add the following amendment to the motion "We unequivocally condemn Hammas' terror attacks on Israel on October 7th, the appalling loss of life, and the heinous acts of violence perpetrated in those attacks, including sexual violence.
 - We condemn Hamas' unacceptable treatment of hostages and call for immediate and unconditional release of the remaining hostages.
 - We recognise Israel must respect international humanitarian law. Civilians and



civilian infrastructure must be protected. We are alarmed at the diminishing safe space for civilians in Gaza.

The price of defeating Hamas cannot be the continuous suffering of all Palestinian civilians."

- One of the member spoke against the amendment proposed by the MBB Councillor to protect the interest of the students. They also mentioned that not everyone agree with what Canadian government has to say, so by using the exact wording of what they mentioned might not be a good thing to do.
- One of the members mentioned that if the student union has concerns about factual information and history.
- They recommend consulting the history and IS department as it is really important
 to differentiate nationalist history and narratives versus actual history that has no
 nationalist agenda, the Canadian stance is flawed and contradicts international law.

NOT CARRIED

In Favour (0)

Against (15): Archaeology, Biology Student Union, Computing Science, Criminology, MBB, SOCA, DNA, RHA, TSSU, SFPIRG, Acting VP Internal, VP Finance and Services, VP University, VP External, and VP Equity.

Abstentions (14): Business Administration, ESSU, Engineering Science, Environmental Student Union, Health Science, ISSU, Mechatronic System Engineering, SUS, Software Systems, Statistics, Sustainable Energy Engineering Student Society, FNMISA, President, and VP Events.

6.2 Call the Question -MOTION COUNCIL 2024-01-03:05

SUBMITTED BY: Indigenous Studies Student Union Councillor ISSU / Acting VP Internal CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

7. OLD BUSINESS

7.1 Western Engineering Conference Funding-MOTION COUNCIL 2024-01-03:06

SUBMITTED BY: Engineering Science Councillor

Acting VP Internal / President

Whereas WEC (Western Engineering Competition) provides an outlet for engineering students across western Canada to demonstrate their skills and develop invaluable connections;

Whereas WEC will be hosted in the University of Manitoba on January 26th - 29th, 2024;

Whereas 17 winners as a result of 2024's EC SFU will be attending WEC for the categories: programming, senior & junior design, consulting, and re-engineering; Whereas they are seeking financial support above what admin and staff are allowed to approve;



Whereas they are seeking \$20,000 of funding to support students for this event;

Be it resolved to approve of allocating \$2586 for the trip.

CARRIED AS AMENDED UNANIMOUSLY

- The ESS Councillor mentioned that they are asking for funds for 17 students attending WEC in University of Manitoba. They are requesting for \$2586 only.
- The Acting VP Internal moved to strike "X" with "\$2586".

7.2 Approval of Finance Policy- MOTION COUNCIL 2024-01-03:07

SUBMITTED BY: Acting VP Internal and Organizational Development

ATTACHMENTS: SFSS Finance Policies 2023-11-02

Acting VP Internal / President

Whereas the FASC Committee reviewed and recommended changes to the Finance Policy of the Society on October 13th, 2023;

Whereas the Governance Committee reviewed and discussed these changes on October 30th, 2023;

Be it resolved that the SFSS adopt the changes to Finance Policy outlined in attachment "SFSS Finance Policies Whereas the FASC Committee reviewed and recommended changes to the Finance Policy of the Society on 2023-11-02;

Be it resolved that the SFSS adopt the changes to Finance Policy outlined in attachment "SFSS Finance Policies 2023-11-02".

CARRIED AS AMENDED UNANIMOUSLY

7.3 Staff Gift Cards - MOTION COUNCIL 2024-01-03:08

SUBMITTED BY: Acting VP Internal and Organizational Development

President / CSA

Whereas SFSS gives staff gift cards annually at the end of the calendar year as a gesture of gratitude for their work.

Be it resolved to approve \$5,813.62 from 816/31 to purchase gift cards for all staff members.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

 One of the member mentioned that it is a shame we could not approve before the holidays so it will now be a new year's gift. They appreciate all the work staff put into through the years.

8. **NEW BUSINESS**

8.1 Investigate grammarly subscription for SFSS membership- MOTION 2024-01-03:09 SUBMITTED BY: Indigenous Studies Student Union



President / ISSU

Whereas the SFSS exists as an organization that aims to provide support and benefits to membership in their academic studies;

Whereas many students utilize grammarly in their studies;

Whereas grammarly premium is very expensive for the average student;

Whereas student unions such as the Toronto Metropolitan University Students Union, McGill and the NGUSS (University of Northern British Columbia) provide students the option to purchase grammarly premium for their studies for as low as \$10 per year (a significant discount of over 75% from the regular price);

Be it resolved we research and investigate the possibility of providing discounted access to grammarly premium to SFSS membership.

Be it further resolved we connect if needed with the UNBC, McGill or TMU student unions investigate how they gained access to this discounted service

Be it further resolved that if reasonable, within our power, and financially viable after investigation and research we provide SFSS membership with access to discounted grammarly premium subscriptions.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

- The Acting VP Internal mentioned that this is a cool initiative to provide students access to grammarly at a discounted rate. They suggested perhaps if we can ask if SFU can provide grammarly for free as they do Microsoft office.
- Also, this could be something VP University can ask the SFU for.
- The ISSU mentioned that other universities are doing it in a way that they are not spending the money but providing services in terms of partnerships. Some universities charge 10\$ annually with the option of opt out.

8.2 \$500,000 Investment into a longer-term RBC GIC - MOTION 2024-01-03:10

SUBMITTED BY: VP Finance and Services

President / VP Events

Whereas markets continue to be unpredictable heading into 2024;

Whereas the bank of Canada has not indicating towards lowering the interest rates heading into the new year;

^{*} The Business Administration Councillor left the meeting at 7:01 PM



Whereas quarterly inflation continues to remain well above 2% targets;

Whereas safer investments are required in an era of rapid inflation and economic instability;

Be it resolved that council approves an investment of \$500,000 into a compounding RBC-long term GIC at 4.25% annually.

POSTPONED

The Acting VP Internal mentioned that they are not an expert on money and they are
willing to defer on our VP Finance on this. However, on the policy perspective, they are not
happy to see this on adoption of agenda and not seeing this motion a week in advance as it
is a huge amount. They suggest to move to postpone this to the next council meeting so
they can see proper briefing notes and notices are given in advance to review the motion
thoroughly.

8.3 Move to Postpone 8.2 to the next council meeting - MOTION 2024-01-03:11 Acting VP Internal / CSA CARRIED

Abstentions (1): President

8.4 Guidance on the Issues Policies - GIC - MOTION 2024-01-03:12

SUBMITTED BY: MBB Councillor MBB / Acting VP Internal

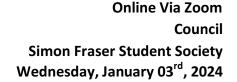
Whereas the President bypassed the Equity and Sustainability Committee, and the Governance Committee, in advancing a motion to remove the Issues Policies from SFSS Policy;

Whereas President Liam Feng failed to meet the requirements outlined in the Issues Policies for making changes to them, for instance;

- President Liam Feng failed in his duty to consult with the affected groups, in particular the First Nations, Métis & Inuit Student Association or an equivalent which according to IP-7 "must be consulted and must endorse any changes considered to this issue's policy";
- President Liam Feng failed to follow IP-4, specifically 1-d(iv) by not "Consulting with SFU Disability and Neurodiversity Alliance and the SFSS Accessibility Committee [making changes] to this policy";

Whereas By-Law 7(8) states "Without limiting the provisions in these By-Laws, Council may pass Regulations further restricting the powers the Executive Committee may exercise in between meetings of Council".

^{*}Indigenous Studies Student Union left the meeting at 7:14 PM





Be It Resolved to restrict the Executive Committee from bringing motions that amend, suspend, or remove the Issues Policies or any action to the effect thereof;

Be it further Resolved that any motions or actions to the effect thereof which seek to amend, suspend, or remove the Issues Policies must be recommended by both the Equity and Sustainability Committee, and the Governance Committee, before being considered by Council.

Be it finally Resolved to direct the Oversight Committee on Executive Officers to investigate the actions of President Liam Feng for any breaches of By-Law, Policy, or Issues Policy relating to actions taken by the President to remove the Issues Policies.

Be it further resolved that any changes, amendments, suspensions, or removals to the Issues policies first be consulted with CGs and other relevant groups.

Be it further resolved that investigation includes communications between President Liam Feng and the University

CARRIED AS AMENDED

Against (2): VPUAA and SSSS.

Abstentions (1): VP Events.

- There is a direct conflict of interest for the president to vote on this motion.
- The President left the meeting at 7:16 PM.
- The SFPIRG Councillor moved to amend the last be it resolved clause and add the below outlined clause as "Be it further resolved that any motions or actions to the effect thereof which seeks to amend, suspend, or remove the Issues Policies must be recommended by both the Equity and Sustainability Committee, the Governance Committee and as well as Constituency and other student groups relating to relevant issues policies before being considered by Council.

Be it further resolved that investigation includes communications between the president and the University to see what collusion took place, if any, for the removal of these policies.

*The BSU Councillor left the meeting at 7:32 PM

- The SSSS Councillor mentioned that this motion will give a lot of power to a couple of people and it is dangerous.
- The MBB Councillor clarified the SSSS Councillor that the relevant policies have to go through the relevant committees for changes of issues policies and the structure of SFSS how it is dictating policies and bylaws.
- If anyone would like to bring a change to Issues Policies, they should email the Acting VP Internal and the VP Equity.
- The SFPIRG Councillor retracted their amendment.



• The Acting VP Internal proposed the following amendment "Be it further resolved that any changes, amendments, suspensions, or removals to the Issues policies first be consulted with CGs and other relevant groups.

Be it further resolved that investigation includes communications between President Liam Feng and the University."

8.5 Call the Question- MOTION COUNCIL 2024-01-03:13 MBB / VP External CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

*The President rejoined the meeting at 8:02 PM

9. **NEW BUSINESS**

9.1 Move to extend the meeting until 8:35 PM - MOTION COUNCIL 2024-01-03:14 Acting VP Internal / MBB CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

10. 30 MINUTES Q&A

- In response to one of the members regarding if the President was forced to bring this up or if there was group who forced them to bring this up, the President mentioned that this is something they brought up. It is just a different of opinion others have. They feel that everyone would have a different opinion to run the society and it is normal.
- They did not expect not only students but also the executive team would come up all together to disagree on this. They respect the fact that everyone cares about something, and they would not like to take away something that the students do not want.
- In response to one of the members regarding why this was done in a rushed way and no consultation was done, the President mentioned that they forgot to formally draft a notice of motion. The second reason was not talking to the relevant groups that was a tragedy. They thought if they went through all constituency groups it would take a lot of time as they only have 4 months left. And, if they go to talk to everyone, everyone would have a different voice and it can delay the matter.
- The MBB Councillor mentioned that the OCEO would be looking into this and further information would be clear after the OCEO does its investigation.
- In response to the President regarding what the OCEO would be looking at, would they look at the President's hours in the work report, the MBB Councillor mentioned that they always look at that and they requested them for the November and December work report. Also, they would look into the communications of them and the VPUAA.
- In response to the President regarding what happens if they talked to the VPUAA, the MBB Councillor mentioned that they would request the President to share the conversations and send it over to the OCEO.



• The President mentioned that the conversations were verbal, in response the MBB Councillor mentioned that in that case they would invite the President to the OCEO and interview them.

11. ATTACHMENTS

- **11.1** SFSS Motion 2024 SFSS Call for Ceasefire and Defend Palestine Liberation Solidarity at SFU
- **11.2** SFSS-Issues-Policies-2023-12-05
- **11.3** SFSS Finance Policies 2023-11-02

12. ADJOURNMENT

12.1 MOTION COUNCIL 2024-01-03:15

President / CSA

Be it resolved to adjourn the meeting at 8:16 PM

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

SFSS Finance Policies

SFU Student Society

simon fraser student society

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Introduction

Last Changed Date: 2022-04-28

POLICIES



FP-1: STUDENT SOCIETY FEES

| POLICY TYPE: FINA | ance Policies | | |
|-------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|--|
| Policy Title: Stu | Policy Title: Student Society Fees | | |
| POLICY REFERENC | E Number: FP-1 | | |
| | | Adopted: June 12, 2020 | |
| | | Revised: June 2021 | |
| | | Next Scheduled Revision: June 2022 | |
| Position | Signature | Date | |
| President | | | |

Policy

1.1 The establishment and collection of Student Society Fees is conducted in a manner consistent with the Requirements contained in the *University Act*, Section 27.1, and the Regulations of the Act.

Definitions

- 1.2 "Capital Fee" means a Student Society Fee collected for capital expenditures.
- 1.3 "Prescribed Fee" means a Student Society Fee collected from all students registered in undergraduate courses at SFU, including non-members of the Society.
- 1.4 "Program or Service Fee" is a prescribed Student Society Fee or a Student Society Fee for a prescribed program or service, which may include:
 - (a) the operating expenditures of a student society,
 - (b) support by a student society for students, student activities, or student organizations,
 - (c) support by a student society for individuals other than students, non-student activities, or non-student organizations,
 - (d) financial assistance from a student society to individuals or organizations,
 - (e) cultural, educational, political, recreational and social activities and events,
 - (f) health care benefit plans,

- (g) dental care benefit plans,
- (h) transportation programs,
- (i) advocacy activities,
- (j) the provision of goods, and
- (h) the provision of services.
- 1.5 "Part-Time Student" means an undergraduate student at Simon Fraser University taking three (3) or fewer course hours per semester.
- 1.6 "Full-Time Student" means an undergraduate student at Simon Fraser University other than a Part-Time Student.
- 1.7 "Student Society Fee" is a fee collected by the University on behalf of the Society as provided for in *University Act*, Section 27.1.

1.8 Schedule - 2018-2019

(a) The following table provides a list of the Student Society Fees to be collected each semester on its behalf by Simon Fraser University for the 2018-2019 academic year.

| Student Society Fee Name | Fee Type | Fee Category | Full- Time Student Fee | Part- Time Student Fee | Note |
|--|----------------|------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|------|
| Simon Fraser Student Society Membership Fee | Prescribed Fee | Program or Service Fee | \$ 42.74 | \$ 21.38 | |
| Student Society Building Fund/Capital Levy | Prescribed Fee | Capital Fee | \$ 5.00 | \$ 2.50 | |
| SFSS Food Bank Program | Prescribed Fee | Program or Service Fee | \$ 0.25 | \$ 0.13 | |
| Build SFU Levy (Effective until December 31, 2018) | Prescribed Fee | Capital Fee | \$ 50.00 | \$ 25.00 | 1 |
| Build SFU Levy (Effective as of January 1, 2019) | Prescribed Fee | Capital Fee | \$ 60.00 | \$30.00 | 1 |
| Simon Fraser Public Interest Research Group | Prescribed Fee | Program or Service Fee | \$ 3.00 | \$ 1.50 | |
| Peak Publication Society | Prescribed Fee | Program or Service Fee | \$ 4.90 | \$ 2.45 | |
| CJSF - Campus Community Radio Society | Prescribed Fee | Program or Service Fee | \$ 3.75 | \$ 1.88 | |
| Student Refugee - WUSC | Prescribed Fee | Program or Service Fee | \$ 2.50 | \$ 1.25 | |
| First Nations Student Association | Prescribed Fee | Program or Service Fee | \$ 0.75 | \$ 0.38 | |
| Universal Transit Pass | Prescribed Fee | Program or Service Fee | \$ 164.00 | \$ 164.00 | |

| Accessibility Fund | Prescribed Fee | Program or Service Fee | \$ 0.75 | \$ 0.38 | |
|-------------------------------|----------------|------------------------|---------|---------|--|
| Embark Sustainability Society | Prescribed Fee | Program or Service Fee | \$ 3.50 | \$ 1.75 | |

(b) The following table provides a list of the Student Society Fees to be collected once per calendar year on its behalf by Simon Fraser University for the 2018-2019 academic year:

| Student Society Fee Name | Fee Туре | Fee Category | Full- Time Student Fee | Part- Time Student Fee | Note |
|---|----------------|------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|------|
| Health Plan (for students beginning in Fall 2018) | Prescribed Fee | Program or Service Fee | \$ 90.72 | \$ 90.72 | 2 |
| Dental Plan (for students beginning in Fall 2018) | Prescribed Fee | Program or Service Fee | \$ 177.03 | \$ 177.03 | 2 |
| Health Plan (for students beginning in Spring 2019) | Prescribed Fee | Program or Service Fee | \$ 60.48 | \$ 60.48 | 2 |
| Dental Plan (for students beginning in Spring 2019) | Prescribed Fee | Program or Service Fee | \$ 118.02 | \$ 118.02 | 2 |
| Health Plan (for students beginning in Summer 2019) | Prescribed Fee | Program or Service Fee | See Note | See Note | 2 |
| Dental Plan (for students beginning in Summer 2019) | Prescribed Fee | Program or Service Fee | See Note | See Note | 2 |

Notes

- 1.9 Note 1: Build SFU Levy approved via student referendum in March 2012 as follows:
 - (a) Effective January 1, 2018: \$50.00 for full time and \$25.00 for part time.
 - (b) The levy will increase by \$10.00 for full time and \$5.00 for part time on January 1 of each following year until 2022, at which point it will be capped and adjusted annually for inflation according to the Canadian Consumer Price Index (CPI).
- 1.10 Note 2: Undergraduate Student Health and Dental Plan
 - (a) Students will only be assessed Health Plan and Dental Plan fees once per calendar year according to the first term attended.
 - (b) Students beginning in Summer term may enroll themselves during the term's Change-of-Coverage Period through the health plan provider.
- 1.11 <u>Note 3</u>: Students will only be assessed Health Plan and Dental Plan fees once per calendar year according to the first term attended. Students beginning in Summer term may enroll themselves during the term's Change-of-Coverage Period through the health plan provider.

Exemptions

- 1.12 Canadian citizens and permanent residents aged 60 years of age or more are exempt from all Student Society Fees.
- 1.13 Visiting students enrolled in the Foreign Exchange Program (FEP), who pay their fees through their home institution are exempt from all Student Society Fees.
- 1.14 The following undergraduate segments are not charged the Health and Dental Plan Student Society Fees unless they register themselves directly with the "I Have A Plan" Administration Office:
 - (a) students beginning their academic year in May.
 - (b) students registered exclusively in Distance Education or programs based outside the Lower Mainland,
 - (c) students enrolled in the Professional Development Program (PDP) who were registered as off-campus are not automatically covered,
 - (d) students enrolled in the Concurrent Studies program
- 1.15 The following undergraduate segments are not eligible for the Health and Dental Plan, and are not charged the Health and Dental Student Society Fees:
 - (a) students registered in Continuing Education,
 - (b) student registered in non-credit programs,
 - (c) students studying on exchange or Co-op who are paying fees to their home institution, and
 - (d) auditing students.
 - (e) students enrolled in the Concurrent Studies program
- 1.16 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"

Process

- 1.17 Each year, on April 1, the Finance Department will submit to the University Council of Governors, care of Student Financial Director:
 - (a) an annual notice listing the Student Society Fees to be collected from members of the Society and non-members who are taking undergraduate courses at the University,
 - (b) a note stating that the requirement to make available to its members annual audited financial statements and a report on those financial statements by an auditor who meets the requirements of section 112 of the Societies Act has been met, and
 - (c) a note stating any changes to the listed Student Society Fees since the last notice.
- 1.18 Each semester, the University will submit a student count and Student Society Fees break down chart to the Society.
- 1.19 As the Society receives fees from the University they shall be apportioned among the Society and affiliate organizations for which fees are collected.
- 1.20 The Finance and Administrative Services Committee shall review a report from the University once a semester that indicates:
 - (a) the total value of the Student Activity Fee that was collected, and
 - (b) the number of students, broken down by category and by part- and full-time status who are exempt from paying the Student Activity Fee or who are only charged half the fee and this document will automatically reflected on the end of that review.



FP-2 PAYMENT OF STUDENT SOCIETY FEES BY NON-STUDENT MEMBERS

POLICY TYPE: FINANCE POLICIES

POLICY TITLE: PAYMENT OF STUDENT SOCIETY FEES BY NON-STUDENT MEMBERS

POLICY REFERENCE NUMBER: FP-2

Adopted: June 12, 2020

Revised: June 2021

Next Scheduled Revision: June 2022

| Position | Signature | Date |
|-----------|-----------|------|
| President | | |

Policy

2.1 In order to maintain their good standing, a member not currently registered in any undergraduate courses at SFU must pay their SFSS Membership Fee.

