

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Call to Order – 5:14pm

**2. TERRITORIAL ACKNOWLEDGMENT**

We respectfully acknowledge that the SFSS is located on the traditional, unceded territories of the Coast Salish peoples, including the x<sup>w</sup>məθk<sup>w</sup>əy̓əm (Musqueam), Sk̓wx̓wú7mesh Úxwumixw (Squamish), Sel̓ílwitulh (Tsleil-Waututh), k<sup>w</sup>ik<sup>w</sup>əł̓əm (Kwikwetlem) and q̓ícəy̓ (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 Governance Committee**

Acting VP Internal and Organizational Development (Chair).....Peter Hance  
Psychology Student Union (Vice-Chair).....Mark Giles  
Ex-officio (Acting President).....Abhishek Parmar  
Acting VP Finance and services.....  
Society of Arts and Social Science (SASS).....Hilary Tsui  
Councillor ..... VACANT  
Councillor ..... VACANT

**3.2 Society Staff**

Policy, Research, Community Affairs Coordinator.....Beaty Omboga  
Administrative Assistant.....Danielle Saele

**3.3 Absents**

Society of Arts and Social Science (SASS).....Hilary Tsui  
Acting VP Finance and services.....  
Policy, Research, Community Affairs Coordinator.....Beaty Omboga

**4. CONSENT AGENDA**

**4.1 CONSENT AGENDA**

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

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**4.1.1. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES – Governance Committee Minutes - MOTION GOV 2022-12-16:01**

Be it resolved to receive and file the following minutes:

- GOV 2022-10-28
- GOV 2022-11-18

**5. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

**5.1 MOTION GOV 2022-12-16:02**

**Abhishek/Mark**

Be it resolved to adopt the agenda as presented:

**CARRIED AS ADMENDED:**

- Amend 'New Business' MOTION GOV-2022-12-16:06

**6. NEW BUSINESS**

**6.1 RECOMMENDATION TO COUNCIL: REFERENDA QUESTION #1 - MOTION GOV 2022-12-16:03**

**SUBMITTED BY:** Acting VP Internal and Organizational Development "Peter Hance"

**ATTACHMENT:** GOV New Business December 16.pdf

**Abhishek/Peter**

Be it resolved that Governance committee approves and recommends to Council the following motions to be added to the Spring 2023 Referenda:

Grammar Error, Typographical Error, and Reference Corrections in By-Laws

Whereas there have been numerous changes to By-Law passed at the October 26th, 2020 and October 27th, 2021 AGMs;

Whereas minor typographical errors, grammar errors, and errors in by-law referencing have been found after a thorough review of the By-Laws;

Be it resolved that the Society approve the following changes to the SFSS By-Laws:

Amend By-Law 2(8) to read "An Associate Member is in good standing if they have paid the Society fees and any Society fines and penalties."

Amend By-Law 4(3)(d) by replacing "Vice-President Finance's" with "Vice-President Finance and Services"

Amend By-Law 4(4) by replacing “By-Law 4(1) [a]-[f]” with “By-Law 4(3) [a]-[f]”

Amend By-Law 6(11)(a) by replacing “the Council” with “Council”

Amend By-Law 7(2) by replacing “the Council” with “Council”

Amend By-Law 7(4) by replacing “the Council” with “Council”

Amend By-Law 7(10)(h) and 7(10)(o) by striking all occurrences of the phrase “the Council” and replacing them with “Council”

Amend By-Law 7(10)(o) by replacing “Executive Committee” with “the Executive Committee” Capitalise the first letter of both By-Law 7(10)(c) and 7(10)(d)

Amend By-Law 7(11)(d) by replacing “General Meetings” with “Members’ Meetings.”

Amend By-Law 7(11)(f) by replacing “the Council” with “Council”

Amend By-Law 7(11)(g) by replacing “Constituency groups” with “Constituency Groups”

Amend By-Law 7(11)(l) to read as follows: “Perform any other duties as outlined in the Bylaws, regulations, or as assigned by Council or the Executive Committee.”

Amend By-Law 7(14)(d), 7(14)(e), 7(14)(g), 7(14)(i), 7(14)(l), and 7(14)(r) by replacing all occurrences of the words “the Council” with “Council”

Amend By-Law 7(14)(r) by replacing “Executive Committee” with “the Executive Committee” Amend By-Law 7(13)(a) by replacing “the Council” with “Council”

Amend By-Law 7(13)(j) by replacing “Vice President Academic and University Affairs” with “Vice President University and Academic Affairs.”

Amend By-Law 7(13)(k) by replacing “the Council or Executive Committee.” with “Council or the Executive Committee.”