Standards

- 2.2 A person who is not registered in an undergraduate course at SFU in the current semester is a member if, and only if, they were registered in an undergraduate course in the semester immediately preceding the current semester.
- 2.3 Only a member not registered in an undergraduate course at SFU may pay their SFSS Membership Fees to the Society directly.
- 2.4 Payment of the SFSS Membership Fees by members not currently registered in an undergraduate course only ensures their good standing. It is not a sufficient condition to affect their status as members or their status as active members.

Supports

- Directors
- Members

Process

- 2.5 Where a person wishes to pay the SFSS Membership Fee to the Society directly, they will:
 - (a) present themselves to the Policy, Research, Community Affairs Coordinator (PRCAC) to determine their status as members,

- (b) where the person is deemed to be a member, the PRCAC will complete and sign a Confirmation of Member Status Form, and provide that form to the General Office for processing, and
- (c) upon receiving the Confirmation of Member Status Form, the General Office will:
 - (i) receive payment for the Part-Time SFSS Membership Fee, the value of which is listed in FP-1: Student Society Fees,
 - (ii) indicate on the receipt the date, time, and that the payment was received for the Part-Time SFSS Membership Fee,
 - (iii) the staff processing the payment will write their name and sign the receipt, make a copy of the Confirmation of Member Status Form and receipt for the member, and
 - (iv) provide the original copies of the Confirmation of Member Status Form and receipt to the PRCAC for filing.
- 2.6 A feedback form will be made available to all requesters using the Payment of Student Society Fee by Non-Students service.



FP-3: REIMBURSEMENT OF STUDENT SOCIETY FEES

| POLICY TYPE: FIN | JANCE POLICIES | |
|---|-----------------|------------------------------------|
| POLICY TITLE: REIMBURSEMENT OF STUDENT SOCIETY FEES | | |
| | CE NUMBER: FP-3 | |
| | | Adopted: June 12, 2020 |
| | | Revised: June 2021 |
| | | Next Scheduled Revision: June 2022 |
| Position | Signature | Date |
| President | | |

Policy

- 3.1 The collection and reimbursement of Student Society Fees is a process administered by Simon Fraser University on behalf of, and in a manner consistent with, the requirements of the *University Act*.
- 3.2 Only in exceptional circumstances will the Society reimburse and/or advocate for the reimbursement of Student Society Fees.

Standards

- 3.3 The SFSS does not administer the reimbursement process or reimbursement standards for the following Student Society Fees that are remitted to affiliate organizations:
 - (a) Simon Fraser Public Interest Research Group
 - (b) Embark Sustainability Society
 - (c) CJSF Campus Community Radio Society
 - (d) Peak Publication Society
- 3.4 The SFSS does not administer the reimbursement process or standards for the following Student Society Fees remitted to externally administered programs and services:
 - (a) Student Refugee WUSC (SFU)
 - (b) Health Plan (Student Care)

- (c) Dental Plan (Student Care)
- (d) Universal Transit Pass (TransLink)
- 3.5 The SFSS may administer a reimbursement process and standards for the following Student Society Fees in specific and exceptional circumstances:
 - (a) SFSS Membership Fee
 - (b) SFSS Food Bank Program
 - (c) Accessibility Fund
 - (d) First Nations Student Association
 - (e) Build SFU Levy
 - (f) Student Society Building Fund / Capital Levy
- 3.6 Members are only eligible to the SFSS administered reimbursement process under the following exceptional circumstances:
 - (a) the member has provided all documentation requested by Society staff to them to verify their eligibility,
 - (b) the member has provided Society staff with explicit, written consent to receive from the University any and all information necessary to the verification of the reimbursement application,
 - (c) the member has provided Society staff with explicit, written consent to advocate on their behalf for the reimbursement of all their fees paid at the time of registration to the University,
 - (d) all University fees, such as tuition, have been reimbursed by the University,
 - (e) Student Society Fees have not been reimbursed by the University,
 - (f) the member is no longer registered in any undergraduate courses for the semester in question, and
 - (g) the member has submitted the request for reimbursement prior to the end of the semester for which reimbursement is sought.

Supports

Members

Process

- 3.7 Where a person seeks to access the SFSS administered reimbursement process, they will:
 - (a) present themselves or be directed to the Policy, Research, Community Affairs Coordinator (PRCAC) to:
 - (i) determine their status as members,
 - (ii) complete and sign any requisite forms authorizing the Society to access the member's information from the University,
 - (iii) complete and sign any requisite forms authorizing the Society to advocate on behalf of the member to the University for the reimbursement of their Student Society Fees,
 - (iv) complete and sign a Reimbursement Request Form, and
 - (v) submit all relevant supporting documentation to their application.

3.8 The PRCAC will:

- (a) review all the relevant documents,
- (b) make requests for additional information from the University where necessary,
- (c) make copies and file all documents associated to the application,
- (d) submit copies of the documentation along with a recommendation to the Administrative Services Department Liaison, and
- (e) provide the member with the contact information for accessing non-Society administered reimbursement processes.
- 3.9 The Administrative Services Department Liaison will:
 - (a) consult with the President where necessary,
 - (b) make a determination regarding the reimbursement request,

- (c) make a recommendation to the President that they advocate on behalf of the member for the University administered reimbursement of the members' Student Society Fees,
- (d) submit copies of that determination to the PRCAC and Finance Coordinators, and
- (e) submit or delegate the submission of a cheque requisition for the reimbursement of the applicable Student Society Fees to the Finance Office.

3.10 The President will:

(a) Where necessary, advocate to the University for the reimbursement of the members' Student Society Fees.

3.11 The Finance Coordinators will:

- (a) Process any reimbursements submitted by cheque requisition by the Administrative Services Department Liaison.
- 3.12 A feedback form will be made available to all requesters using the Reimbursement of Student Society Fees service.



FP-4: SOCIETY BUDGET

| POLICY TYPE: FI | nance Policies | | |
|------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------------|--|
| POLICY TITLE: So | POLICY TITLE: SOCIETY BUDGET | | |
| POLICY REFEREN | ice Number: FP-4 | | |
| | | Adopted: June 12, 2020 | |
| | | Revised: June 2021 | |
| | | Next Scheduled Revision: June 2022 | |
| Position | Signature | Date | |
| President | | | |

Policy

- 4.1 The Executive Council shall, in consultation with Council and on the recommendation of the VP Finance, and the Finance and Administrative Services Committee, set an annual budget for the Society each spring semester preceding the commencement of the new fiscal year.
 - (a) The Finance and Administrative Services Committee shall review the Society's annual budget six (6) months into each fiscal year, taking into account the actual revenues and expenditures to date, and make recommendations to the Council.
 - (b) The Council shall ensure that the annual budget of the Society, to the best of its ability, reasonably and accurately reflects the projected levels of revenues and expenditures in all areas and departments of the Society for the new fiscal year in a consolidated and comprehensive manner.
 - (c) The annual operating budget of the Society shall maintain six months worth of estimated annual operating expenditures in an internally restricted bank account.
- 4.2 Department and area coordinators and/or managers shall be responsible for monitoring their departments' or areas' budgets monthly and by semester.
 - (a) No expenditures in excess of amounts budgeted shall be permitted without the specific authorization of the Executive Council upon recommendation by the Finance and Administrative Services Committee.
 - (b) Projected Expenditures for an event or campaign of the Society must not exceed the amount remaining in the relevant line item(s).

Definitions

4.2 'Fiscal year' is defined as the year starting May 1st of any calendar year, and ending on April 30th of the next calendar year.

Standards

4.3 The Society's Finance Office shall maintain and prepare monthly statements of revenues and expenditures for each internal department and area no later than the 15th day of the following month. Department and area coordinators and/or managers shall review and regularly monitor such statements.

Schedule

- 4.4 November: Departmental, Council, and Council committee budget preparation.
- 4.5 January: Consolidation of departmental budgets, Executive Council, Council committee, submission of non-departmental budgetary items, and preparation of draft budget
- 4.6 January: Finance and Administrative Services review and submission of 1rst draft budget to the Council and Council for comment and then make revisions based on those comments.
- 4.7 February: Finance and Administrative Services review and send a 2nd draft budget to be posted to membership on the Society website, a printed copy at the Executive Council offices, and circulate on social media or other methods of sharing the info deemed appropriate, for comment and then makes revisions based on those comments.
- 4.8 March: Finance and Administrative Services review and submission of 3rd draft budget to Council.
- 4.9 April: Council review and approval of annual budget.

Process

Departmental budget preparation

4.10 Internal budgets for all departments and areas of the Society shall be, at a minimum, broken down by semester, except that internal budgets for commercial service departments shall be broken down by month.

Every November, departmental coordinators shall:

- (a) review departmental budget accounts to ensure their areas of responsibility fit reasonably within those categories,
- (b) review their year-to-date departmental budgets to assess whether budgetary allocations are adequate to existing and ongoing programs, noting any trends in the increased or decreased use of those programs,

- (c) determine any new programs or projects projected for the coming fiscal year and develop a proposed annual budget for any such new project or program,
- (d) determine any needs for new or renewed equipment, and
- (e) submit a draft budget to the VP Finance and Finance Coordinators by December 1st.

Departmental budget review

- 4.11 During the first two weeks of every January, the VP Finance shall:
 - (a) consolidate all draft budgets submissions,
 - (b) review each and consult with their authoring departmental coordinators where necessary,
 - (c) supply draft budget allocation for non-departmental accounts,
 - (d) develop a brief summary of any notable changes or additions to the budget, and
 - (d) submit a consolidated draft to the Finance Coordinators for preparation.

Submission of draft budget to the Finance and Administrative Services Committee

- 4.12 The Finance Department shall:
 - (a) review the information submitted to it alongside the VP Finance, providing recommendations where necessary,
 - (b) develop a consolidated draft Society budget, and
 - (c) submit that draft to the Finance and Administrative Services Committee.
- 4.13 The Finance and Administrative Services Committee shall:
 - (a) review the draft budget, directing any questions to the Finance Coordinators, department coordinators and other Council committee chairs,
 - (b) request any changes to the budget, and
 - (c) submit the 1st draft budget and make a presentation to the Council as well as the Council for comment then revise the budget based on those comments, and

- (d) submit a 2nd draft budget to the membership via the society website, social media, and other means of communication, for comment, and
- (e) revise the 2nd draft budget based on feedback collected, and
- (f) submit a final draft budget and make a presentation to the Council

Submission of draft budget to the Council of Directors

4.14 The Finance and Audit Committee will submit and present a draft Society budget to the Executive Council for review.

4.15 The Council shall:

- (a) review the draft budget directing any questions to the Finance and Administrative Services Committee, as well as the VP Finance,
- (b) request any final principled changes to the budget where required, and
- (c) approve the final draft of the annual budget.

Mid-year review

4.16 Every November, departmental coordinators will review their year-to-date budgets with the VP Finance and the Administrative Services Department liaison.



FP-5: CHEQUE REQUISITIONS

| Next Scheduled Revision: June 2022 |
|------------------------------------|
| Revised: June 2021 |
| Adopted: June 12, 2020 |
| POLICY REFERENCE NUMBER: FP-5 |
| Policy Title: Cheque Requisitions |
| Policy Type: Finance Policies |

| Position | Signature | Date |
|-----------|-----------|------|
| President | | |

Policy

5.1 All Society expenses shall be administered by the Finance Department according to the cheque requisition process.

Definitions

5.2 The terms 'Cheque Requisition' means the formal manner of requesting the processing of a payment by the Society.

Supports

- Directors
- Staff
- Members

Standards

- 5.3 A cheque requisition, submitted along with all required supporting documentation satisfactory to the Society's auditor, must be supplied to the Finance Office before the Finance Office issues any payment.
 - (a) Expense claims must be supported by an original invoice/receipt on company letterhead itemizing the purchase.
- 5.4 Check requisitions submitted to the Finance Office for processing must be signed by:
 - (a) the VP Finance, where submitted by the Council or a Council committee,

- (b) a coordinator of the departmental budget area, where submitted by staff and where the value of the requisition is below \$1,500, or
- (c) a coordinator of the departmental budget area and the Administrative Services Liaison where submitted by staff and where the value of the requisition \$1,500 or more.
- 5.5 Unbudgeted check requisitions must be approved by the Council.
- 5.6 Budgeted check requisition must be approved by two signing authorities.
 - (a) Where the payment is less than \$20,000, the payment may be approved by any two signing officers.
 - (b) Where the payment is equal to or greater than \$20,000, may payment must be approved by two signing officers, one of which must be a director of the Society.

Process

- 5.7 The Finance Department will:
 - (a) ensure that any cheque requisition is completed correctly, and includes all required supporting documentation,
 - (b) process the check requisition, and
 - (c) return any incomplete or incorrect cheque requisitions to their authors, noting any errors that need to be corrected for processing.
- 5.8. A feedback form will be made available to anyone using the Cheque Requisition Process.



FP-6: CREDIT CARD PURCHASES

POLICY TYPE: FINANCE POLICIES

POLICY TITLE: PAYMENT OF STUDENT SOCIETY FEES BY NON-STUDENT MEMBERS

POLICY REFERENCE NUMBER: FP-6

Adopted: June 12, 2020

Revised: June 2021

Next Scheduled Revision: June 2022

| Position | Signature | Date |
|-----------|-----------|------|
| President | | |

Policy

6.1 Only those jointly authorized by the President and Administrative Services Department liaison will be permitted to carry corporate credit cards in their name.

Supports

- Directors
- Staff

Approval Thresholds

- 6.2 Departmental expenses less than \$1,500 will be authorized or not by departmental coordinators.
- 6.3 Departmental expenses between \$1,500 and \$3,000 will be authorized or not by the Administrative Services Department liaison
- 6.4 Departmental expenses over \$3,000 will be authorized or not by the Executive Council.

Standards

- 6.5 Anyone in whose name a corporate credit card has been issued is responsible for all charges on that credit card.
- 6.6 Only budgeted expenses that may not be purchased on invoice may be purchased using the company credit card.
- 6.7 Credit card purchase requests will be administered on a weekly basis by the Finance Department.

Process

- 6.8 Anyone wishing to make a credit card purchase will:
 - (a) complete a Cheque Requisition Form detailing:
 - (i) the expense,
 - (ii) a description and price listing for the item,
 - (iii) a link to the online ordering page where applicable, and
 - (iv) any required records of decisions necessary to demonstrating that the expense has been duly approved,
 - (b) present that Cheque Requisition Form and attached information to the Finance Department for review,
- 6.9 The Financial Department will process requests for credit card purchases on a weekly basis.
- 6.10 A feedback form will be made available to anyone using the Credit Card Purchase Process.



FP-7: ELECTRONIC FUND TRANSFERS

POLICY TYPE: FINANCE POLICIES POLICY TITLE: ELECTRONIC FUND TRANSFERS POLICY REFERENCE NUMBER: FP-7 Adopted: June 12, 2020

Revised: June 2021

Next Scheduled Revision: June 2022

| Position | Signature | Date |
|-----------|-----------|------|
| President | | |

Policy

An Electronic Fund Transfer (EFT) is a mode of payment administered by the Finance Department.

Supports

- Directors
- Staff

Standards

- 7.2 EFTs may only be used for the following payments:
 - (a) Society payroll,
 - Build SFU disbursements,
 - RRSP contributions,
 - (d) government remittances, and
 - business to business payments.
- Unbudgeted payments by EFT must be approved by the Council.
- Budgeted payments by EFT must be approved by two signing authorities.
 - (a) Where the payment is less than \$20,000, the payment may be approved by any two signing officers.

(b) Where the payment is equal to or greater than \$20,000, payment must be approved by two signing officers, one of which must be a director of the Society.

Process

7.5 Financial Coordinators are responsible for the processing of EFTs in a manner consistent with these standards.



FP-8: ACCESSIBILITY FUND

| POLICY TYPE: FI | inance Policies | | |
|-------------------------------|----------------------------------|------------------------------------|--|
| POLICY TITLE: A | Policy Title: Accessibility Fund | | |
| Policy Reference Number: FP-8 | | | |
| | | Adopted: June 12, 2020 | |
| | | Revised: June 2021 | |
| | | Next Scheduled Revision: June 2022 | |
| Position | Signature | Date | |
| President | | | |

Policy

- 8.1 The Accessibility Fund is established to help the Society increase the accessibility of, and remove barriers to, Student Society or other campus related activities for students with disabilities.
 - (a) The VP Student Services shall be responsible for ensuring that the fund is meeting the needs of students with disabilities to the greatest extent.

Definitions

- 8.2 "Activities" shall include, but not be limited to:
 - (a) Simon Fraser Student Society elections
 - (b) the production and distribution of printed materials
 - (c) student union meetings and events
 - (d) club meetings and events
 - (e) meetings of the society, and
 - (f) events of the Society.
- 8.3 Furthermore, "Activities" may include events related to student life, where barriers exist that prevent them from participating.

Process

- 8.3 Proposals for accessing the Accessibility Fund are submitted in writing to the Chair of Accessibility Advisory Committee (AAC) using the Accessibility Fund Grant Request Form.
 - (a) Departmental coordinators may submit a proposal to the Chair of AAC on behalf of student groups.
- 8.4 Proposals must include a budget and a link between the proposed budget and the purpose of the Accessibility Fund.
- 8.5 Where a proposal is accepted, the proponent must submit a report on the use of the funds and the impact on the membership of the SFSS.
 - (a) A template will be provided to all proponents for required proposals and reports.

Note:

8.6 The Accessibility Fund was created in a referendum of the Society in 2005.



FP-9: SPACE EXPANSION FUND

| POLICY TYPE: FI | inance Policies | | |
|-------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|--|
| POLICY TITLE: S | POLICY TITLE: SPACE EXPANSION FUND | | |
| Policy Reference Number: FP-9 | | | |
| | | Adopted: June 12, 2020 | |
| | | Revised: June 2021 | |
| | | Next Scheduled Revision: June 2022 | |
| Position | Signature | Date | |
| President | | | |

Policy

- 9.1 The Space Expansion Fund is established to provide for the support the future expansion, renovation, and ongoing maintenance of existing and future space for the students, student groups and student activities at SFU
- (a) The Space Expansion Fund Levy came into effect in September of 1989 and was updated by referendum in Oct. 1989 and by referendum in 2001,2010,2012, and 2015.
 - (b) The Space Expansion Fund Levy is non-refundable.
 - (c) The levy shall be collected within the same restrictions as the Student Activity Fee
- 9.2 The Space Expansion Fund's use is restricted to space that is solely used for students, student groups, or student activities at SFU, but is not restricted to Society-leased or Society-owned space. However, to ensure a space is solely for the benefit of students, student groups, or student activities the Society should seek to lease that space when appropriate.

Process

- 9.3 Proposals for accessing the Space Expansion Fund are submitted in writing to the Chair of Council using the Grant Request Form.
 - (a) Departmental coordinators may submit a proposal to the Chair of Council on behalf of student groups
- 9.4 Proposals must include a budget and a link between the proposed budget and the purpose of the Space Expansion Fund.

- 9.5 Where a proposal is accepted, the proponent must submit a report on the use of the funds and the impact on the membership of the SFSS.
 - (a) A template will be provided to all proponents for required proposals and reports.



FP-10: HEALTH AND DENTAL PLAN RESERVE FUND

POLICY TYPE: FINANCE POLICIES

POLICY TITLE: HEALTH AND DENTAL PLAN RESERVE FUND

POLICY REFERENCE NUMBER: FP-10

Adopted: June 12, 2020

Revised: June 2021

Next Scheduled Revision: June 2022

| Position | Signature | Date |
|-----------|-----------|------|
| President | | |

Policy

10.1 The Health and Dental Plan Reserve Fund is established in order to ensure that the Society has the resources necessary should the cost of the Health and Dental Plan exceed the Student Society Fee established.

Standards

10.2 The Society will work to maintain the fund at \$500,000.

Process

10.3 Proposals for accessing the Health and Dental Plan Reserve Fund are submitted in writing to the Chair of the Council.