Amend By-Law 7(14)(i) to read as follows: “Perform any other duties as outlined in the Bylaws, regulations or assigned by Council or the Executive Committee”

Amend By-Law 7(15)(e) by replacing “elected term” with “fiscal year.” Amend By-Law 7(15)(i) by replacing “the Council” with “Council”

Amend By-Law 7(15)(m) by replacing “the Council or Executive Committee” with “Council or the Executive Committee”

Amend By-Law 7(16)(g) by replacing “the Council or Executive Committee.” with “Council or the Executive Committee.”

Amend By-Law 8(3)(a)(ii) by replacing “the Council” with “Council”

Amend By-Law 9(1) and 9(2) by replacing “the Council” with “Council”

Amend By-Law 13(8)(c) by replacing “elections” with “Executive Committee Elections”

Amend By-Law 15(4) to read “Notice of impeachment proceedings for an executive officer shall be the same as is required for a special resolution.”

Amend By-Law 15(5)(a) by replacing “the Council” with “Council”

Amend By-Law 17(1)(d) by replacing “by-laws” with “By-Laws”

Amend By-Law 17(1)(d)(ii) by replacing all occurrences of “General Meeting” with “Members’ Meeting”

Amend By-Law 18(1) by replacing “the Council” with “Council”

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

- Changes were made since the last Governance meeting to ensure the By-Law numbers and amendments were accurate

**6.2 RECOMMENDATION TO COUNCIL: REFERENDA QUESTION #2 – MOTION GOV 2022-12-16:04**

**SUBMITTED BY:** Acting VP Internal and Organizational Development “Peter Hance”

**ATTACHMENT:** GOV New Business December 16.pdf

**Peter/Mark**

Be it resolved that Governance committee approves and recommends to Council the following motions to be added to the Spring 2023 Referenda:

SFSS By-Law Clarifications, Safeguards, and Democratisation

Whereas there have been numerous changes to By-Law passed at the October 26th, 2020 and October 27th, 2021 AGMs;

Whereas there have been several areas found in the By-Laws where more clarity is required to ensure that SFSS By-Laws are able to be clearly understood;

Be it resolved that the Society approve the following changes to the SFSS By-Laws:

Amend By-Law 4(9) to read "Each Member in good standing of the Society shall be entitled to vote at the Members' Meeting. In order to exercise their vote the Member shall be present at the meeting at the time the vote is put, and no votes by proxy shall be allowed."

Amend By-Law 2(6) by replacing the words "majority vote of Council" with "four-fifth (4/5) majority vote of Council"

Amend By-Law 6(24) by adding in a new subsection 6(24)(h) that reads "Alternates must be members in good standing of the Society."

Amend By-Law 13(3) to read "Members may not concurrently hold office as a voting member on the Executive Committee and as a member of a Student Union's or Constituency Group's executive."

Amend By-Law 13(7) to read "The Independent Electoral Commission shall consist of at least one Chief Commissioner, who shall act as Chair, and no less than four other Commissioners"

Amend By-Law 13(7)(a) to read "No current member of, or candidate for, Council, a Student Union Executive, or a Constituency Group Executive may serve as a member of the independent electoral commission"

Amend By-Law 13(7)(c) to read "All members of the Independent Electoral Commission shall be elected by two thirds (2/3) majority vote of Council by the end of the summer semester."

Amend By-Law 13(7) by adding a new subsection 13(7)(e) that reads "The membership and composition of the IEC shall be subject to limitations via regulation."

Amend By-Law 13(7) by adding a new subsection 13(7)(f) that reads "No member of the IEC may campaign for or on the behalf of candidates or, if slates are permitted by regulation, slates."

Amend By-Law 15(1) to read “If any member of Council or the Executive Committee ceases to be a Member in good standing of the Society, their resignation shall be deemed to have been delivered to and accepted by Council and Council shall declare the position vacant forthwith.”

Amend By-Law 22(1) to read “In the event of a conflict between these By-Laws and any Regulation, resolution of Council or the Executive Committee, or the provisions of any Student Union or Constituency Group Constitution or By-Laws, the terms of these By-Laws shall prevail.”