FP-11: BUILD SFU FUND

| POLICY TYPE: FIN | nance Policies | |
|--------------------------------|----------------|------------------------------------|
| Policy Title: Build SFU Fund | | |
| Policy Reference Number: FP-11 | | |
| | | Adopted: June 12, 2020 |
| | | Revised: June 2021 |
| | | Next Scheduled Revision: June 2022 |
| Position | Signature | Date |
| President | | |

Policy

11.1 The Build SFU Fund is established for the construction, maintenance, and utility costs for the Student Union Building located on the Burnaby campus.

Process

- 11.2 The Build SFU Fund is administered according to the Fund Management Agreement, dated January 1, 2014. Disbursements
- 11.3 The Build SFU Fund is comprised of the Student Society Fee Build SFU Levy, which is held in trust by Simon Fraser University in the Build SFU Account.
- 12.4 The fund is collected each semester by the University and deposited directly into the Build SFU Account, excepting up to six percent (6%) of the collected Student Society Fee that makes up the Fund, which is provided to SFU Financial Aid and Awards to be distributed to undergraduate students in financial need.
- 13.5 The disbursement of funds from the Build SFU Fund requires the signature of one authorized representative from the Society and one authorized representative from the University.



FP-12: *UNDER REVIEW* SPECIAL FUNDING REQUEST POLICY

| POLICY TYPE: FINANCE POLICIES | | | |
|--------------------------------|-----------|-----------------------------------|----|
| Policy Title: Build SFU Fund | | | |
| Policy Reference Number: FP-12 | | | |
| | | Adopted: April 23, 20 | 21 |
| | | Next Scheduled Revision: April 20 | 23 |
| Position | Signature | Date | |
| President | | | |

Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to provide a way for members or a group of members of the SFSS who are not part of a recognized SFSS club, student union, or constituency group to request funding for an event, project, or initiative that would involve and benefit the SFSS membership.

Restrictions

All use of the funding must be in compliance with SFSS policies.

- 12.1 Special Funding Requests for advocacy-related events will be presented to the chair of the University and Academic Affairs Committee, or the External and Community Affairs committee.
- 12.2 This policy does not apply to funding requests from working groups of the University and Academic Affairs Committee, or the External and Community Affairs committee.
- 12.3 Donations from the University and Academic Affairs Committee, or the External and Community Affairs committee shall be limited to a maximum of \$200.
- 12.4 All other requests for special event funding will be presented to the chair of the Finance and Administrative Services Committee for a recommendation to Council. The Finance and Administrative Services Committee shall advise and recommend to Council the appropriate line item for the special funding request, including the unrestricted surplus.
- 12.5 All requests for constituency groups, department student unions or faculty student unions grant funding must be made through the Student

Union Department. If the MSC - Student Unions & Groups believes that funding from a Council is recommended, they may refer the request to Council to top up that student union/constituency group grant funding as per this special funding request policy from a Council line item.

- 12.6 All requests for clubs grant funding must be made through the Clubs Department. If the MSC Clubs Coordinator believes that funding from a Council is recommended, they may refer the request to Council to top up that club grant funding as per this special funding request policy from a Council line item.
- 12.7 Total projected expenditures for the funding request must not exceed the amount remaining in the relevant line item(s).
- 12.8 A representative of the applicant(s) must be available to attend all relevant meetings.
- 12.9 Groups may seek funding from only one of the following:
 - (a) Council,
 - (b) A Council Committee,
 - (c) Out on Campus, or
 - (d) The Women's Centre.
- 12.10 This policy does not impede Council or Committee from working with student groups on an event, initiative or campaign on an event as collaborating partners.

The following Council policies establish the stance of the Society on social, political and economic issues relevant to the membership of the SFSS.

SFSS Issues Policies

Simon Fraser Student Society

simon fraser student society

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Introduction

PURPOSE OF THIS MANUAL

The SFSS Issues Policies shall serve to clarify the stance of the Society on social, political and economic issues relating to student life and post-secondary education that are important to the SFSS membership. The SFSS Issues Policies shall also serve as a resource and a guide to assist in the development of campaigns, stakeholder relations and media strategies employed by the Society.

The SFSS shall limit its Issues Policies to issues directly pertaining to student life and post-secondary education. The issues covered by these policies are developed through member engagement activities.

POLICY REVIEW AND APPROVAL PROCESS

Each policy will be reviewed annually. Where no change is required, the policy will remain in its current state. Where need or opportunities for improvement arise, the policy shall be created, changed, or repealed as outlined in the SFSS Policy Manual.



IP-1: REPRODUCTIVE RIGHTS

POLICY TYPE: ISSUES POLICY
POLICY TITLE: REPRODUCTIVE RIGHTS

POLICY TITLE: REPRODUCTIVE RIGHTS POLICY REFERENCE NUMBER: IP-1

Adopted: August 2021

Next Scheduled Revision: April 2024

Previous Revisions: December 2019

| | | 1 10 110 dio 100 100 100 100 December 2017 |
|-----------|-----------|--|
| Position | Signature | Date |
| President | | |

Preamble

The United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development calls for "ensuring universal access to sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights". It supports [individuals] in "mak[ing] their own informed decisions regarding sexual relations, contraceptive use and reproductive health care". These reproductive rights provide individuals with choice. The SFSS is a trans-inclusive organisation thus, this policy does not just apply to cisgender women. This policy uses the term **trans-inclusive** as an umbrella term to mean inclusive of transgender, non-binary, genderqueer, gender neutral/agender, and gender non-conforming identities and experiences.

The SFSS recognizes that debate, discourse, and access to information about sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights (including abortion, contraception and pregnancy) is a commonplace – and important – part of campus life. This debate includes individuals who adopt beliefs that are pro-choice and pro-life.

Pro-choice is the view that individuals with reproductive capacity should have the right to make decisions on their own sexual and reproductive health, and advocates for personal autonomy and self-determination over their own bodies.

Pro-life is the view that opposes the practice of abortion and its legality, and advocates for supporting the right to life of a fetus. Some supporters believe there are some cases where abortion should be permitted, while others do not.

Both pro-choice and pro-life are broad viewpoints with no clear definition. Not all prochoice nor all pro-life supporters maintain the same position with respect to access to abortion.

SFSS Issues Policies

Last Updated: 2022-05-05

Policy

1. The SFSS supports:

- a. The provision of non-judgemental information on sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights (including abortion, contraceptives and pregnancy), and support for students, parents and families in making decisions relating to their sexual and reproductive health;
- b. Discourse regarding sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights, and in particular, that recognizes students' rights to physical and mental well-being, integrity, dignity, privacy and access to reproductive health services; and
- c. Information to access safe, publicly-funded health services including but not limited to reliable contraceptives, abortion services and family planning information and services.

2. The SFSS opposes:

- a. Campaigns, actions, or lobbying activities (including the posting or distribution of materials) that interfere, intimidate or attempt to intimidate students from making informed decisions about sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights;
- b. Distribution of disturbing photographs, media or other materials, including materials that cause (or have the potential to cause) mental distress or are intended to shock, disturb or harass students into adopting a particular belief with respect to sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights (including abortion);
- c. Any policy, rule or law that fails to recognize students' entitlement to access to health care, including abortion services and contraception;
- d. Harmful medical practices and procedures, such as female genital mutilation and forced sterilization.
- 3. The SFSS will not recognize as a club or provide any SFSS resources to groups who do not demonstrate their respect and commitment to the principles set out in paragraphs 1 and 2 above. Providing SFSS resources includes but is not limited to funding, facilities booking, staff time, and other organizational or financial resources.



IP-2: BLACK HISTORY MONTH

POLICY TYPE: ISSUES POLICY

POLICY TITLE: BLACK HISTORY MONTH

POLICY REFERENCE NUMBER: IP-2

Adopted: August 2021 Next Scheduled Revision: April 2024 Previous Revisions: December 2019

| Position | Signature | Date |
|-----------|-----------|------|
| President | | |

Preamble

Black History Month started as Negro History Week in the United States in 1926, led by the work of African-American scholar Dr. Carter G. Woodson. In Canada, Black History Month was officially recognized by the Canadian House of Commons in 1995. This incredible milestone was spearheaded by the Honourable Jean Augustine, the first Black woman to sit in the House of Commons.

During Black History Month, it is important that the SFSS highlights the many Black achievements outside of trauma and struggle, and also focus on celebrating Black love, art, and joy. Celebrating Black History Month on a national-scale is crucial to fighting Black erasure and anti-Black racism in Canada.

Black erasure is the wide-scale marginalization and indifference of Black people, their history, and contributions across disciplines, rendering Black people invisible in society.

Anti-Black racism is deeply embedded passive or active discrimination specifically directed against Black and African-descent people in relation to their unique history with regard to colonization and enslavement. Anti-Blackness devalues Blackness, while systemically marginalizing Black communities, the issues that affect them, and the institutions created to support them.

The intentionality that the SFSS brings into Black History Month educating people on Black contributions in Canada should set the tone for how to appreciate Blackness

all year-round, while recognizing the diversity of the Black community.

The SFSS passed a motion on February 1, 2019 to formally recognize Black History Month at Simon Fraser University. In addition, during June 2020, the SFSS took a stance by <u>standing in solidarity</u> with Black lives. It is important that we continue to tangibly uphold the statements that we made during this time, "working with Black student organizers and allies... holding our University accountable in any efforts for Equity, Diversity, Inclusion and Justice". In doing so, the Society must celebrate the work and efforts of current Black people and organizations.

Policy

1. The SFSS supports:

- a. Proactively celebrating and supporting Black History Month efforts led by Black students and groups;
- b. Education, awareness, and solidarity with self-liberation efforts of Black and African peoples;
- c. Educators and students embedding Canadian Black history in post-secondary institutions;
- d. Recognizing Black people in areas outside of solely racism and social justice, and celebrating Blackness year-round;
- e. Black student representation and empowerment in student governing positions and continuous efforts for recruitment;
- f. Amplifying of Black student organizers and groups on campus, and amplifying calls for specific protection and supports for Black communities as it relates to policies, practices, programming, and resources within the SFU community; and
- g. The ethical collection of disaggregated race-based data and research that could inform prevention, intervention, and strategies to protect the human rights of Black communities, and support equity initiatives to reduce disproportionate impacts of anti-Black racism.

2. The SFSS opposes:

 Efforts to ignore or dismiss Black History Month initiatives or initiatives to support the equity and empowerment of Black communities;

b. The co-opting of Black advocacy initiatives without redress and recognition of the work Black communities have been doing and continue to do; and

c. Efforts to censor Black activism and advocacy, or diminish the role and history of marginalization, slavery, colonialism, and institutional oppression of Black communities.



IP-3: TUITION AFFORDABILITY

| POLICY TYPE: ISSUES POLICY | | | | |
|-------------------------------------|-----------|-------------------------------------|--|--|
| POLICY TITLE: Tuition Affordability | | | | |
| POLICY REFERENCE NUMBER: IP-3 | | | | |
| | | Adopted: April 23, 2022 | | |
| | | Next Scheduled Revision: April 2024 | | |
| | | Previous Revisions: April 2022 | | |
| Position | Signature | Date | | |
| President | | | | |

Preamble

Tuition has become increasingly unaffordable over the past several decades as post-secondary institutions rely more on tuition fees for funding and less on government funding. Tuition costs remain one of the largest barriers for undergraduate students in receiving a post-secondary education.

The <u>Tuition Freeze Now! SFU Tuition Report</u> urges for tuition increases to be mitigated wherever possible by Simon Fraser University (SFU). Since 2000, the largest tuition hikes occurred between 2001/02 and 2004/05, and since the Government of British Columbia implemented a <u>tuition increase limit cap of 2%</u> in 2005, tuition has been consistently increasing by 2% for domestic undergraduate students up to, and including, the 2021/22 University fiscal year.

The SFSS Council <u>passed a motion on October 4, 2019</u> to formally oppose undergraduate tuition increases and call for a tuition freeze at SFU. In addition, the SFSS Membership passed a motion at the October 26, 2020 Annual General Meeting, where over 600 students gathered to condemn SFU for tuition increases implemented in the 2020-21 academic year. The vote passed with 96% of SFSS Members in favour.

Policy

1. The SFSS supports:

- a. the University implementing a tuition freeze, and subsequently, lowering tuition for students,
- b. more public funding being provided to post-secondary institutions by the Government of British Columbia,
- c. collaborating with Simon Fraser University to lobby the Government of British Columbia for more public funding of post-secondary institutions,

- d. implementing a tuition increase limit cap of 2% by the Government of British Columbia for international students,
- e. facilitating collective action amongst students in British Columbia and Canada, including petitions, rallies, boycotts, and strikes, and other such actions to advocate for a tuition freeze, and subsequently, lowering tuition for students,
- f. the SFSS being provided a budget draft from the University with a minimum of 30 days to review the draft budget and provide feedback.

2. The SFSS opposes:

- a. campaigns, lobbying, or activities that advocate for an increase in tuition rates of domestic students,
- b. the SFSS and undergraduate students being excluded from the University budget consultation process,
- c. the University increasing the tuition rates of international students in order to supplement the cost of tuition rates of domestic students,
- d. the privatization of post-secondary education.



IP-4: DISABILITY JUSTICE

| POLICY TYPE: ISSUES POLICY | | | | |
|----------------------------------|-----------|-------------------------------------|--|--|
| POLICY TITLE: Disability Justice | | | | |
| POLICY REFERENCE NUMBER: IP-4 | | | | |
| | | Adopted: April 23, 2021 | | |
| | | Next Scheduled Revision: April 2024 | | |
| | | Previous Revisions: April 2022 | | |
| Position | Signature | Date | | |
| President | | | | |

Preamble

Disability Justice is a framework created in 2005 by the Disability Justice Collective in response to the exclusion of queer Black, Indigenous and people of colour from the mainstream disability rights movement. Disability justice goes beyond the framework of disability rights, as it recognizes that ableism and other forms of oppression are intertwined. Disability justice outlines ten principles: intersectionality, leadership by those most affected, anti-capitalism, solidarity across different activist causes and movements, recognizing people as whole people, sustainability, solidarity across different disabilities, interdependence, collective access, and collective liberation.

In 2017, the <u>Canadian Survey on Disability</u> showed that 1 in every 5 Canadians aged 15 or older have one or more disabilities. With the impacts of marginalization, climate change and other issues of contemporary life, this number shows no signs of decreasing. It is imperative that the SFSS recognizes that disabled people and people with disabilities are already a crucial part of our institutions, and that it is our responsibility to make sure that they are well-served by those institutions.

Accessibility is only the first step towards true disability justice, but it is a necessary one. All people need accessibility, but there are many people for whom their accessibility is considered by default.

When you have a disability, your accessibility is often unconsidered or treated as an afterthought. Legal requirements are insufficient and ignored, and organizations often fail to take the time necessary to include your needs in their plans.

The SFSS recognizes that accessibility must be a crucial part of their organization. It also recognizes that it cannot be the entirety of their commitment to disability justice and to serving disabled students and students with disabilities.

Definitions

Last Updated: 2021-04-23

Disability Justice is a framework that recognizes all bodies as unique and essential, that have strengths and needs that must be met. It also recognizes that all bodies are confined by ability, race, gender, sexuality, class, nation state, religion, and more that cannot be separated. Disability justice includes a vision borne out of collective struggle, where disabled people can flourish in a world that values and celebrates them. It involves a commitment to liberation from ableism, as well as liberation from all forms of marginalization. While a disability rights framework focuses on disability and the reduction of ableism, disability justice insists on solidarity with other movements for justice, and centres the interconnected nature of marginalization. Our understanding of disability justice follows ten principles, which can be found here.

Gatekeeping is the ableist belief that without proper diagnosis, documentation, visibility of disability, or experience of disability, one is not disabled or disabled enough for their experience to be recognized as one of a disabled person.

Disability is a broad category of physical, mental, intellectual, sensory and communication needs that interact with barriers to hinder a person's full and equal participation in society. A disability may be long-term or temporary, and may or may not be easily apparent to others.

Ableism is a form of systemic oppression that places value on people's bodies and minds based on societally constructed ideas of normalcy, intelligence, excellence and productivity. Ableism is hostile towards people with disabilities, and is deeply rooted in anti-Blackness, eugenics, colonialism and capitalism. You do not have to be disabled to experience ableism.

Access Needs are something a person needs to communicate, learn, and take part in an activity, such as a meeting or an event. Everyone has access needs, which may be met or unmet depending on the situation. An individual may communicate how their access needs can be met either publicly or privately to the Chair of a meeting. The members of a meeting shall do everything in their power to ensure that the access needs of each individual person present at a meeting, whether virtual or in person, are met. Conflicting access needs between multiple individuals will be addressed collaboratively on a case-by-case basis to ensure that all individuals can communicate, learn, and take part in meetings and events.

Accommodations are modifications made to a place, system, or service so that it can be accessed by a person facing barriers. SFSS groups must make themselves available for a person facing barriers to disclose their needs and seek accommodation.

Barrier is anything that prevents a person from fully participating in a particular environment or service because of barriers or structural oppression (ableism, racism, etc.) Barriers can be physical, architectural, communications-based, attitudinal, technological, a policy, or practice.

Intersectionality a lens for examining how different forms of marginalization interact with one another and exacerbate each other. Intersectionality focuses on the experiences of those who are

marginalized by multiple systems of power, and resists the notion that all forms of inequality happen independent of each other. It was coined by Kimberlé Crenshaw as a legal term focused on the experiences of Black women.

Universal Design is a design that works for everyone. Includes the expansion of current design parameters to be inclusive of a broader range of users, regardless of their disability, age, size, living situation or identity. 12 Universal design puts the onus on the group offering the service, rather than the person with the disability.

Person-first language is language that emphasizes individuality, putting a person before a diagnosis. An example would be "person with a disability." Some people prefer using person-first language while others prefer identity-first language.

Identity first language is language that emphasizes the identity of a person. An example would be "disabled person." Some people prefer using identity-first language because it subscribes to the social model of disability.

Social model of disability is a way of viewing the world that says people are disabled by societal and systemic barriers rather than an individual impairment or difference.

Equitable treatment/equity is fair treatment, access, and opportunity that acknowledges diversity and eliminates barriers that prevent certain groups from being included or being able to participate.

Diversity is recognizing that each individual is unique and has differences in their identity. Diversity includes visible and non-visible attributes, including but not limited to: disability, race, culture, gender, age, religion, sexual orientation, socioeconomic status, education level, marital status, language, and physical appearance.

Inclusion is the practice or policy of providing access to opportunities and resources for people who may otherwise be excluded or marginalized.

Policy

1. The SFSS supports:

- a. General
 - i. Anti-ableism
 - ii. Intersectionality, anti-oppression, and anti-essentialism
 - iii. Disability justice
 - iv. Equitable access and treatment
 - v. Freedom from discrimination,
 - vi. Respect for diversity of ability,

- vii. Respect for dignity and independence through ensuring support and accommodations meet the unique needs of the person requesting them, while also striving for universal design for all persons,
- viii. Respect for a person's need for accommodation, regardless of whether their disability is apparent,
 - ix. Respect for privacy and confidentiality,
 - x. Shared accountability,
- xi. Universally accessible post-secondary education,
- xii. The disability justice approach, which includes a focus on multiple intersecting identities, rather than an exclusive commitment to disability rights,
- xiii. The use of language preferred by disabled individuals and individuals with disabilities, prioritizing whatever language each individual prefers to use for themself. This includes each individual's preference for "person first" or "identity first" language,
- xiv. Striving for universal design wherever possible, providing or facilitating accommodations in a timely, respectful and confidential manner in other instances,
- xv. Buildings that are accessible and subscribe to Universal Design principles,
- xvi. Courses that teach about disabilities using an inclusive, equitable, and social framework,
- xvii. Representation of disabled students on decision-making bodies that directly impact the student community,
- b. Access to resources and funding
 - i. Proper funding of accessibility initiatives, that pays people for their work fairly,
 - ii. Publicly funded home care for disabled people and people with disabilities
 - iii. Indigenous Ways of Knowing and resources for Indigenous students to get support (adequate and financial) for their mental health and learning needs,
 - iv. Accessible and therefore free public transportation for disabled people and people with disabilities which, wherever possible, are integrated with existing public transportation systems,
 - v. Equitable and accessible mental health resources for disabled people and people with disabilities, while recognizing their intersectionality,
- c. Events, meetings, workshops, and more
 - i. Live captioning and recording of public events, when applicable,

- ii. Encouragement of stating name, pronouns, and access needs in meeting and event spaces when safe. This can be done publicly, in confidence to event hosts, or be non-disclosed,
- iii. Accessible events, workshops, meetings, and other aspects of student life that extend beyond academics,

d. Internal

- The SFSS is committed to preventing, reducing, and removing barriers to accessibility for all SFSS members, staff, guests and other visitors through our service and resource provision, including through representation and advocacy efforts,
- The SFSS is committed to providing accessibility training for all staff, Council members, Councillors, volunteers, and any other individuals working with or for the SFSS,
- iii. Policies and procedures that align with the rest of this issues policy,
- iv. Consulting with SFU Disability and Neurodiversity Alliance and the SFSS
 Accessibility Committee in the case of any changes made to this policy,
 Disability Justice,

e. External

- Centre for Accessible Learning, SFU Health & Counselling Services, MySSP, and Health & Dental Plan so disabled students receive assistance in these services. This can include advocating for students pushing for improvements in these departments so students can access the services they need,
- ii. Training for primary care physicians, mental health nurses, psychiatrists, and psychologists so when students are going through mental, emotional, physical distress, they are provided appropriate and adequate care,
- iii. Safe and accessible spaces on campus for Two-Spirit, Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, Intersex, non-gender confirming folks, and others who do not identify as straight and/or heterosexual. Spaces include, but not limited to: accessible gender neutral and wheelchair accessible washrooms, Out On Campus Collective, Women's Centre Collective, and others.

2. The SFSS opposes

- Requirement for sick notes for students to miss class due to visible and less noticeable disabilities, death in the family, and other reasons which addadditional barriers to accessing support,
- b. Use of proctoring software for online exams,
- c. The use of security, law, or police enforcement as a response to students going through mental, emotional, and physical distress,
- d. The gatekeeping of disabilities by institutions, systems, and persons,

- e. Discrimination and violence towards disabled people and people with disabilities,
- f. Attempts to dictate which disabilities are "real" and "fake" through use of diagnosis or visual assumption,
- g. Tokenization, in which one disabled individual or individual with disabilities is expected to represent and "speak for" all disabled individuals and individuals with disabilities,
- h. The expectation that disability accommodation work does not need to be compensated,
- i. Not consulting disabled individuals and individuals with disabilities on issues that directly impact them and their communities
- j. The expectation that accessibility is the exclusive responsibility of disabled people and people with disabilities,
- k. Groups, organizations, and programs which refuse to make accommodations for disabled people and people with disabilities.
- 1. Forcing an individual to self-disclose their disability status unless necessary.



IP-5: LIVING WAGE AND UNION RIGHTS

POLICY TYPE: ISSUES POLICY
POLICY TITLE: Living Wage and Union
Rights
POLICY REFERENCE NUMBER: IP-5

Adopted: April 23, 2022
Next Scheduled Revision: April 2024
Previous Revisions: April 2022
Position Signature Date

President

Preamble

A living wage is the minimum required full-time wage that covers living costs including housing, clothing, food, transportation, childcare, medical expenses, and other related costs. A living wage is calculated by examining the costs of basic goods and services and deriving the lowest possible income one could earn to be able to afford those necessities. A living wage is the lowest possible wage that protects the wage-earner from material poverty. It does not cover costs such as home ownership, credit card debt, savings, caring for elderly family members, etc. It is also calculated for a family of 4 with two children renting a 3-bedroom apartment. A living wage varies by location, with various towns and cities having a higher living wage than others. The living wage was set at \$19.50/hr for Metro Vancouver in 2019.

Union rights extend to employees being able to form a union and collectively bargain for improved working conditions including better wages, benefits, and workplace safety. Unions can also advocate for larger societal issues including root causes of poverty, policy, and proper funding of social services like healthcare, education, public housing, childcare, and social assistance.

SFSS

The SFSS has been a living wage employer for its Union and administrative staff for well over a decade.

SFU

SFU employs students as co-ops, teaching assistants, research assistants, student temporary staff, and permanent staff. Some of these positions are paid a living wage, some are not, and some are volunteer.

SFU Co-ob

Students gain valuable experience and income through the SFU co-op system. However, not all of these positions are paid a living wage. It would be resource-heavy to lobby each company that goes through the SFU co-op system.

Provincial Government

Last Updated: 2021-04-23

The provincial government is empowered to set the minimum wage for BC.

Policy

The SFSS Supports

- 1. Students earning a living wage from their employer
- 2. Undergraduate students earning a living wage from a co-op job
- 3. Partnering with living wage advocacy groups to help campaign for a living wage for students
- 4. The SFSS paying its student employees a living wage
- 5. Working with other pro-union employers, advocates, and organizations to lobby local, provincial, and federal governments for a living wage and improved working conditions for all students and workers
- 6. Research assistants, teaching assistants, sessionals, and SFU support staff unionizing and collective bargaining for better working conditions
- 7. Efforts with labour unions and student unions advocating for a living wage and improved working conditions for all students and workers

The SFSS Opposes

- 1. Unpaid Internships
- 2. Chronic underfunding of education and social services
- 3. Underpaid research assistants at SFU
- 4. Precarious working conditions
- 5. Overworked and over-exploited students



IP-6: CLIMATE JUSTICE AND SUSTAINABILITY

| POLICY TYPE: ISSUES POLICY | | | | |
|----------------------------|--------------------|-------------------------------------|--|--|
| POLICY TITLE: C | limate Justice and | | | |
| Sustainability | | | | |
| POLICY REFEREN | CE NUMBER: IP-6 | | | |
| | | Adopted: April 23, 2021 | | |
| | | Next Scheduled Revision: April 2024 | | |
| | | Previous Revisions: April 2022 | | |
| Position | Signature | Date | | |
| President | | | | |

Acknowledgment

The Simon Fraser Student Society (SFSS) wholeheartedly acknowledges that the student union and Simon Fraser University (SFU) are located on the Unceded Traditional Territories of the Coast Salish People(s), including the x^wməθk^wəyəm (Musqueam), Skwxwú7mesh Úxwumixw (Squamish), Selíſwitulh (Tsleil-Waututh), k^wik^wəλəm (Kwikwetlem) and qicə y (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.

In recognition of being on the Unceded Traditional Territories of the Coast Salish People(s), the SFSS acknowledges the importance of carrying out the principles of climate justice in a good and meaningful way by following the lead of Indigenous People(s). The SFSS commits to building relationships with Host Nations, and Indigenous students at SFU and as well as to amplify and support their work. The SFSS also recognizes that environmental and sustainability movements in canada have been and still are predominantly white and privileged and so the SFSS seeks to amplify and support the work of Indigenous land and water defenders that have been protecting the land since time immemorial.

Preamble

The United Nations' Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) Special Report on Global Warming of 1.5 °C (SR15)¹ calls for "rapid and far-reaching transitions in energy, land, urban and infrastructure (including transport and buildings), and industrial systems" to limit global warming to 1.5 °C. An increase in global temperature of 2 °C is predicted to result in catastrophic and irreversible effects such as massive loss in biodiversity and species extinction, more frequent extreme weather events, and major transformation of ecosystems. Additionally, these effects trickles down to our food, water, and health care system that will not just impact everyone globally, but as well as disproportionately impacting Black, Indigenous, and People of

Colour (BIPOC) and marginalized communities ² that are already experiencing existing inequalities and the on-going effects of climate change. Furthermore, Canada is also warming at twice ³ the rate of global average and is one of the highest ⁴ per capita emitters of greenhouse gases.

The SFSS represents over 26,000 undergraduate students that make up the majority body of SFU and as the next generation of youths that will be most impacted by climate change, has a responsibility to foster activism, advocacy, and civic engagement ^{5,6,7} that are necessary to address climate change ⁵. In order to do so in a meaningful and equitable way, we must approach it through a climate justice lens, in close collaboration with racialized and marginalized groups on campus such as the SFU First Nations, Métis & Inuit Student Association(SFU FNMISA), Students of African and Carribean Ancestry (SOCA), and SFU Disability and Neurodiversity Alliance (DNA), that addresses the root causes of climate change that includes but not limited to the fossil fuel industry, extractivism, racism, capitalism, white supremacy, settler colonialism, policing, ableism and patriarchy ^{8,9}. The SFSS has a role to investigate and act on SFU's entanglement with these dominant systems of

power in alignment with the university's commitment to anti-racism, climate action, decolonization, and reconciliation. Lastly, the SFSS also has the responsibility to hold institutions and all levels of governing bodies on and off campus accountable when it comes to climate action, decolonization, and reconciliation as addressing climate change requires a global and collective effort.

The SFSS passed a motion on October 4th, 2019 recognizing that we are in a climate crisis, commit to reducing our collective carbon footprint on campus, stand in solidarity with students striking for the climate globally while also requesting academic amnesty for students, and call on SFU to divest away from fossil fuels ¹⁰. Additionally, the SFSS has also passed motions on February 5th, June 12th, 2020 and March 12th, 2021 to stand in solidarity with Indigenous land and water defenders that are facing colonial violence for protecting their unceded territory against the Coast Gaslink and Trans Mountain Expansion pipeline that are being built without the free, informed and prior consent of Indigenous Host Nations and communities ^{11,12,13}. SFSS is well positioned to lead the way in creating a culture of civic engagement that supports students, staff and faculty in speaking out for climate justice and engaging in political advocacy.

Definitions

Last Updated: 2021-04-23

Reconciliation is defined as "establishing and maintaining a mutually respectful relationship between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal peoples in this country. In order for that to happen, there has to be awareness of the past, acknowledgement of the harm that has been inflicted, atonement for the causes, and action to change behaviour." ¹⁴.

Climate Justice is defined as a concept that frames the issue of climate change as not only a purely environmental issue but also as an ethical, moral, and political issue. It acknowledges that the poorest communities and less-developed countries that contributed the least to climate change will bear the brunt of the effects of climate change. So the richest countries and most privileged communities that contributed the most to climate change have the moral and ethical responsibility to assist and uplift those that are most vulnerable to the effects of climate change.

Settler colonialism is defined as a form of colonization with the goal of removal and erasure of Indigenous People(s) from their land to be replaced by settlers and to profit off the land ¹⁵.

Patriarchy is defined as a social system in which men hold the majority of power and authority in political leadership, institutions and society, and reproduce the domination and oppression of women.

White supremacy is defined as the belief that white people are superior to Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC) and supports the cultural, political and economic domination of BIPOC folks.

Decolonization is defined as "an act of reversing the process of colonization, generally by raising the consciousness or awareness of the oppressive state in which First Nations peoples find themselves" ¹⁶.

Free, informed and prior consent (FPIC) is defined as ensuring Indigenous People(s) are able to make decisions, freely without coercion or intimidation, based on full information on the scope and impacts of any development or projects on their ancestral lands, prior to the start of the development or project ¹⁷.

Extractivism is defined as the process of extracting natural resources for short economic profits at the expense and minimal benefit to the communities where the resources are being extracted¹⁸.

LandBack is defined as the reclamation and returning of land, language, ceremony, medicine. and kinship to Indigenous People(s) ^{19,20,21}.

Policy

1. The SFSS supports:

- Indigenous sovereignty and self-determination, the LandBack movement, and meaningful and proper consultation with Indigenous Host Nations and communities,
- b. Advocating for SFU to commit to principles of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP) and implement the calls to action laid out in the SFU Aboriginal Reconciliation Council (ARC) "Walk this Path With Us" report ²² and the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) of Canada report,
- c. Meaningful and proper consultation with Indigenous students and the SFU First Nations, Métis & Inuit Student Association(SFU FNMISA), and as well as amplifying and supporting their work,
- d. The funding of green & renewable infrastructures, especially in low-income and Indigenous communities, such as energy efficient homes that are affordable, and solar farms in Indigenous communities,

- e. Full divestment from funds invested in the fossil fuel and other extractive industries,
- f. Embedding climate justice principles in investment strategies,
- g. Protests and boycotts against corporations and companies that support the fossil fuel industry such as banks and insurers of fossil fuel projects,
- h. Sustainability practices and policies that are equitable and center the needs of marginalized communities and disability justice by conducting proper consultation with marginalized communities,
- i. Allocation of funding towards teaching, learning and research practices that centre climate justice or equity-based solutions,
- j. Amplifying departments, faculty and students doing climate justice work.
- k. Investing in student led activism, advocacy, and research around climate justice.

2. The SFSS opposes

- a. Funding and construction of new and existing fossil fuels infrastructures such as the Trans Mountain Expansion (TMX) and Coast GasLink (CGL) Pipeline,
- b. Extractive projects that do not have the free, informed, and prior consent of Indigenous Host Nations and communities,
- c. Funding and construction of new and existing clean energy projects that disproportionately negatively impact marginalized communities and thus are antithetical to climate justice,
- d. Police violence and arrest of Indigenous warriors and climate activists that protest peacefully for climate justice,
- e. Inequitable, racist, and oppressive climate solutions and policies that further perpetuate harm to low-income, marginalized, and racialized communities.

References

- 1. Summary for Policymakers Special Report: Global Warming of 1.5°C
- 2. Settler Colonialism, Ecology, and Environmental Injustice
- 3. Canada's climate is warming twice as fast as global average
- 4. Per Capita Emissions Navigating The Numbers: Greenhouse Gas Data And International Climate Policy
- 5. Current Context Youth vs. Climate Change
- 6. UBC Climate Emergency Engagement Final Report and Recommendations
- 7. Fossil Fuel Divestment: The Power and Promise of a Student Movement for Climate Justice
- 8. The Limits of Liberal Recognition: Racial Capitalism, Settler Colonialism, and Environmental Governance in Vancouver and Atlanta
- 9. From Urban Resilience to Abolitionist Climate Justice in Washington, DC

- Last Updated: 2021-04-23
 - 10. Board of Directors Support Global Climate Strike and Divestment
 - 11. The SFSS Stands in Solidarity with Wet'suwet'en
 - 12. SFSS Supports Braided Warriors
 - 13. The SFSS Board of Directors opposes the Trans Mountain Expansion Project
 - 14. <u>Honouring the Truth, Reconciling for the Future: Summary of the Final Report of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada</u>
 - 15. Settler Colonialism Primer
 - 16. First Nations in Canada: Decolonization and Self-Determination
 - 17. Free, Prior and Informed Consent Within The Context Of Undrip And Environmental Assessments
 - 18. The Columban Center for Advocacy and Outreach: What Is Extractivism?
 - 19. #LandBack: What does it mean & how do you enact it?
 - 20. LANDBACK Manifesto
 - 21. Land Back: A Yellowhead Institute Red Paper
 - 22. SFU Aboriginal Reconciliation Council (ARC) "Walk this Path With Us"



IP-7: INDIGENOUS INCLUSION AND RECONCILIATION

POLICY TYPE: ISSUES POLICY

POLICY TITLE: Indigenous Inclusion and

Reconciliation

POLICY REFERENCE NUMBER: IP-7

Adopted: April 23, 2021

Next Scheduled Revision: April 2024

Previous Revisions: April 2022

| Position | Signature | Date |
|-----------|-----------|------|
| President | | |

Acknowledgement

The Simon Fraser Student Society (SFSS) wholeheartedly acknowledges that the student union and Simon Fraser University (SFU) are located on the Unceded Traditional Territories of the Coast Salish People(s), including the xwmə0kwəyəm (Musqueam), Skwxwú7mesh Úxwumixw (Squamish), Selí Iwitulh (Tsleil-Waututh), kwikwəñ əm (Kwikwetlem) and qicə y (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.

Skwxwú7mesh Úxwumixw refers to Burnaby Mountain as *Lhukw'lhukw'áyten,*¹ 'where the bark gets peeled' in spring." The name is derived from the Skwxwú7mesh Úxwumixw word for arbutus, *lhulhukw'ay*, which comes from *lhukw'* (peel), and means "always peeling".

Indigenous people(s) have occupied these territories since time immemorial. When we recognize place names like *Lhukw'lhukw'áyten* we are acknowledging the original histories that have been here since time immemorial, prior to the colonization of these spaces we currently have the privilege of being a part of.

Preamble

The SFSS has committed to centering reconciliation efforts into the advocacy work that has occurred and is ongoing. The SFSS is committed to recognizing Indigenous People(s) inherent right(s) and title(s) to the land, as well as the right to self-determination in any capacity. Section 35 of the Constitution Act, 1982 reads:

"The existing aboriginal and treaty rights of the aboriginal peoples of Canada are hereby recognized and affirmed."

The Constitution Act of 1982 supersedes all other laws enforced in Canada. The SFSS upholds, affirms, and recognizes traditional and contemporary forms of Indigenous governance. We recognize that colonial forms of governance have been imposed and do not encompass the entirety of Indigenous ways of knowing and traditional forms of governance and decision making (i.e. through ceremonial practices or protocol). The ongoing harm that has been imposed through assimilation and genocidal practices on Indigenous People(s) has created systemic barriers that are entrenched within our western forms of governance. We acknowledge the complex histories that Indigenous People(s) have with the education system, governmental structures, justice systems, child and welfare, health care system, and other forms of Western structures that continue to contribute to the ongoing injustices.

The SFSS wholeheartedly supports <u>Indigenous Control Over Indigenous Education</u> which was formally outlined in *Indian Control of Indian Education: 1972 Policy Paper* (ICIE 1972) and amended in 2010 to *First Nations Control of First Nations Education (FNCFNE)*, which was developed and brought forward by The National Indian Brotherhood now known as the Assembly of First Nations (AFN). We acknowledge and support the FNCEFNE since we believe that Indigenous students' experience is unique and there are systemic barriers that are specific to Indigenous People(s) while they are on their academic journey.

The objectives of the FNCFNE outlined are:

- Indigenous People(s) have adequate access to the education system that is rooted in Indigenous knowledge systems (i.e. Indigenous languages, values, & traditional knowledge)
- Federal, provincial, territorial & Indigenous nations must collaboratively work on ensuring that access to culturally relevant education systems is established to support Indigenous learners on their academic journey. This includes and pertains to infrastructure, funding, and accountability.
- Recognition of a fiduciary responsibility to ensure consultations between Indigenous communities and the federal and provincial governments commit to ensuring there are policy structures and strategic planning in place to support and commit to Indigenous folks' prioritization of education.

The SFSS commits to ensuring that we support and amplify Indigenous Students' voices as we believe that all students deserve to learn in an environment that does not cause harm. We also believe that reconciliation in an academic setting can not occur unless Indigenous students are supported and centered, this is how we ensure we do work with an open mind and open heart.

The SFSS commits to working towards supporting Indigenous People(s) during and throughout their academic journeys to ensure that reconciliation is prioritized within the student union and is ongoing.

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¹ See The <u>Bill Reid Centre Website</u> for more Information on *Lhukw'hukw'áyten* - Burnaby Mountain

Acknowledgements:

Last Updated: 2021-04-23

We acknowledge our place, positionality, and privilege while being able to do our work on *Lhukw'lhukw'áyten*. We recognize the importance of ensuring we are recognizing the lands we are uninvited guests on. The SFSS is committed to working on, establishing, and maintaining a relationship with the Host nations, this is and will be critical for any work that happens in the future. We also recognize how important it is to ensure that the work we do is centered on recognizing this in all capacities. The SFSS is committed to acknowledging the lands that are situated on all three campuses. We also understand that Indigenous community members have been and continue to work towards reconciliation and decolonization. It is not our place to co-opt but to ensure that we amplify and are in solidarity with Indigenous folks on all of our campuses.

Anti-Colonialism and Education:

Indigenous People(s) relationship to education and its entirety is complex, the *Indian Act* of 1876 made it attainable to enact forms of genocide and assimilation against Indigenous People(s). The *Indian Act* outlined assimilation practices that legitimized the notion of solving the "Indian Problem". Under the guise of education, the Canadian government and religious organisations drove assimilation and genocidal practices against Indigenous communities that have created long-lasting impacts. The Indian Residential School (IRS) system attempted to eradicate Indigenous languages, culture, and customs by enforcing westernized views.

"1885 Residential schools were said to be necessary to remove children from their influence of the home as the only way "of advancing the Indian civilization"

(Lawrence Vankoughnet, Deputy Superintendent General, to Prime Minister Macdonald).