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

- Changes were made since the last Governance meeting to change instances of ‘his/hers’ clauses to ‘they’ for inclusivity

**6.3 RECOMMENDATION TO COUNCIL: REFERENDA QUESTION #3 – MOTION GOV 2022-12-16:05**

**SUBMITTED BY:** Acting VP Internal and Organizational Development “Peter Hance”

**ATTACHMENT:** GOV New Business December 16.pdf

**Peter/Mark**

Be it resolved that Governance committee approves and recommends to Council the following motions to be added to the Spring 2023 Referenda:

Council E-Voting

Whereas the process of voting, especially if votes are needed to be conducted via roll-call vote due to their contention, is inefficient compared to electronic voting;

Be it resolved that the Society approve the following changes to the SFSS By-Laws:

Amend By-Law 6(23) by adding a new subsection 6(23)(a) that reads: “Notwithstanding, Council and its committees may select to use electronic voting means as long as:”

Amend By-Law 6(23)(a) by adding a new sub-subsection 6(23)(a)(i) that reads “The platform used is approved by two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of Council”

Amend By-Law 6(23)(a) by adding a new sub-subsection 6(23)(a)(ii) that reads “Council may revoke its approval of an electronic voting method by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of Council”

Amend By-Law 6(23) by adding a new subsection 6(23)(b) that reads “In the event that a result of a vote taken by electronic means is inconclusive, the presiding Chair shall order a re-vote by either roll call vote, or unanimous consent.”

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

- Changes were made to add an E-voting clause
- E-voting provides a solution when council is not engaged or if there’s an emergency meeting as roll call voting can be difficult at times

**6.4 RECOMMENDATION TO COUNCIL: REFERENDA QUESTION #4 – MOTION GOV 2022-12-16:06**

**SUBMITTED BY:** Acting VP Internal and Organizational Development “Peter Hance”

**ATTACHMENT:** GOV New Business December 16.pdf

**Peter/Mark**

Be it resolved that Governance committee approves and recommends to Council the following motions to be added to the Spring 2023 Referenda:

Student Care Plan Changes

Whereas the Simon Fraser Student Society (SFSS) provides services and resources to the SFSS membership;

Whereas the SFSS Health and Dental Plan was launched in 2008 with no mechanism to increase the fee to keep pace with inflation, except via referendum;

Whereas the SFSS Health and Dental Plan is one of the most utilised services by the SFSS membership, and has seen significant increase in claims year over year;

Whereas students have expressed interest in additional mental health support and the proposed fee adjustment allows for the SFSS to expand mental health service offerings;

Whereas students will retain the option to choose a lower level of coverage at a lower cost (Basic Plan), or opt out completely if they have equivalent alternative coverage;

Whereas SFSS has exhausted other avenues to manage plan costs without cutting benefits;

Be it resolved to raise the SFSS Health & Dental Plan Fees by \$31.92 for the policy year starting September 1, 2023;

Be it further resolved to authorise SFSS Council to adjust the Plan Fee by up to 5% annually (only when needed) starting September 2024, to account for inflationary impacts on Health & Dental services.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

- These items were brought forward previously, however, were not carried due to no quorum
- In the future, these changes to referenda should be submitted to Council
  - Peter will follow-up with STAFF regarding how these items should be brought forward in the future

**7. ATTACHMENTS**

**7.1 GOV New Business December 16.pdf**

**8. ADJOURNMENT**

**8.1 MOTION GOV 2022-12-16:07**

**Peter/Mark**

Be it resolved to adjourn the meeting at 5:46pm

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**



## **TITLE: Recommendation to Council: Referenda Question #1**

Be it resolved that Governance committee approves and recommends to Council the following motions to be added to the Spring 2023 Referenda:

### **Grammar Error, Typographical Error, and Reference Corrections in By-Laws**

Whereas there have been numerous changes to By-Law passed at the October 26th, 2020 and October 27th, 2021 AGMs;

Whereas minor typographical errors, grammar errors, and errors in by-law referencing have been found after a thorough review of the By-Laws;

Be it resolved that the Society approve the following changes to the SFSS By-Laws:

Amend By-Law 2(8) to read “An Associate Member is in good standing if they have paid the Society fees and any Society fines and penalties.”

Amend By-Law 4(3)(d) by replacing “Vice-President Finance’s” with “Vice-President Finance and Services”

Amend By-Law 4(4) by replacing “By-Law 4(1) [a]-[f]” with “By-Law 4(3) [a]-[f]”

Amend By-Law 6(11)(a) by replacing “the Council” with “Council”

Amend By-Law 7(2) by replacing “the Council” with “Council”

Amend By-Law 7(4) by replacing “the Council” with “Council”

Amend By-Law 7(10)(h) and 7(10)(o) by striking all occurrences of the phrase “the Council” and replacing them with “Council”

Amend By-Law 7(10)(o) by replacing “Executive Committee” with “the Executive Committee” Capitalise the first letter of both By-Law 7(10)(c) and 7(10)(d)

Amend By-Law 7(11)(d) by replacing “General Meetings” with “Members’ Meetings.”