Indigenous People(s) today are still living with the intergenerational impacts that the IRS system left. The SFSS is committed to pushing back against colonial practices that still impact Indigenous students in post-secondary institutions and is committed to supporting Indigenous students to learn in a safe and supportive environment within SFU. This reconciliation commitment is also not limited to SFU, we acknowledge we must be in solidarity and recognize the work and commitments that Indigenous students have to finish their academic journeys.

"Postsecondary education is key to unlocking the full potential of Aboriginal British Columbians and their communities, and to British Columbia's success" (BC Ministry of Advanced Education, 2012, p. 1).

Indigenous Governance and Sovereignty:

Governance and policy have been used as a tool to legitimize the harm that has occurred to Indigenous peoples. There have been countless ways in which Indigenous People(s) have been negatively impacted through colonial decision-making bodies and policies.

The SFSS is committed to recognizing and affirming Indigenous forms of governance and sovereignty. In order to fully commit and practice what true reconciliation is we must ensure that we acknowledge and practice wherever possible these decolonial ways of governance. We understand that western and colonial ways of governance have been imposed on Indigenous communities and that these ways do not and can not encompass true Indigenous forms of governance. We respect and commit to prioritizing traditional protocol and Indigenous ways of knowing in any circumstance possible. The autonomy must be left to the Indigenous communities' discretion since we believe that Indigenous People(s) understand and know how to best support their community members. That being said, the SFSS has a duty to ensure, within their capacity, that these decision-making capacities exist within respective communities.

Last Updated: 2021-04-23

We uphold principles that are restorative and reciprocal; these are embedded in the frameworks of Indigenous governance, self-determination, and sovereignty. The relationship to the land, language, and ceremony are all encompassing and are the foundation of Indigenous traditional ways of knowing.

Indigenous People(s) have been the original land protectors since time immemorial across Turtle Island. We believe that every living being has rights and responsibilities to fulfill their duties. The relationships and responsibilities are given context through Potawatomi Ethnobotanist, Plant Ecologist and Professor at SUNY College of Environmental Science, Robin Wall Kimmerer's book *Braiding Sweetgrass*.

"Corn, beans, and squash are fully domesticated; they rely on us to create the conditions under which they can grow. We too are part of the reciprocity. They can't meet their responsibilities unless we meet ours."

Forms of traditional knowledge as shared above encompass our responsibilities to the lands we are on. When we uphold frameworks of Indigenous self-determination, sovereignty, and autonomy, we also address the right to protect the land. We acknowledge that we have a responsibility to be in solidarity with Indigenous communities when we address these issues that have occurred because of colonialism and other forms of systematic oppression. We acknowledge that movements need to be led by Indigenous People(s). We further acknowledge that by being on these territories we have a responsibility to amplify but not co-opt these movements.

We affirm that we need to work towards social equity and social justice. Climate crises and environmental genocide disproportionately impact Indigenous People(s) ability to practice and fulfill their rights and responsibilities to the land. There have been various harms caused and that are currently ongoing that directly impact Indigenous People(s). We recognise that through colonial practices such as capitalism and the commodification of the land for resources, there has been the forced dispossession of the land from Indigenous People(s). As a society, we need to redress the harm that has occurred and is ongoing.

Consultation and Commitments:

Last Updated: 2021-04-23

The SFSS is committed to ensuring that proper consultation processes and protocols are followed with Indigenous community members within the SFU community and community-at-large. This includes but is not limited to ensuring that when we are asking for support from the community to ensure we are following through with reconciliation commitments. We also acknowledge that while we undertake consultation work with Indigenous community members, we must commit to respecting and honoring community members in proper remuneration. Furthermore, we acknowledge the need for consultation to be put in the hands of Indigenous community members, students, and People(s).

The SFSS acknowledges that proper consultation² must occur for reconciliation to happen. There have been many occurrences where decisions about Indigenous People(s) have been made on their behalf and with that, we have seen the harm that has occurred from that mindset. Unilateral decision-making when it involves Indigenous community members will not be tolerated, and we will work towards ensuring that Indigenous voices will always be prioritized when it comes to decision-making processes. We are committed to the ongoing work with Indigenous community stakeholders and that moving forward this will always be done in a respectful and timely manner to ensure no harm is caused in the processes.

Reconciliation and Decolonization:

The SFSS recognizes the importance of prioritizing reconciliation efforts not only within the SFSS but holding accountability to the reconciliation efforts that have been called to action at SFU.

The mandate of the Aboriginal Reconciliation Council (ARC) reads:

"To build SFU's capacity to recruit, educate, and support Aboriginal students to be successful in their brograms."

We acknowledge the problematic tendency that comes with terms such as "reconciliation" and "decolonization." We are committed to ensuring that this work is transformative, ongoing, and redresses the harms that have occurred against Indigenous People(s) within so-called canada. Reconciliation should not be composed of empty promises and decolonization should not be seen as a checked box. The SFSS recognizes how important it is to center Indigenous students and community members in the ongoing work to ensure this is done with an open heart and open mind. The complexities of these concepts are much more than statements - they are calls to action. We believe there is a lifetime of learning required to ensure we support our commitments to Indigenous communities.

² See <u>Indigenous Rights</u>, <u>Title</u>, and the <u>Duty to Consult</u> by Bob Joseph to learn more about consultation

³ See the Aboriginal Reconciliation Report "Walk This Path With Us" to see SFU's current calls to action

Celebrating Indigenous Resilience:

Last Updated: 2021-04-23

We acknowledge that Indigenous People(s) are not static and Indigenous resilience in all its forms should be celebrated and recognized. The ability for Indigenous People(s) and also Indigenous academics to continue their education is such a huge accomplishment in itself. Indigenous communities, teachers, advocates, creators, writers, and families are pushing back against the colonial systems that created these barriers for us to succeed in these spaces.

Justice Murray Sinclair said, "Education got us into this mess, and education will get us out of it."

Everyday that Indigenous students step foot in a post-secondary institution is a statement against oppression. We commend the sacrifices and efforts that have been made by previous generations of Indigenous academics and staff for our current generation to be here. Indigenous students' voices are central to reconciliation, decolonizing, and Indigenization of these institutions. Reconciliation in an academic setting cannot occur unless you include Indigenous students. It is our job to leave this place better than we left it so we can ensure the next seven generations can have a solid foundation to be successful and learn in an environment that was intended to support and foster their learning.

We acknowledge that there is work that is occurring and the commitments that need to be done. Celebrating Indigenous resilience is key to ensuring we are recognizing the hard work and accomplishments of our Indigenous community members.

"Iikaakimaat" (Try Hard). Blackfoot Language.

The SFSS supports:

1. Acknowledgements

- a. Land acknowledgements in order to respectfully recognize and affirm the territories we are currently situated on
 - i. Proper pronunciation of territories we are situated on
- b. If there are Host Nation Members, Elders present we prioritize their presence with traditional opening or prayer to respect protocol
- Recognizing and prioritizing work with the Host Nations x^wməθk^wəy m, Skwxwú7mesh Úxwumixw, Selílwitulh
 - i. Further, we understand that SFU and SFSS are present on all three campuses and that the shared territories are also recognized and affirmed due to their specific location, kwikwəλ əm (Kwikwetlem), Stó:lō, Qiqéyt (Qayqayt), Katzie (qi' c y), and Qw'ó:ltl'el (Kwantlen)
 - ii. We also acknowledge that there are many Urban Indigenous people(s) working together towards sovereignty on these territories

- d. Proper representation of Indigenous People(s) and reflection to acknowledgewhere we are situated on
 - i. Prioritizing learning the place names where we are located
 - ii. Supporting local Indigenous artists and creators

2. Anti-Colonialism and Education

- a. Culturally competent and relevant material be provided through;
 - i. Indigenous academic sources that are relevant
 - ii. Prioritizing Indigenous People(s) to come in as guest lecturers
 - iii. Ensuring safety, respect and humility are centered in learning materials and curricula
- b. Prioritization to hire Indigenous faculty and staff within the institution to ensure we have experiential knowledge rooted in our academia
 - i. Lived experience and proper recognition of its significance
 - ii. Advocating for equity hires in all areas of the institution
- c. That the SFU Aboriginal Reconciliation Council (ARC) Report and the current calls to action are being prioritized at SFU, along with calls to action from the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) Report
 - i. TRC calls action that are specific to education
- d. Working towards eliminating obstacles and barriers for Indigenous students to attend and be successful in Post-Secondary
 - i. Financial barriers, systemic and systematic barriers, ensuring safe spaces are allocated
- e. Forms of education to be rooted with Indigenous ways of knowing
 - i. Prioritizing Indigenous forms of education in the classroom
- f. Courses and programs that prioritize Indigenous history, language, and culture, manifested in:
 - Advocating for more courses and funding to be allocated across all departments to include Indigenous ways of knowing that is part of curricula
 - ii. Prioritizing the need for more inclusive and decolonial forms of education
 - iii. Advocating for more Indigenous language programs to be accredited within SFU
- g. Holding institutions accountable to ensure that reconciliation is prioritized through all forms of education and services within the institution
- h. Holistic and ongoing support for Indigenous students while they are on their academic journey, that includes:
 - i. Adequate cultural, racially relevant resources and supports
 - ii. Access to cultural spaces that are needed to support Indigenous students
- i. Prioritized spaces being provided for Indigenous students

- i. Culturally relevant learning spaces or community spaces
- ii. SFU FNMISA Space in the Student Union Building
- j. Recognition of the federal government's fiduciary duty to financially support Indigenous, Metis, and Inuit student education
 - Access to adequate services and resources related to Indigenous students attending post-secondary
 - ii. Acknowledgment that education is a Treaty Right for all Indigenous People(s)
- k. Proper training be prioritized and allocated in order to understand decolonization for SFSS council and staff
 - i. San'yas Indigenous Cultural Safety Training
- 3. Indigenous Governance and Sovereignty
 - a. The Prioritization of establishing and strengthening relationships with autonomous Indigenous groups on campus
 - i. First Nations Student Association
 - b. Governance and policies be created to encompass Indigenous Frameworks
 - i. Using Indigenous Languages, Protocols, Indigenous Sources
 - c. Prioritizing traditional protocol and Indigenous ways of knowing in any circumstance possible
 - i. Inviting community members to witness work that is being done
 - ii. Asking for cultural support since ceremony is the traditional ways governance and policy was practiced prior to colonization
 - d. Indigenous People(s) inherent right(s) and title(s) to the land, as well as the right to self-determination in any possible circumstance
 - e. Indigenous principles that are restorative and reciprocal
 - i. This includes Indigenous forms of consent and conflict resolution that are reflected in restorative justice practices
 - ii. Inviting Indigenous Elders of the Territories and asking for advice or support in the decision-making process.
 - iii. Finding ways to include Indigenous forms of governance
 - iv. Utilizing when appropriate talking circles, transparency processes, and ongoing community engagement
 - f. Respecting the inherent rights and responsibilities of all living beings
 - g. Respecting Indigenous languages and oral history of these lands
 - h. Standing in solidarity with Land Protectors and Indigenous Climate Action movements
 - i. Affirm the work towards social and equity and social justice to enhance Indigenous self-determination

- j. Amplifying and support the work that has been done by Land Protectors since time immemorial
 - i. This includes statements of solidarity and/or reparations

4. Consultation and Commitments

- a. Advocating for compliance with UNDRIP, including the operationalization of free, prior, and informed consent for projects on Indigenous lands
- b. The empowerment of consultation processes and decision making to be in the hands of Indigenous community members
 - i. Includes working with SFU FNMISA, Indigenous Student Centre (ISC), and other Indigenous groups on campus
 - ii. Recognizing Indigenous-led consultation processes as a way for Indigenous peoples to create support networks and ways of knowing what is needed as an individual and collective process
 - iii. Allowing Indigenous students, staff, faculty, and community members to define how their knowledge will be used and put into action
- c. Commitment to ongoing transparency in consultation, decision-making, and reporting
- d. Holding SFU accountable to prioritizing the Calls to Action outlined in the "Walk This Path With Us" Report
 - i. Reflect these calls to action in the work we want to do within the SFSS
- e. Recognizing, redressing, and compensating Indigenous students and student groups for their labor
 - This is also respective to Indigenous community members i.e. Elders, Knowledge Keepers, Matriarchs
 - ii. Through monetary and also relevant cultural forms of remuneration (tobacco or other offerings that are culturally relevant or anything upon request)
 - iii. Guests and/ or Indigenous community members should receive payments in a timely way, preferably on the day their work is performed.
- f. Recognizing that forms of monetary compensation can be barriers
 - i. Working towards finding accessible remuneration processes
 - 1. Cash, e-transfers
 - ii. This can include ensuring we prioritize cash payment on site, since some Indigenous folks do not not have access to cash cheques
- g. Utilizing Indigenous resources to build and inform proper consultation processes with the SFSS
 - i. Outreach to community members to develop consultative processes that centre their needs

h. Supporting consensus driven decision making or community driven decision making

- 5. Reconciliation and Decolonization
 - a. Ensuring reconciliation efforts are followed through and ongoing
 - b. Reconciliation is prioritizes to further support Indigenous students academic journeys
 - c. Reconciliation efforts are the beginning steps to redress harm that has occurred through the education system against Indigenous People(s)
 - d. Reconciliation occurs with and open heart and open mind
 - e. Indigenous days of recognition or days of significance
 - i. This includes but is not limited to; National Indigenous Day June 21st, National Indigenous History Month June, International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples August 9th, Orange Shirt Day September 30th, Annual Women's Memorial March February 14th, Hobiyee Nisga'a New Year February, Rock Your Mocs November 15th, Sisters in Spirit
 - ii. Can further include memorial marches, ceremonial or culturally relevant events
 - f. Prioritizing the safety of Indigenous women and 2SLGBTQQIA peoples in all spaces
 - i. Supporting culturally relevant spaces and supports
 - ii. Ideas of safety beyond current campus security and RCMP processes and practices, which perpetuate racist ideology
 - iii. Ensuring the empowerment of Indigenous women and 2SLGBTQQIA as leaders in Indigenous movements
 - g. The repatriation processes of Indigenous cultural and ceremonial items
 - Within the institution particularly the Museum of Archeology and Ethnology
 - ii. Ceremonial items should go back to their communities not at their expense
 - h. Advocate for the use of Indigenous ceremonial items and proper protocol be established within SFU and SFSS
 - i. Hand Drums, Big Drums have proper care and attention
 - ii. Ensuring Indigenous Students have access to these items at all times
 - i. Cultural support
 - i. Indigenous students not denied practices of ceremony in spaces
 - ii. Smudging, singing, forms of prayer, dancing be supported and acknowledged
 - Land Back

The SFSS opposes:

Last Updated: 2021-04-23

- 6. Colonial tactics used in the classroom including but are not limited to:
 - a. Learning material that is triggering or causes harm
 - b. Invalidation of Indigenous students when racism is addressed in the classroom
 - c. Lack of accountability from the professor or teaching assistants when racism or ignorance is addressed
- 7. Anti-Indigenous semantics
 - a. Anti-Indigenous Language, overt or covert racism against Indigenous People(s)
 - i. This includes but are not limited to within the classroom, public spaces, the Student Union Building, online i.e. SFU associated or owned social media accounts such as Facebook groups, Instagram accounts
 - b. Discrimination and oppression,
 - i. Negative stereotypes, prejudice, racism;
 - ii. Unwarranted posts that cause distress or are triggering for Indigenous students or Indigenous community members
- 8. Denial of Indigenous People(s) in decision making spaces
 - a. Not giving timely notice of meetings, not prioritizing Indigenous students schedules, lack of follow up, accountability, or invite in relevant spaces
 - b. Not respecting students schedules and capacity
 - c. Speaking on behalf of Indigenous groups or community members without their knowledge or consent
 - d. Making unilateral decisions without community consent
- 9. Denial of opportunities for Indigenous students
 - a. This includes; events, workshops, ceremonies, spaces, and meetings
- 10. Creating barriers for Indigenous students to host community events
 - a. Withholding information around financials from the SFU FNMISA board of directors
 - b. Not responding in a timely fashion to the SFU FNMISA Board of Directors
- 11. Infringing upon the rights of Indigenous People(s) and ongoing harm to the land
 - a. Forms of extraction and degradation of the traditional territory and natural resources
 - b. The continuation of the dispossession of Indigenous People(s) by creating the inability to utilize the land for traditional purposes
 - c. Co-opting Indigenous led movements, i.e. LandBack, Land Protectors
- 12. Any pipeline or extractive entity that causes harm to the land
- 13. Coercion of any kind either through monetary means or withholding access to spaces for Indigenous community members

- 14. The use and tokenization of Indigenous students and community members
 - a. Host Nation members, Elders, Students
 - b. Exploitation of Indigenous knowledge and community members
- 15. Implementation or amendments of policies, and/or agreements regarding Indigenous matters without proper consultation
 - a. This includes but is not limited to this current Issues Policy, Black, Indigenous and People of Color Committee (BIPOC) Committee Standing Order, etc.
- 16. Policies, agreements, and/or institutional practices created that compromise or undermine the outcomes of Indigenous students, Indigenous groups, and community on campus
- 17. The denial of consensus-based agreements between SFSS and SFU FNMISA
 - a. targeted against Indigenous students,
 - b. Institutional oppression manifesting systemically and systematically
- 18. The mistreatment of Indigenous ceremonial items and the unauthorized sale of cultural and ceremonial items
 - a. The ongoing erasure of Indigenous identity through the sale of cultural or ceremonial items
- 19. Indigenous People(s) paying institutions to learn their traditional languages
- 20. The cultural appropriation of Indigenous People(s)
 - a. Through events, attire, or names that are associated with the institution
 - b. Establishment of names i.e. sports names, team names, group names, club names that are in bad taste and/or reflect colonialistic narratives
- 21. Police presence and the Royal Canadian Mountain Police
 - a. On campus, or at Indigenous led events on campus
 - b. Recruitment activities, especially in departments and programs that have high rates of indigenous student enrolment

Note:

1. SFU FNMISA or its equivalent and/or derivatives must be consulted and must endorse any changes considered to this issue's policy.

Relevant Documents:

- 1. <u>Truth and Reconciliation Report</u>
- 2. UN Declaration of Rights for Indigenous Peoples
- 3. SFU Aboriginal Reconciliation Council Report "Walk This Path With Us" Full Report
- 4. <u>Draft Principles that Guide the Province of British Columbia's Relationship with Indigenous Peoples</u>
- 5. Lhukw'lhukw'áyten Burnaby Mountain
- 6. <u>Indigenous Control Over Indigenous Education</u>
- 7. Wall Kimmerer, R. (2013). Braiding Sweetgrass. Milkweed Editions. ISBN 978-1-57131-225-5

8. Starblanket, T. (2018). Suffer the Little Children: Genocide, Indigenous Nations and the Canadian State. Clarity Pree, ICN. ISBN: 978-0-9986947-8-8



IP-8: ANTI-RACISM

POLICY TYPE: ISSUES POLICY POLICY TITLE: Anti-Racism

POLICY REFERENCE NUMBER: IP-8

Adopted: April 23, 2021
Next Scheduled Revision: April 2024

Previous Revisions: April 2022

| Position | Signature | Date |
|-----------|-----------|------|
| President | | |

Preamble

The SFSS recognizes that varying forms of oppression are connected, and that addressing racism also requires redressing all other forms of oppression and structures rooted in colonialism. Systemic barriers that prevent Black, Indigenous, and People Of Colour (BIPOC) from reaching their full potential within institutions are a direct result of the exclusion of racialized people from the creation and implementation of programs, policies, and practices.

There is a history of marginalization of Black, Indigenous, and People Of Colour (BIPOC) in SFU and SFSS's decision-making processes, particularly of Black and Indigenous communities despite the fact that they are subject to unique forms of intersecting racism. The SFSS believes in working towards dismantling intersecting forms of systemic oppression, which includes but is not limited to; classism, ableism, capitalism, colonialism, anti-Blackness, misogyny, gender-based violence, xenophobia, Islamophobia, anti-Semitism, homophobia, transphobia, ageism, fatphobia, the various types of racism, etc.

Definitions

BIPOC is defined as Black, Indigenous, People of Colour. This is an acronym that makes the distinction of racialized folks who face disproportionately more barriers than other groups due to intersecting forms of systemic oppression, colonization, racism, capitalism, dispossession etc.

Racism is defined as systemic and individual discrimination through the institutional policies and practices of society that have inherently created disadvantages to Black, Indigenous, and People of Colour. *Racialized* refers to anyone who experiences racism because of their race, skin colour,

ethnic background, accent or culture. Racism involves groups of power shaping the cultural beliefs and values that support racist policies and practices.

Anti-racism is structured around conscious efforts and deliberate actions to provide equitable opportunities for all people on an individual and systemic level.

Oppression is defined as when a dominant group, whether knowingly or unknowingly, abuses a marginalized group. This pervasive system is rooted historically and maintained through individual and institutional/systematic discrimination, personal bias, bigotry, and social prejudice, resulting in a condition of privilege for the dominant group at the expense of the marginalized group. Various societal institutions such as culture, government, education, etc. are all complicit in the oppression of marginalized groups while elevating dominant social groups.

SFSS supports

1. In Governance

- a. The use of Society and University resources to amplify and practically and tangibly support the efforts of Black, Indigenous, and POC students and groups doing antiracism and anti-oppression work
- b. The embedding of Black, Indigenous, and People of Colour student groups into SFU and SFSS governance structures
 - i. Examples include, but is not limited to, Students of Caribbean and African Ancestry (SOCA), SFU First Nations, Métis & Inuit Student Association (SFU FNMISA), SFSS BIPOC Committee, and the SFU Black Caucus.
- c. Recognition and respect for Indigenous forms of governance, and considering other aspects and ways of knowing in order to properly support decision-making processes. (a) This can include:
 - i. (i) inviting Indigenous Elders of the Territories and asking for advice or support in the decision-making process,
 - ii. (ii) finding ways to include Indigenous forms of governance (i.e. talking circles), and,
 - iii. (iii) transparency process and community engagement
 - iv. (iv) Consistent, respectful, and consultation with Host Nations Indigenous community members, and Indigenous student leadership at SFU and SFS
- d. Advocating for clear SFU Campus Safety and security policies, practices, and procedures
- e. Lived-experience taken into valid consideration when creating proposals for and implementing policies, procedures, and practices

- f. Targetted resources allocated to support the various Black and Indigenous communities equitably due to their unique experiences as it relates to their histories with slavery, colonialism, and genocide.
- g. Affirmative action measures and equity-empowerment policies, including cluster hiring of Black and Indigenous faculty and senior leadership at SFU, as is encouraged in *The Employment Equity Act* (1995) to to ensure that equity is strived for and achieved
- h. Changing this policy requires adequate consultation with the SFSS BIPOC Committee, the Students of Caribbean and African Ancestry (SOCA), and the SFU First Nations, Métis & Inuit Student Association (SFU FNMISA) or their equivalents if their orgs names change
- i. Targeting resources allocated to supporting the various Black and Indigenous communities equitably due to their unique experiences as it relates to their histories with slavery, colonialism, and genocide.

2. In Education

- a. Establishing specific reporting mechanisms for racial discrimination in classrooms which include accountability of perpetrator and support for victims
- b. Anti-racism and Anti-oppression education
- c. highlighting and educating folks on issues that impact racialized students on campus
- d. Building an anti-racist approach to training and development sessions, and cultural awareness training within groups and governing bodies within the SFSS and the University

3. In Research

- a. Funding research relating to anti-racism and intersectional BIPOC empowerment
- b. Collection of disaggregated race-based data collection to help inform recruitment, service delivery, in addition to consideration of lived experience Tangibly supporting Black, Indigenous, and People of Colour (BIPOC) academics and scholars

4. In Community Engagement

- a. Proactive consultation that center racialized and marginalized students and community members
- b. The compensation and official recognition of labour to prevent the exploitation of passion, intellectual property, and unpaid labour
- c. Celebrating and amplifying Black, Indigenous, and People of Colour that explore topics outside of racism and social justice, such as art, athletics, journalism, etc.
- d. Working with SFU Administration and various branches within the University on implementing an intersectional anti-racism equity strategy, with a focus on recruitment, retention, service delivery, and inclusion on campus.

- e. Engagement initiatives seeking results that equitably benefits BIPOC students on campus who face barriers due to systematic barriers
- f. Fostering an anti-racist environment through community-building events, including, but not limited to, cultural events, advocacy, and campaigns
- g. Guide SFSS' advocacy on behalf of BIPOC students and to ensure accountability on the University's EDI efforts, reconciliation efforts, and that they are committed to action
- h. Addressing concerns and challenging institutional and overt racism at the University
- i. Amplifying and proactively participating anti-racism and BIPOC empowerment efforts to lobby local, provincial, and federal governments as well as institutions.

SFSS opposes

- 1. Excluding Black, Indigenous, and People of Colour from the initial creation stages of policy, practice, or program implementation
- 2. Blocking or ignoring efforts of BIPOC that propose requests, concerns, and recommendations for BIPOC empowerment or anti-oppression.
- 3. Tokenizing racialized individuals
- 4. Tolerating or platforming hate speech, including within the guise of 'free speech' and 'academic freedom'
- 5. funding, platforming, or collaborating with groups that promote hate-speech

Relevant Documents

SFU and SFSS Documents

- 1 SFU Aboriginal Reconciliation Council Report "Walk This Path With Us"
- 2 SFU EDI Initiative
- 3 SFU 2020 Diversity Meter Survey Report
- 4 SFSS BIPOC Committee Recommendations to SFU Administration on University Anti-Racism Efforts

Other Documents

- 5 Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada: Calls to Action
- 6 <u>International Decade for People of African Descent: Report of the Working Group of Experts on People of African Descent on its mission to Canada.</u>
- 7. UNDRIP UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples
- 8 <u>Draft Principles that Guide the Province of British Columbia's Relationship with Indigenous Peoples</u>
- 9 Anti-Racism Toolkit: Campus Tool-kit for Combatting Racism (CFS, 2020)
- 10 UN Human Rights Office of the High commissioner Declaration on Race and Racial Prejudice
- 11 1963 United Nations Declaration on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination



IP-9: POLICE AND MILITARIZATION

| POLICY TYPE: ISSUES | Policy | |
|---|-------------|-------------------------------|
| POLICY TITLE: Police and Militarization | | |
| POLICY REFERENCE N | UMBER: IP-9 | |
| | | Adopted: April 23, 2021 |
| | | Next Scheduled |
| | | Revision: April 2024 Previous |
| | | Revisions: April 2022 |
| Position | Signature | Date |
| President | | |

Definitions

BIPOC is an acronym for Black, Indigenous and People of Colour.

Marginalized Communities includes communities that have historically been marginalized economically, socially, and politically, including, but not limited to, BIPOC, low-income individuals, individuals with low socioeconomic status, immigrants, sex workers, LGBTQIA2S+ communities, youth and the elderly, people with disabilities, individuals with mental health exceptionalities, and individuals with drug addictions.

Abolition of Police advocates for replacing policing with improved systems of public safety systems that do not disproportionately impact marginalized communities.

Defunding the Police means ceasing investment in public or private money into policing and prison infrastructure.

Transformative Justice is a way of practicing alternative justice that acknowledges individual experiences and identities and works to actively resist the state's criminal injustice system. Transformative Justice recognizes that oppression is at the root of all forms of harm, abuse and assault. As a practice, it therefore aims to address and confront those oppressions on all levels and treats this concept as an integral part to accountability and healing.

Restorative Justice is a process to involve, to the extent possible, those who have a stake in a specific offense and to collectively identify and address harms, needs and obligations, in order to heal and put things as right as possible.

Oppression means when a dominant group, whether knowingly or unknowingly, abuses a marginalized group. This pervasive system is rooted historically and maintained through individual and institutional/systematic discrimination, personal bias, bigotry, and social prejudice, resulting in a condition of privilege for the dominant group at the expense of the marginalized group. Various societal institutions such as culture, government, education, etc. are all complicit in the

oppression of marginalized groups while elevating dominant social groups.

Preamble

Last Updated: 2021-04-23

Multiple studies have shown that police presence often leads to harmful consequences for marginalized communities. Police presence in schools lead to higher arrests, particularly among Black and Indigenous students, students of colour, and disabled students⁴. This places additional financial barriers on students and exacerbates health inequalities, contributing to the continued oppression of marginalized groups.

The SFSS recognizes that Black, Indigenous, racialized, and gender-oppressed people, migrants, those living with mental health issues and disabilities, people who use criminalized drugs, and people without housing have experienced disproportionate harm due to policing instead of receiving support. The SFSS also recognizes that the "violent infrastructure of prisons and policing also negatively impacts the land, water, air, and other-than-human beings through environmental degradation, disrupted relations, and capitalist extraction."⁵

The SFSS stands in solidarity with Black Lives Matter, and with all Black lives that have been touched by state-sanctioned violence at the hands of the criminal justice system, the police, and the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP). We reject the notion that police violence is unique to the United States, as our Black and Indigenous communities continue to be over-policed and subject to violence at disproportionately high rates in Canada (BC Civil Liberties Association, 2020).

Policy

- 1. The SFSS Supports
 - a. Efforts towards transformative justice
 - b. challenging the notion that increasing police presences and practices will increase safety
 - c. reducing the size of the police force
 - d. the abolition of the RCMP in Canada
 - e. ending RCMP recruitment at the University including, but not limited to, career fairs and events
 - f. stronger de-escalation and equity training for SFU Campus Public Safety
 - i. Culturally competent and relevant training
 - ii. Encouraging other forms of community accountability and harm reduction

⁴ https://www-tandfonline-com.proxy.lib.sfu.ca/doi/pdf/10.1080/10428232.2020.1852865

- g. Clear and publicly accessible policies, procedures, practices regarding SFU Campus Public Safety
 - Addressing and researching culturally relevant resources so BIPOC community members are not put in unsafe situations when accessing support. For example, mental wellness checks, MySSP, and crisis lines.
- h. Equal enforcement of clear and equitable policies in order to avoid unequal and unethical enforcement of policies disproportionately affecting marginalized and racialized people that include context regarding the historical, genocidal, and colonial practises of racialized and marginalized peoples in North America
- i. implementation of restorative justice and transformative justice practices
 - Including, but not limited to, policies, governing structures, spaces, community events
- j. Accountable, peer-based, and community-based safety initiatives and resources, including Safewalk
- k. Working with Black, Indigenous, and POC student groups, community groups, and grassroots organizations who are working on advocating for community-led safety measures and initiatives
 - i. this includes initiatives such as, but not limited to, workshops, teach-ins, protests, rallies, and other such actions that advance the dismantling of colonial and genocidal policing practices
- l. signing and endorsing statements of supports from individuals or groups calling for the abolition or defunding of the RCMP
 - i. Includes but not limited to letters of support, endorsements, reparations, and commitment to stand in solidarity with community members
- m. suspending the use of paid administrative leave for police officers under investigation
- n. withholding pensions for police officers who have previously committed acts of excessive force
- o. requiring police officers to be liable for misconduct settlements
- p. withdrawing participation in police militarization programs
- q. prioritizing spending on community health education, affordable housing, and social programs, rather than policing
- r. The collection of disaggregated race-based data for use of force statistics with an aim to reduce inequities in racial profiling
- s. Community oversight of all public safety programmes
- t. Ending of street checks

2. The SFSS opposes

- a. institutions that uphold the principles of white supremacy, colonial practices, and genocidal implications manifesting systemic and systemically
- b. Criminalization of BIPOC and marginalized communities, including, but isn't limited to, low income individuals, individuals with low socioeconomic status, immigrants, sex workers, LGBTQIA2S+ communities, youth and the elderly, disabled people, individuals with mental health exceptionalities, and individuals with drug addictions
- c. calling the RCMP during situations where immediate harm is not present
- d. rehiring police officers who have previously committed acts of excessive force, violence and/or harassment
 - i. Verbal harassment manifesting in threats, degradation, harassment
- e. vague security and public safety policies, procedures, and protocols that allow for interpretations that lead to implicit bias, stereotyping, and racial profiling taking place.
- f. increases in police spending to fund tools, tactics, or technology that further discriminate, marginalized, oppress and kill marginalized communities
- g. police presence at parades, rallies and protests
- h. vague, conflicting, and/or not widely accessible policies in relation to safety or security protocol that allow for implicit bias, stereotyping, or profiling
- i. Anti-Blackness and Anti-Indigeneity



IP-10: PALESTINIAN LIBERATION ISSUES POLICY

| POLICY TYPE: ISS | UES POLICY | |
|--------------------------------------|------------------|-------------------------------------|
| POLICY TITLE: Palestinian Liberation | | |
| Issues Policy | | |
| POLICY REFEREN | ce Number: IP-10 | |
| | | Adopted: April 23, 2022 |
| | | Next Scheduled Revision: April 2024 |
| | | Previous Revisions: April 2022 |
| Position | Signature | Date |
| President | | |

Preamble

Palestinian liberation refers to the effort to overcome Israeli settler colonialism and end the decades-old occupation within Historic Palestine, which includes the '48 territories (the present-day State of Israel), the West Bank, and Gaza.

The State of Israel was built through the dispossession and ethnic cleansing of more than 700,000 Palestinians from their homes, villages, and lands. Since 1948, the State of Israel has been occupying and colonizing Palestinian land, discriminating against Palestinians across the entirety of Palestine as well as displacing and denying the right of return to more than 7 million Palestinian refugees across the world. Israeli expulsion and colonialism are at the core of Palestinian experience, especially in reference to Palestinian refugees and the right of return.

Israel enforces its settler-colonial regime of occupation through forced expulsions, dispossessions, and ethnic cleansing, activities used to eradicate the Indigenous population. Ethnic cleansing is <u>defined</u> as "rendering an area ethnically homogeneous by using force or intimidation to remove persons of given groups from the area, a purposeful policy designed by one ethnic or religious group to remove by violent and terror-inspiring means the civilian population of another ethnic group from certain geographic areas." This state of oppression has been reinforced through discriminatory and colonial policies based on ethnic supremacy for Jewish citizens of Israel. Palestinians at home as well as those living in exile in the diaspora as well as their allies are subject to censorship and doxxing (i.e., posting personal dossiers online and adding names to blacklists like the infamous "Canary Mission"), with devastating effects on their careers, education, and livelihoods, when

Last Updated: 2021-04-23 SFSS Issues Policies they attempt to highlight Israeli settler colonialism and Western complicity.

As outlined in the Human Rights Watch report "A Threshold Crossed: Israeli Authorities and the Crimes of Apartheid and Persecution," the B'tselem report "A regime of Jewish supremacy from the Jordan River to the Mediterranean Sea: This is apartheid," and the Amnesty International report "Israel's Apartheid Against Palestinians: A Cruel System of Domination and a Crime Against Humanity," the State of Israel is in clear violation of international law in its treatment of Palestinian citizens of Israel as well as those living in occupied territories.

The State of Israel violates international humanitarian law and international human rights law; provisions contained in the Fourth Geneva Convention, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, the International Convention on the Suppression and Punishment of the Crime of Apartheid, the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, and the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court are regularly breached wherever Israeli civil and military institutions exercise their control.

There have been numerous <u>UN resolutions</u> denouncing the creation and ongoing expansion of illegal settlements in Occupied Palestine, but these have been ignored by the State of Israel and its international supporters. Governments around the world refuse to hold Israel accountable for these violations.

Multinational companies and global institutions assist in the Israeli oppression of Palestinians by ignoring these atrocities and continuing business as usual with Israel. Under the Nuremberg Principles I and II, individuals are responsible for adhering to the principles of international law. Guided by Nuremberg Principle VII, the Simon Fraser Student Society sees itself obligated to support the Palestinian pursuit of self-determination and to resist the illegal actions of the State of Israel.

Because International law, governments, and other legal apparatuses have steadfastly refused to pursue justice for Palestinians since 2005 Palestinian civil society has called for its supporters to become active in the grassroots Boycott, Divestment, and Sanctions (BDS) movement as a means of participating in the pursuit of Palestinian liberation.

Forms of Boycott: Academic, Cultural, and Economic

- Academic Boycott: Palestinian civil society calls for an academic boycott of Israeli academic
 institutions complicit in the oppression of Palestinians. Refusing to normalize oppression, many
 academic associations, student governments, and unions, as well as thousands of international
 academics, have come out in support of the academic boycott of Israel. In North American
 campuses, this has taken the form of ending ties with university "Go Global" programs at Tel Aviv
 or Haifa University.
- Cultural Boycott: Israel uses culture as a form of propaganda to whitewash its occupation, settler-colonialism, and the system of apartheid rule over Palestinians. Just as South African anti-apartheid activists called on international artists, writers, and cultural institutions to <u>culturally boycott South Africa</u>, the Palestinian Campaign for the Academic and Cultural Boycott of Israel (PACBI) urges international cultural workers and cultural organizations, including unions and associations, to

SFSS Issues Policies

boycott and/or work towards the cancellation of events, activities, agreements, or projects involving Israel, its lobby groups, or its cultural institutions. International venues and festivals are asked to reject funding and any form of sponsorship from the Israeli government. Thousands of artists across the world have refused to perform in Israel, including Roger Waters and Lauryn Hill.

• Economic Boycott: International companies aid and abet Israel's violations of international law, by operating in Israeli settlements and acting as contractors for the Israeli military and government. BDS-based campaigning has led to major companies such as Veolia and Orange selling their Israeli holdings and leaving Israel. A range of investors have divested from Israeli and international companies linked to illegal Israeli settlements, including 112 named by the UN. Both the UN and the World Bank have declared that BDS is having an important economic impact on Israel.

A cultural, academic, or economic boycott does not target anyone based on anything other than being complicit in the oppression of Palestinians. It targets institutions, their partners, and representatives based on their complicity in Israel's violations of international law, and who are clearly implicated, through their silence or active participation, in supporting, justifying, and whitewashing Israel's occupation and systematic denial of Palestinian lands, dignity and rights.

Divestment: To divest is to withdraw funds. International companies such as G4S and HP profit from helping Israel maintain its system of settler colonialism. Divestment campaigns have focused on these and others to put pressure on them to end their complicity with Israeli's oppression of Palestinians.

Sanctions: Sanctions are defined in international law as measures of states against another state which contradict the principle of peaceful cooperation. Sanctions were the final blow to the apartheid regime in South Africa. The BDS movement has called for governments to sanction Israel. Some governments have responded by mounting military embargoes, ending economic links, and cutting diplomatic ties. Sanctions can also include ending all trade with Israeli settlements and the suspension of free trade and other bilateral agreements with Israel.

The BDS movement is built on three demands:

- 1) Ending Israeli occupation and colonization of all Arab lands and dismantling the Wall;
- 2) Recognizing the fundamental rights of the Arab-Palestinian citizens of Israel to full equality;
- 3) Respecting, protecting, and promoting the rights of Palestinian refugees to return to their homes and properties as stipulated in UN resolution 194.

The Palestinian Liberation Issues Policy provides an opportunity for the SFU community to follow in the footsteps of other leading Canadian academic institutions where their community has supported divestment. In February 2022, the University of Toronto Student Union <u>passed</u> a motion mandating that it divest from "all firms complicit in the occupation of Palestinian Territory." Two universities in Montreal embraced a similar approach: a 71% majority of the McGill undergraduate student body <u>voted</u> in favor of a Palestine Solidarity Policy. Concordia University's Student Union has also passed a motion condemning Israeli Apartheid. Additionally, UBC's student union, the AMS, voted in March 2022 to call for UBC to divest itself of holdings in 9 arms manufacturing companies that aid in Israel's oppression of Palestinians and to condemn Israeli apartheid as well as the Israeli occupation of Palestine.

Definitions

Last Updated: 2021-04-23

Zionism: Zionism is a colonial ideology that calls for establishing a Jewish nation-state in Palestine having a Jewish majority and institutionalizing Jewish privilege in Israel. In Palestine, this necessitated first the ethnic cleansing of the Indigenous population during the <u>1948 Nakba</u> and subsequently maintaining an apartheid regime. There were few Zionists present in Palestine before the 20th century; creating a Jewish state necessitated the expulsion of the Palestinians and the creation of an apartheid state. Read <u>more</u> (Note: This article outlines an answer to the myth of Zionism not being a colonialist venture).

Anti-Zionism: Opposition to the establishment and maintenance of a state rooted in Jewish supremacy and colonization of Palestinian land and sustained through home demolitions, checkpoints, imprisonment, segregation, ID system, and overall subjugation of Palestinian life and dignity. Anti-Zionism fits into a wider anti-colonial framework globally, including within Turtle Island.

Anti-Palestinian racism: The Arab Canadian Lawyers Association defines anti-Palestinian racism as "racism involving attacking, smearing, silencing or stereotyping of Palestinians. This racism can be implicit, overt, or systemic and can be perpetrated against Palestinians and non-Palestinians. Anti-Palestinian racism takes various forms, including: violence or the justification of violence against Palestinian lands, property, or persons; failing to acknowledge Palestinians as a people with a collective identity, belonging, and rights in relation to occupied and historic Palestine; excluding or pressuring organizations, governments or individuals to exclude Palestinians or Palestinian perspectives; denying or causing to be denied the human rights and equal dignity and worth of Palestinians; and smearing Palestinians with tropes such as being antisemitic, terrorist sympathizers, or opposed to shared national/democratic values. This also includes denial of the 1948 Nakba and enforcing the Palestinian exception to progressive politics." Read more here.

Anti-Semitism: Anti-Semitism is racism, hostility, prejudice, vilification, discrimination, or violence, including hate crimes, directed against Jewish people, as individuals, groups, or as a collective, because they are Jewish. Its expression includes attributing to Jewish people, as a group, characteristics or behaviours that are perceived as dangerous, harmful, frightening, or threatening to non-Jewish people. Anti-Semitism should be considered as abhorrent as other forms of racism and discrimination. Unfortunately, defenders of Israel are promoting the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA) definition of anti-Semitism, which is designed to stifle criticism of Israel and of Zionism by wrongly equating it with anti-Semitism. Read more at www.noihra.ca.

The Boycott, Disinvestment, and Sanctions (BDS) movement: a non-violent movement formed in 2005 by more than 170 Palestinian non-governmental organizations, unions, and civil society groups aimed to campaign for and protect the rights of Palestinians through the application of international pressure on Israel to compel it to comply with international law.

Policy

1. The SFSS supports:

- a. The liberation and self-determination of Palestinians in their quest for freedom, justice, right to return, and land back, including all forms of resistance in line with international law. We shall strive to amplify the efforts of the Palestinian diaspora to bring international pressure on Israel and focus on the lived experience of Palestinians in all of Palestine
- b. Working with anti-colonial, Palestinian, and anti-Zionist Jewish groups, students, community groups, and grassroots organizations advocating for Palestinian liberation, including workshops, teach-ins, walk-outs, protests, rallies, and other actions via: Funding, organizational partnerships, and actions that advance the cause of Palestinian liberation, including calls for boycotting, divesting, and sanctioning the state of Israel and institutions complicit in the oppression of Palestinians.
- c. The aims of the BDS movement which are:
 - i. End Israeli occupation and colonization of all Arab lands and dismantle the Wall.
 - ii. Recognize the fundamental rights of the Arab-Palestinian citizens of Israel to full equality.
 - iii. Respect, protect, and promote the rights of Palestinian refugees to return to their homes and properties as stipulated in UN resolution 194.
- d. The call for initiatives in support of the BDS movement such as:
 - i. Boycotting the state of Israel and institutions, companies, and organizations that fund or support Israeli apartheid and settlements. This involves withdrawing support from Israel's apartheid regime, complicit Israeli sporting, cultural and academic institutions, and from all Israeli and international companies engaged in violations of Palestinian human rights. This includes an academic boycott of Israeli universities within the guidelines outlined in the PACBI academic and cultural boycott framework.
 - ii. Divesting from the state of Israel by encouraging and urging banks, local municipal councils, religious institutions, pension funds, and universities (including internal and external to SFU) to withdraw investments from the State of Israel, as well as all Israeli and international companies that sustain Israeli apartheid
 - iii. Sanctioning the state of Israel in order to end its system of apartheid by banning business with illegal Israeli settlements, ending military trade and free-trade agreements, as well as suspending Israel's membership in international fora.

2. The SFSS Opposes

- a. Laws, policies, and practices that violate international law, such as:
 - i. Divided and separate rule;
 - ii. Israel's discriminatory system of immigration for Jewish peoples only as well as the granting of rights and privileges to Jewish people at the expense of Palestinians;
 - iii. The building of illegal settlements on occupied territories;
 - iv. Restrictions on Palestinians' freedom of movement;
 - v. Limitations on Palestinians' right to political participation;
 - vi. Inhumane acts and abuse of Palestinians' fundamental rights; and
 - vii. Institutional discrimination and systemic domination.
- b. Discourse that adopts or promotes anti-Palestinian racism, anti-Black racism, anti-Indigenous, anti-Arab racism, Islamophobia, anti-Semitism, sexism, xenophobia, homophobia, and any form of oppression.
- c. The coopting of the BDS movement to promote or tolerate any act or discourse which perpetuates anti-Palestinian racism, anti-Arab racism, Islamophobia, anti-Semitism, anti-Black racism, anti-Indigenous racism, sexism, xenophobia, or homophobia, and zero tolerance on any form of oppression in the name of these policies.
- d. Apartheid, genocide, slavery, colonial exploitation, and ethnic cleansing, or crimes against humanity that are founded on racism and racial supremacy. We support victims, including descendants, right to full reparation.
- e. Partnering with, or empowering groups through representation on decision-making bodies (such as on the SFSS Council) that;
- i. Censor and suppress actions supporting Palestinians;
- ii. Foster a repressive environment for members of groups that support Palestinian liberation and human rights, on the basis of their members' support for Palestinians—including using tools such as boycotts, divestments, and sanctions, or;
- iii. That have ties to or seek to establish, ties with the state of Israel or any institution complicit in its oppression of Palestinians, as guided by this policy.

Last Updated: 2021-04-23 Relevant Documents

SFSS and SFU Documents

- 1. SFSS Anti-Racism Issues Policy
- 2. SFU Human Rights Policy
- 3. SFU Responsible Investment Policy

Other Documents

4. Decolonize Palestine:

https://decolonizepalestine.com/intro/palestine-throughout-history/

5. B'Tselem:

https://www.btselem.org/publications/fulltext/202101 this is apartheid

- 6. Human Rights Watch A Threshold Crossed: Israeli Authorities and the Crimes of Apartheid and Persecution: https://www.hrw.org/sites/default/files/media 2021/04/israel palestine0421 web 0 .pdf
- 7. Israel's apartheid against Palestinians: a cruel system of domination and a crime against humanity Amnesty International:
 - https://www.amnesty.org/en/latest/news/2022/02/israels-apartheid-against-palestinians-a-cruel-system-of-domination-and-a-crime-against-humanity/
- 8. UN International Convention on the Suppression and Punishment of the Crime of Apartheid: https://www.un.org/en/genocideprevention/documents/atrocity-crimes/Doc.10 International Convention on the Suppression and Punishment of the Crime of Apartheid
- 9. UN Fourth Geneva Convention: Relative the Protection of Civilians in the Time of War https://www.un.org/en/genocideprevention/documents/atrocity-crimes/Doc.33 GC-IV-EN.pdf
- 10. UN International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights https://treaties.un.org/doc/publication/unts/volume%20999/volume-999-i-14668-english.pdf
- 11. UN International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination https://legal.un.org/avl/pdf/ha/cerd/cerd e.pdf
- 12. Implementation of Security Council resolution 2334 (2016) Report of the Secretary-General (S/2021/584) [EN/AR] <a href="https://reliefweb.int/report/occupied-palestinian-territory/implementation-security-council-resolution-2334-2016-report-2#:~":text=In%20its%20resolution%202334%20(2016,the%20achievement%20of%20the%20two
- 13. Nuremberg Principles I and II and VII https://ihl-

databases.icrc.org/applic/ihl/ihl.nsf/Article.xsp?action=openDocument&documentId=D4D73482 0B8BA553C12563CD0051C97A

https://ihl-

databases.icrc.org/applic/ihl/ihl.nsf/Article.xsp?action=openDocument&documentId=A2212CF58 764AAFAC12563CD0051C985

https://ihl-

databases.icrc.org/applic/ihl/ihl.nsf/Article.xsp?action=openDocument&documentId=316D02C8 C319DF26C12563CD0051C9D3

- 14. Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court https://www.icc-cpi.int/resource-library/documents/rs-eng.pdf
- 15. PACBI academic and cultural boycott framework

https://bdsmovement.net/pacbi/cultural-boycott-guidelines

16. UN rights office issues report on business activities related to settlements in the Occupied Palestinian Territory: https://www.ohchr.org/en/press-releases/2018/01/un-rights-office-issues-

Last Updated: 2021-04-23 SFSS Issues Policies

report-business-and-human-rights-settlements?LangID=E&NewsID=22617

- 17. SFSS Statement on the Israeli Colonization of Palestine Simon Fraser Student Society: https://sfss.ca/sfss-statement-on-the-israeli-colonisation-of-palestine/
- 18. Our definition of antisemitism No IHRA | Academic campaign No IHRA: https://www.noihra.ca/academic-campaign
- 19. UN RESOLUTION 194

https://www.unrwa.org/content/resolution-194

- 20. Statement on Motion to Support Boycott Divestment and Sanction https://www.cfs-fcee.ca/blog/statement-on-motion-to-support-boycott-divestment-and-sanctions-bds-movement
- 21. UTSU approves motion to divest from firms 'complicit' in occupation of Palestinian territory https://thevarsity.ca/2022/02/21/utsu-approves-motion-to-divest-from-firms-complicit-in-occupation-of-palestinian-territory
- 22. McGill undergraduate student body vote in favour of Palestine Solidarity Policy https://www.instagram.com/p/CbYdHWBv7fF/?utm-source=ig-web_copy_link
- 23. Anti-Palestinian Racism: Analyzing the Unnamed and Suppressed Reality

https://pomeps.org/anti-palestinian-racism-analyzing-the-unnamed-and-suppressed-reality

- 24. The Cultural Boycott: Israel vs. South Africa by Omar Barghouti
- http://hyperallergic.com/212014/the-cultural-boycott-israel-vs-south-africa%E2%80%A8
 - 25. United Nations Human Rights Council lists 112 complicit companies related to illegal Israeli settlements
- Named: 112 companies linked to illegal Israeli settlements by the UN | Middle East Eye
 - 26. Legal Consequences of the Construction of a Wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory https://www.icj-cij.org/en/case/131
 - 27. Anti-Palestinian Racism: Analyzing the Unnamed and Suppressed Reality https://pomeps.org/anti-palestinian-racism-analyzing-the-unnamed-and-suppressed-reality
 - 28. Except for Palestine https://stevesalaita.com/except-for-palestine/



IP-11: COURSE MATERIALS

| POLICY TYPE: ISSUES F | OLICY | |
|---------------------------------------|--------------|-------------------------------------|
| POLICY TITLE: Course Materials Issues | | |
| Policy | | |
| POLICY REFERENCE NU | JMBER: IP-11 | |
| | | Adopted: April 27, 2022 |
| | | Next Scheduled Revision: April 2024 |
| | | Previous Revisions: April 2023 |
| Position | Signature | Date |
| President | | |

Preamble

The SFU Bookstore reports that students spend hundreds of dollars a year on course materials on top of the ever-increasing cost of tuition. In 2019 and 2020, students spent on average \$244.17 and \$100.00 per semester on course materials, respectively. The SFU Bookstore only records course materials sold through the Bookstore – this does not include expenses from quiz and assignment software.

SFU instructors can help eliminate barriers to education by switching from expensive commercial textbooks to Open Educational Resources (OER). OER refers to openly licensed and freely available textbooks, readings, multi-media files, software, games, assessment tools, and even entire courses. OER are listed under the public domain free from copyright restrictions and can be shared, remixed, and used for commercial and non-commercial purposes. OER enables instructors to customize course material to be specific to their course and what they intend to teach.

Since 2016, faculty-led OER projects funded by the SFU OER Grants Program have saved students over \$1 million. BCcampus reports that open textbook adoptions in British Columbia alone have saved students over \$20 million since 2012. In addition to reducing the financial burden of university expenses, OER are proven to improve student engagement and learning achievement.

Definitions

Open educational resources (OER) are teaching, learning and research resources created with the intention of being freely available to users anywhere. They may include, but are not limited to, textbooks, readings, multi-media files, software, games, assessment tools, and even entire courses.

Policy

The SFSS supports:

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- a. Open access to course materials
- b. Instructors adopting and/or adapting OER for their courses
- c. Recognizing and rewarding instructors who create and use OER
- d. SFU providing students with software they need to complete assignments free of charge
- e. Proper funding of OER initiatives
- f. Strengthening and expanding of digital publishing infrastructure to support open textbook and OER creation and adaptation projects
- g. Facilitation of ongoing open education learning and training opportunities within the SFU Community
- h. Participation in broader open education initiatives and communities of practice
- i. The open sharing of teaching practices with the goal of improving education and training at the institutional, professional and individual level
- j. The creation of a university wide policy allowing the implementation of OER across faculties
- k. The creation of a university wide policy allowing the implementation of OER across faculties

The SFSS Opposes

- a. Expensive publisher textbooks and digital tools
- b. Requiring students to purchase course materials not specified in the course outline prior to enrollment
- c. The creation of barriers to education through the use of mandatory unaffordable course materials



IP-12: ACCESSIBLE AND EQUITABLE EVENTS

| POLICY TYPE: ISS | SUES POLICY | |
|--|-------------------|-------------------------------------|
| POLICY TITLE: Accessible and Equitable | | |
| Events Issues Policy | | |
| POLICY REFEREN | ice Number: IP-12 | |
| | | Adopted: April 27, 2022 |
| | | Next Scheduled Revision: April 2024 |
| | | Previous Revisions: April 2023 |
| Position | Signature | Date |
| President | | |

Preamble

The accessibility and equitability of events determines whether an event is safe for members of marginalized communities to attend. Without accessibility, the event excludes and prevents the participation of Disabled members, as well as any members whose accessibility needs may not be met. Similarly, without equitability the event creates an environment which excludes members of marginalized communities out of concerns for their safety. Regardless of their content, events should be as accessible and equitable as possible. There should be attention paid and processes followed to ensure that events, the content of events and the participants of said events are safer. Events should produce safer environments, where joy, celebration, criticism, knowledge, and discomfort can be shared. It is important to note, however, while criticism and discomfort can be productive, harm is destructive.

Accessibility and equity are processes and not checklists. They must be considered prior to the event, during the event and after the event, and involve ongoing dialogue and collaboration with marginalized communities. This is critical as accessibility and equity oppose the oppression that marginalized communities face, which is also an ongoing process of the use of power to disempower, marginalize, silence or otherwise subordinate one group to further privilege the oppressor. To effectively implement anti-oppression efforts, one must continuously fight to challenge the systems of oppression and to equalize the power imbalances in our communities.

An example of an anti-oppression framework is disability justice, where the ten principles of disability justice are intersectionality, leadership of those most impacted, anti-capitalistic politic, commitment to cross-movement organizing, recognizing wholeness, sustainability, commitment to cross-disability solidarity, interdependence, collective access, and collective liberation. Intersectionality is of particular importance to ensuring that accessibility is not just defined by disability, but an active process that prioritizes collective access and liberation for all.

Definitions

SFSS Issues Policies

Ableism is "a form of systemic oppression that places value on people's bodies and minds based on societally constructed ideas of normalcy, intelligence, excellence and productivity. Ableism is hostile towards people with Disabilities, and is deeply rooted in anti-Blackness, eugenics, colonialism and capitalism. You do not have to be Disabled to experience ableism."

Access/Accessibility is when a service, device, or space can be used by everyone. This includes everyone being able to acquire the same information, engage in the same interactions, and have the same opportunities, with the same effectiveness, integration, and ease of use.

Barriers are anything that prevent a person from fully and comfortably participating in an environment because their needs are not being met. Barriers can be physical, cognitive, sensory, architectural, communications-based, attitudinal, technological, a policy or practice. Barriers are often more common or severe for those who are Disabled or otherwise marginalized due to the influence of structural oppression (such as ableism, racism, classism, misogyny, homophobia/homomisia, transphobia/transmisia, colonialism, etc.)

Collective access is "access that we intentionally create collectively, instead of individually." Since often the onus to create access is placed on the individual who needs it, collective access requires a commitment from everyone to create access for all.

Disability justice is a "multi-issue political understanding of disability and ableism, moving away from a rights-based equality model and beyond just access, to a framework that centers justice and wholeness for all disabled people and communities." It was coined in 2005 by Black, brown, queer, and trans members of the Disability Justice Collective, including Patty Berne, Leroy Moore, Mia Mingus, Eli Clare, and Sebastian Margaret.

Disabled is a political identity claimed by many people who are barred from full and equal participation in society due to physical, mental, intellectual, sensory and communication **barriers**. The Disabled identity is often used to oppose the idea that something is inherently "wrong" with Disabled people's bodies and minds, and to instead indicate that it is society which disables people who fall outside its socially-constructed idea of normalcy. Those who are Disabled may only be disabled temporarily, or may be disabled long-term. They also may or may not be disabled in a way that is easily apparent to others.

Equity is fair and just treatment, access, and opportunity that acknowledges diversity and eliminates barriers that prevent certain groups from being included or being able to participate.

Marginalization is the treatment of a person, group, or concept as insignificant and/or less than.

Wheelchair accessible is any space which provides thirty-six-inch throughways and sixty-by-sixty inch turning radiuses for wheelchairs, as well as a lack of stairs or other obstacles that could obstruct the path of a person using a wheelchair.

Policy

The SFSS supports:

- 1. That all online events should have the following:
 - a. Live captioning
 - b. Sign language interpretation
 - c. Options for dialing in by phone
 - d. Options to participate via the chat window, and someone to read out chat responses
 - e. Visual self-descriptions for all people using cameras, modeled and done during opening rounds
 - f. Visual descriptions of slides, photos and any other visual materials shared
 - g. A mute function controlled by the moderator, turned on whenever an attend is not speaking
 - h. Names and jargon spelled out or put in the chat window
 - i. Speakers to identify themselves by name when they start speaking
 - j. Technical rehearsals/test-runs beforehand to check all relevant accessibility considerations
 - k. Preventative measures to address potential security incidents and breaches, including Zoombombing

2. That all in-person events should have the following:

- a. A wheelchair-accessible venue
- b. Inclusive physical activities
- c. Illness prevention protocols, including COVID-19 prevention
- d. Accessible transportation routes and entrances
- e. Sign language interpretation
- f. Gender neutral and wheelchair-accessible washroom access
- g. Braille or raised signage
- h. Ways to vary lighting and sound to meet sensory needs
- i. Options that meet common dietary restrictions for any food provided, including full ingredients lists accessible to all attendees (including Braille and large font lists); gluten-free, dairy-free, nut-free, vegan, certified kosher, and meat options
- j. Options for more accessible seating (e.g. location of seat, type of seating)
- k. A well-advertised and enforced scent-free policy, including provision of unscented hand soap in washrooms
- 1. Mandatory use of microphones
- 3. That all hybrid events (both in-person and online) should meet the criteria for points 1. and 2.
- 4. That all event organizing teams should have at least one designated accessibility contact person to manage accessibility services and process requests from attendees at least two weeks ahead of time
- 5. That all accessibility services for events should be professionally done and well-compensated, with preparatory materials (such as agendas, slides, attendee list) shared well ahead of time to service providers
- 6. That specific requests for accessibility services by attendees or organizers should be met in all cases where it is possible to do so
- 7. That staff and volunteers working on events are provided with paid disability and accessibility training, led by Disabled experts

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- 8. That event planning should avoid conflicts with cultural and religious holidays and planned ceremonies
- 9. That events should have frequent and substantial breaks of at least 10-15 minutes every hour

10. Measures for language and communication accessibility, including:

- a. Explanations for jargon, slang, acronyms and assumed knowledge
- b. Plain language options for event materials
- c. Interpretation and translation services into other languages when requested
- d. Dyslexia-friendly fonts and formatting
- e. Screen reader-friendly PDFs and digital documents
- f. Large font (at least 20 pt) and Braille format materials when requested
- g. Use of nametags and unobtrusive opportunities to use pronoun tags
- h. Use of communication badges
- Invitations for attendees to communicate in ways accessible for them, whether that be through speaking aloud, signing, writing, typing, or using Augmentative and Alternative Communication systems

11. Measures for financial accessibility, including

- a. Sliding scale options, or, when impossible, funding available for those who cannot afford the cost of an event
- b. Sliding scale options, or, when impossible, funding available for those who cannot afford the cost of an event

12. Advertising and/or event material that gives adequate information for disabled attendees, including:

- a. Detailed location accessibility (or video call platform) information
- b. Schedule of events and ending time
- c. Chemical scent policy
- d. Contact information for your accessibility contact person
- e. Alternative text, image descriptions and/or captions for all images and videos in event materials
- f. All other relevant accessibility information

13. Ample warnings for flashing lights and colours to prevent seizures, and avoidance of the use of flashing lights and colours

14. Respectful rules and expectations, including:

- a. Content warnings for triggering material
- b. Respectful interaction with disabled participants and speakers
- c. Bans of flash photography
- d. Speaking one at a time to prevent crosstalk
- e. Patience with those who speak slowly or may take a while to answer

15. That speaker lists at events should take equity into consideration, including:

a. That marginalized people should be considered expert speakers and presenters on the subjects of their marginalizations

SFSS Issues Policies

- b. That marginalized experts should be included in lists of speakers and presenters at events that are not solely about their marginalizations
- c. That organizers should not assume speakers and presenters are not disabled and would not have their own accessibility needs
- 16. That accessibility be planned well ahead of time, and updates be given to attendees prior to the event and on the day of
- 17. The full implementation and maintenance of the Administrative Policy: SFSS Accessibility Standard Policy
- 18. Appropriate consequences for those violating safety and security of the event, including Zoombombers, varying dependent on the severity of the transgression

The SFSS Opposes

- 1. Events that create unsafe conditions for marginalized people, including:
 - a. Lack of intentional and collaborative planning for collective access
 - b. Attempts to dictate which accessibility needs are fake or unimportant
 - Elevating (without challenging) opinions that are racist, sexist, homophobic/homomisic, ableist, transphobic/transmisic, fatphobic/fatmisic, antiblack or otherwise harmful and violent towards a marginalized group
 - d. Events which feature or allow white supremacists and alt-right extremists
- 2. Requiring medical documentation of disabilities to meet accessibility needs during events
- 3. Evaluating accessibility support for events based on event size or likelihood of profit
- 4. The labelling of events as "accessible" when accessibility has not been properly evaluated

Relevant Documents

- 1. These principles were developed by the queer and trans disabled artists/activists and disabled artists/activists of colour of Sins Invalid. https://www.sinsinvalid.org/blog/10-principles-of-disability-justice
- 2. This definition was originally developed by Talila "TL" Lewis, and was developed in community with Disabled Black and other negatively racialized people, especially Dustin Gibson, https://www.talilalewis.com/blog/january-2021-working-definition-of-ableism
- 3. From Creating Collective Access: Crip made brilliance in Detroit and beyond, by Leah Lakshmi Piepzna-Samarasinha https://alliedmedia.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/10/creating collective access.pdf

SFSS Motion for Submission - SFSS Calls for a Permanent Ceasefire and Defends Palestinian Liberation Solidary at SFU:

Whereas in 1948, the current state of Israel was established through the expulsion of a majority of the Indigenous Palestinian population, turning them into refugees who decades later still cannot exercise their fundamental right to return as stipulated in UN General Assembly resolution 194;

Whereas since 1967, Israel has occupied and colonized the West Bank, Gaza, and East Jerusalem, building illegal Jewish-only settlements – which the UN has called a "flagrant" violation of international law – as well as an 8-metre segregation wall – condemned by the International Court of Justice;

Whereas Israel is currently conducting a ruthless bombing campaign and genocide killing at least an estimated 20,000 Palestinians and displacing over 2 million people multiple times to date since October 7, 2023 in Gaza and the West Bank, similar to the 2014 and 2021 bombing campaigns on Gaza in which so many Palestinian civilians were killed by the Israeli military;

Whereas Israel continues to suppress and enact violence and occupation across Palestine, allowing the proliferation of illegal settlements in the West Bank and East Jerusalem, as well as continuing a current siege and military blockade of Gaza, controlling Gaza's air, land and sea ports;

Whereas on July 9, 2005, 171 Palestinian civil society organizations called upon people of conscience around the world to implement a global campaign of boycott, divestment and sanctions (BDS) against Israel, similar to those applied to South Africa in the apartheid era;

Whereas the SFSS Council Passed a Motion opposing the Colonization of Palestine in May 2021 which called for the end to the Occupation and established a working group to draft and formulate SFSS' support for Palestine through a SFSS Palestine Liberation Issues Policies;

Whereas the SFSS Free Palestine Working Group and various additional groups endorsed the Palestinian Liberation Issues Policy, namely, SFU Student for Justice in Palestine (SJP), UBC Solidarity for Palestinian Human Rights (SPHR), the Palestinian Youth Movement Vancouver (PYM), BDS Vancouver – Coast Salish, SFU Arab Student Association (ASA), SFU Migrants Students United (MSU), SFU International Student Advocates (ISA), SFU First Nations, Métis & Inuit Student Association (FNMISA), SFU Students of Caribbean & African Ancestry (SOCA), SFU Disability and Neurodiversity Alliance (DNA), The Simon Fraser Public Interest Research Group (SFPIRG), SFU Radical Individual's for Solidarity and Equity (RISE), SFU International Studies Student Association (ISSA), SFU 350, Anti-Racism Coalition Vancouver (ARC), Canadian Voices Against Racism (CVAR), and The Caucus among many others;

Whereas all departmental student unions, faculty student unions, constituency groups and affiliated groups as part of the SFSS Council that were present on April 20, 2022, unanimously voted in favour and passed the Palestinian Liberation Policy which outlined SFSS support for Palestine after widespread membership support for and multiple groups endorsing;

Whereas the SFSS constitution outlines the purpose of the society to coordinate and promote all undergraduate student activities, of, by, and for the undergraduate students of Simon Fraser University, to promote, among other goals democratically determined by the Society, the principles of public, universally accessible, high-quality post-secondary education, and of meaningful undergraduate student participation in all aspects of University governance, and to facilitate collective action by undergraduate students at Simon Fraser University, within the Province of British Columbia, and elsewhere in support of these principles, in a manner that is reflective of the anti-oppressive mandate of the SFSS as outlined in SFSS Bylaw 6(16);

Whereas the student movement has historically been a driving force in advocating for social justice and change, actively participating in and supporting various movements, from opposing the Vietnam War, championing the Black Power movement in the 60s, aligning with labour rights movements, endorsing movements including Idle No More, and opposing apartheid in South Africa up until the 1990s, illustrating our unwavering commitment to societal progress, justice, and equity;

Whereas the SFSS has supported and empowered marginalized students, actively participating in past student movements such as the Tuition Action against government defunding of public education and campaigns for divestment, sanctions, and boycotts against apartheid South Africa, leading to the establishment of the Issues Policies that protect and clarify the society's stances on crucial matters, including Reproductive Rights, Black History Month, Accessibility, Living Wage, Tuition Affordability, Climate Justice, Indigenous Inclusion and Reconciliation, Disability Justice, Anti-Racism, Policing and Militarization, Palestinian Liberation and an ongoing commitment to further causes, in furtherance of Bylaw 6(16) which outlines that all activities and endorsements of the Council reflect the anti-oppressive mandate of the Society;

Whereas the SFSS is yet to make a statement, take action or support student advocacy on campus in the face of the recent bombing campaign, complete siege, and genocide in Gaza to align itself with the SFSS Issues Policies which states the society supports such actions,

Be it further resolved that the SFSS Council call for a permanent ceasefire in Palestine, the end to the siege and genocide in Gaza, and for an end to the Israeli occupation in occupied Palestinian territories, and reaffirm its support for the current Palestinian Liberation Issues Policy previously passed by Council;

Be it further resolved that the SFSS Council call upon the Canadian Government to put all the resources at their disposal to ensure a permanent ceasefire;

Be it further resolved that the SFSS Council announce the passing of this motion and outline the previous motions passed with the resources in the Background as outlined;

Be it further resolved that the SFSS Council endorse the SFU Students for Justice in Palestine open letter to SFU, currently signed and endorsed by multiple groups including: the SFU Graduate Student Society, Teaching Support Staff Union (TSSU), Palestinian Youth Movement (PYM), Independent Jewish Voices Youth Bloc, United in Struggle, Simon Fraser Public Interest

Research Group (SFPIRG), SFU Disability & Neurodiversity Alliance, SFU Ukrainian Students Society, SFU Students of Caribbean and African Ancestry (SOCA), Psychology Student Union (PSU), SFU Music + Sound Student Union, Sociology and Anthropology Graduate Student Association, The Peak Publications Society, Muslim Students Association (MSA), Arab Students Association (ASA), SFU350, Bangladesh Student Alliance (BSA), Undergraduate Student Solidarity (USS), Migrant Students United at SFU, SFU Slam Poetry Club, Ambedkar Reading Group, United Migrant Front, Roots on the Roof, Sustainabiliteens, Thaqalyn Muslim Association (TMA), and counting;

Be it further resolved that the SFSS Council put to the next referenda to adopt at Membership level by referenda, the current Palestinian Liberation Issues Policy previously passed by Council in 2022 as attached, to be voted on by Membership via a vote at referendum, with the submitter of this motion submitting the referendum question, and the question be outlined to membership as follows:

"Whereas an Issues Policies may be adopted by Membership at the Membership level and if passed can only then afterwards be repealed at the Membership level, as per bylaw 6(11);

Whereas non-passage of an Issues Policies by referenda would mean the Policy will continue to be an Issues Policies at the SFSS Council level;

Whereas the SFSS Council previously unanimously passed the SFSS Palestinian Liberation Issues Policy in solidarity with the Palestinian people after the previous bombardment of Gaza in 2021, and now there is a continuing genocide and siege on Gaza since October 7, 2023, resulting in the death of an estimated 20,000 Palestinians and further displacement of 2 million people;

Whereas the people of Palestine continue to face occupation and blockade by the current State of Israel and the Palestinian Liberation Issues Policy was adopted to be in solidarity with the Palestinian people and passed unanimously,

Be it resolved that the SFSS Membership adopt the SFSS Palestinian Liberation Issues Policy at the Membership level, as permitted by SFSS Bylaw 6(11)"

Be it further resolved that the referendum question is accompanied with the following references as background to be accompanied with the motion for referenda:

- 1) the actual Palestine Liberation Issues policy itself as attached
- 2) original motion submitted during the original passage of the policy,
- 3) the SFSS Council statement after SFSS Council passed the policy

BACKGROUND:

On April 20, 2022, the Simon Fraser Student Society voted to adopt a policy on Palestinian liberation. Issues Policies guide our student union's approach to social justice when it comes to financial, socio-political, and academic advocacy relating to student life and post-secondary education that impact undergraduate students as allowed by the SFSS Bylaws. Many Palestinians on campus have for years pushed for the SFU community to establish solidarity and stand with the Palestinian people.

Establishing this <u>Palestine Liberation Issues Policy</u> systemically enables undergrads to advocate for the Palestinian and anti-Zionist cause at SFU, as well as lobby the Canadian government using SFSS funding, resources, physical support for rallies, etc. On April 20, 2022, the Simon Fraser Student Society voted to adopt a policy on Palestinian Liberation and did so unanimously after endorsements from many groups.

Amidst the bombardment in Gaza currently where over 20, 000 Palestinians have been killed and there a petition is ongoing that calls on SFU to end its silence on the ongoing actions of Israel against the Palestinians in Gaza, it is unfortunate the timing of which a motion to repeal the policy is brought. The SFSS should instead be pushing, as a student union calling for a permanent ceasefire, the protection and safeguarding of freedom of expression and academic freedom to criticize the State of Israel, the immediate divestment of war contractors and complicit institutions funding and supporting genocide, and the immediate establishment of mental health supports and academic concessions for Palestinian, Arab, Muslim, and Jewish students due to the distress the siege and occupation of Palestine is causing, as all called for by the Students for Justice in Palestine Open Letter to SFU President Joy Johnson and Board Chair Angie Lamarsh.

It is not divisive to stand up for human rights, it is JUST and a unifying force behind all humans of conscience and it is important the SFSS continues to be in solidarity with Indigenous and marginalized people everywhere.

The SFSS Bylaws allow the establishment of Issues Policies and the SFSS should:

- 1. strike the motion to repeal the Palestinian Liberation Issues Policy and all other Issues Policies, and instead.
- 2. pass this policy to call for a Permanent Ceasefire and Defend Palestine Liberation Solidarity at SFU.

The Below are links to the items in consideration of the motion.

May 2021 Motion to Oppose the SFSS Israeli Colonization of Palestine:

https://docs.google.com/document/d/19WnIa7GDFRUvxW1i3IlSY6u2J0h0GhSPlubdRWgzEt4/edit?usp=drivesdk

May 2021 Statement to Oppose the Colonization of Palestine

https://sfss.ca/wp-content/uploads/2021/06/Palestine-Statement-.pdf

APRIL 2022 MOTION establishing the Palestine Liberation Issues Policies: https://sfss.ca/wp-content/uploads/2022/06/Council-2022-04-20.pdf

Notice of Motion for SFSS Issues Policies 2022:

https://sfss.ca/notice-of-motion-for-a-motion-titled-establishing-an-sfss-issues-policy-on-palestine-liberation/

Palestine Liberation Issues Policies:

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<u>https://sfss.ca/wp-content/uploads/2022/04/Updated-IP-10_-Palestinian-Liberation-Draft-formulated-by-the-SFSS-Free-Palestine-Working-Group.pdf</u>

Students for Justice in Palestine Open Letter:

https://docs.google.com/document/u/2/d/e/2PACX-1vS4GP6O3t0q2-A6LjaYBaLKkYB3iKA5o5ERBn4kQrHplgZwxR56MoyaifiJc8IjusKMGxShe-ww1sX/pub

Several resources are relevant and useful both for the purposes of informing Council as they make this decision, as well as opportunities to provide further education for members. These include the <u>2014 GSS</u> <u>Council motion</u>, the SFSS Motions and statements in 2021 and 2022, the current SJP Open Letter to SFU, and the open letter in solidarity with the people of Palestine along with statements issued by the <u>SFU School of Communications</u>, <u>Centre for Comparative Muslim Studies</u> and <u>Labour Studies</u>.

There is also a list of educational resources that were presented to the GSS when their Council passed their motion, as well as the Resources listed in the SFSS Palestine Liberation Issues Policies itself.

Below is a list of reports by independent experts based on academic and field research:

Amnesty International - <u>Israel's apartheid against Palestinians: a cruel system of domination and a crime against humanity</u>

Human Rights Watch - <u>A Threshold Crossed: Israeli Authorities and the Crimes of Apartheid and Persecution</u>

United Nations, Office of the High Commissioner, Human Rights - <u>Israel's 55-year occupation of Palestinian Territory is apartheid – UN human rights expert</u>

<u>A Textbook Case of Genocide</u> - Raz Segal, Israeli historian and Director of the Master of Arts in Holocaust and Genocide Studies program at Stockton University

Centre for Constitutional Rights - <u>The Genocide of the Palestinian People: An International Law and Human Rights Perspective</u> (**note this is from 2016)

United Nations, Office of the High Commissioner, Human Rights - <u>Gaza: UN experts decry</u> bombing of hospitals and schools as crimes against humanity, call for prevention of genocide

United Nations, Special Procedure of the Human Rights Council - <u>Gaza is 'running out of time'</u> <u>UN experts warn, demanding a ceasefire to prevent genocide</u>

Some additional resources that may be helpful for the discussion of these motions:

Jewish Voice for Peace - On Antisemitism, Anti-Zionism and Dangerous Conflations

Independent Jewish Voices (Canada) - Statement on Anti-semitism

Visualizing Palestine 101 https://101.visualizingpalestine.org

Currently Listed Resources in the SFSS Palestine Liberation Policy:

1. Decolonize Palestine: https://decolonizepalestine.com/intro/palestine-throughout-history/

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- 2. B'Tselem:
 - https://www.btselem.org/publications/fulltext/202101 this is apartheid
- 3. Human Rights Watch A Threshold Crossed: Israeli Authorities and the Crimes of Apartheid and Persecution:
 - https://www.hrw.org/sites/default/files/media_2021/04/israel_palestine0421_web_0.pdf
- 4. Israel's apartheid against Palestinians: a cruel system of domination and a crime against humanity Amnesty International:
 - https://www.amnesty.org/en/latest/news/2022/02/israels-apartheid-against-palestinians-a-cruel-system-of-domination-and-a-crime-against-humanity/
- 5. UN International Convention on the Suppression and Punishment of the Crime of Apartheid: https://www.un.org/en/genocideprevention/documents/atrocity-crimes/Doc.10_International Convention on the Suppression and Punishment of the Crime of Apartheid
- 6. UN Fourth Geneva Convention: Relative the Protection of Civilians in the Time of War https://www.un.org/en/genocideprevention/documents/atrocity-crimes/Doc.33_GC-IV-EN.pdf
- 7. UN International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights https://treaties.un.org/doc/publication/unts/volume%20999/volume-999-i-14668-english.pdf
- 8. UN International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination https://legal.un.org/avl/pdf/ha/cerd/cerd e.pdf
- 9. Implementation of Security Council resolution 2334 (2016) Report of the Secretary-General (S/2021/584) [EN/AR]

 <a href="https://reliefweb.int/report/occupied-palestinian-territory/implementation-security-council-resolution-2334-2016-report-2#:~:text=In%20its%20resolution%202334%20(2016,the%20achievement %20of%20the%20two
- 10. Nuremberg Principles I and II and VII
 - $\underline{https://ihl\text{-}databases.icrc.org/applic/ihl/ihl.nsf/Article.xsp?action=openDocument\&documentId=D} \\ 4D734820B8BA553C12563CD0051C97A$
 - https://ihl-databases.icrc.org/applic/ihl/ihl.nsf/Article.xsp?action=openDocument&documentId=A 2212CF58764AAFAC12563CD0051C985
 - https://ihl-databases.icrc.org/applic/ihl/ihl.nsf/Article.xsp?action=openDocument&documentId=3 16D02C8C319DF26C12563CD0051C9D3
- 11. Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court
 - https://www.icc-cpi.int/resource-library/documents/rs-eng.pdf
- 12. PACBI academic and cultural boycott framework
 - https://bdsmovement.net/pacbi/cultural-boycott-guidelines
- 13. UN rights office issues report on business activities related to settlements in the Occupied Palestinian Territory:
 - https://www.ohchr.org/en/press-releases/2018/01/un-rights-office-issues-report-business-and-human-rights-settlements?LangID=E&NewsID=22617
- 14. SFSS Statement on the Israeli Colonization of Palestine Simon Fraser Student Society: https://sfss.ca/sfss-statement-on-the-israeli-colonisation-of-palestine/
- 15. Our definition of antisemitism No IHRA | Academic campaign No IHRA: https://www.noihra.ca/academic-campaign
- 16. UN RESOLUTION 194
 - https://www.unrwa.org/content/resolution-194

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- 17. Statement on Motion to Support Boycott Divestment and Sanction
 https://www.cfs-fcee.ca/blog/statement-on-motion-to-support-boycott-divestment-and-sanctions-b
 ds-movement
- 18. UTSU approves motion to divest from firms 'complicit' in occupation of Palestinian territory https://thevarsity.ca/2022/02/21/utsu-approves-motion-to-divest-from-firms-complicit-in-occupation-of-palestinian-territory
- 19. McGill undergraduate student body vote in favour of Palestine Solidarity Policy https://www.instagram.com/p/CbYdHWBv7fF/?utm source=ig web copy link
- 20. Anti-Palestinian Racism: Analyzing the Unnamed and Suppressed Reality https://pomeps.org/anti-palestinian-racism-analyzing-the-unnamed-and-suppressed-reality
- 21. The Cultural Boycott: Israel vs. South Africa by Omar Barghouti http://hyperallergic.com/212014/the-cultural-boycott-israel-vs-south-africa%E2%80%A8
- 22. United Nations Human Rights Council lists 112 complicit companies related to illegal Israeli settlements

 Named: 112 companies linked to illegal Israeli settlements by the UN | Middle East Eye
- 23. Legal Consequences of the Construction of a Wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory https://www.icj-cij.org/en/case/131
- 24. Anti-Palestinian Racism: Analyzing the Unnamed and Suppressed Reality https://pomeps.org/anti-palestinian-racism-analyzing-the-unnamed-and-suppressed-reality
- 25. Except for Palestine https://stevesalaita.com/except-for-palestine/