Amend By-Law 7(11)(f) by replacing “the Council” with “Council”

Amend By-Law 7(11)(g) by replacing “Constituency groups” with “Constituency Groups”

Amend By-Law 7(11)(l) to read as follows: “Perform any other duties as outlined in the Bylaws, regulations, or as assigned by Council or the Executive Committee.”

Amend By-Law 7(14)(d), 7(14)(e), 7(14)(g), 7(14)(i), 7(14)(l), and 7(14)(r) by replacing all occurrences of the words “the Council” with “Council”

Amend By-Law 7(14)(r) by replacing “Executive Committee” with “the Executive Committee”

Amend By-Law 7(13)(a) by replacing “the Council” with “Council”

Amend By-Law 7(13)(j) by replacing “Vice President Academic and University Affairs” with “Vice President University and Academic Affairs.”

Amend By-Law 7(13)(k) by replacing “the Council or Executive Committee.” with “Council or the Executive Committee.”

Amend By-Law 7(14)(i) to read as follows: “Perform any other duties as outlined in the Bylaws, regulations or assigned by Council or the Executive Committee”

Amend By-Law 7(15)(e) by replacing “elected term” with “fiscal year.”

Amend By-Law 7(15)(i) by replacing “the Council” with “Council”

Amend By-Law 7(15)(m) by replacing “the Council or Executive Committee” with “Council or the Executive Committee”

Amend By-Law 7(16)(g) by replacing “the Council or Executive Committee.” with “Council or the Executive Committee.”

Amend By-Law 8(3)(a)(ii) by replacing “the Council” with “Council”

Amend By-Law 9(1) and 9(2) by replacing “the Council” with “Council”

Amend By-Law 13(8)(c) by replacing “elections” with “Executive Committee Elections”

Amend By-Law 15(4) to read “Notice of impeachment proceedings for an executive officer shall be the same as is required for a special resolution.”

Amend By-Law 15(5)(a) by replacing “the Council” with “Council”

Amend By-Law 17(1)(d) by replacing “by-laws” with “By-Laws”

Amend By-Law 17(1)(d)(ii) by replacing all occurrences of “General Meeting” with “Members’ Meeting”

Amend By-Law 18(1) by replacing “the Council” with “Council”

## **TITLE: Recommendation to Council: Referenda Question #2**

Be it resolved that Governance committee approves and recommends to Council the following motions to be added to the Spring 2023 Referenda:

### **SFSS By-Law Clarifications, Safeguards, and Democratisation**

Whereas there have been numerous changes to By-Law passed at the October 26th, 2020 and October 27th, 2021 AGMs;

Whereas there have been several areas found in the By-Laws where more clarity is required to ensure that SFSS By-Laws are able to be clearly understood;

Be it resolved that the Society approve the following changes to the SFSS By-Laws:

Amend By-Law 4(9) to read “Each Member in good standing of the Society shall be entitled to vote at the Members’ Meeting. In order to exercise their vote the Member shall be present at the meeting at the time the vote is put, and no votes by proxy shall be allowed.”

Amend By-Law 2(6) by replacing the words “majority vote of Council” with “four-fifth (4/5) majority vote of Council”

Amend By-Law 6(24) by adding in a new subsection 6(24)(h) that reads "Alternates must be members in good standing of the Society."

Amend By-Law 13(3) to read "Members may not concurrently hold office as a voting member on the Executive Committee and as a member of a Student Union's or Constituency Group's executive."

Amend By-Law 13(7) to read "The Independent Electoral Commission shall consist of at least one Chief Commissioner, who shall act as Chair, and no less than four other Commissioners"

Amend By-Law 13(7)(a) to read "No current member of, or candidate for, Council, a Student Union Executive, or a Constituency Group Executive may serve as a member of the independent electoral commission"

Amend By-Law 13(7)(c) to read "All members of the Independent Electoral Commission shall be elected by two thirds (2/3) majority vote of Council by the end of the summer semester."

Amend By-Law 13(7) by adding a new subsection 13(7)(e) that reads "The membership and composition of the IEC shall be subject to limitations via regulation."

Amend By-Law 13(7) by adding a new subsection 13(7)(f) that reads "No member of the IEC may campaign for or on the behalf of candidates or, if slates are permitted by regulation, slates."

Amend By-Law 15(1) to read "If any member of Council or the Executive Committee ceases to be a Member in good standing of the Society, their resignation shall be deemed to have been delivered to and accepted by Council and Council shall declare the position vacant forthwith."

Amend By-Law 22(1) to read "In the event of a conflict between these By-Laws and any Regulation, resolution of Council or the Executive Committee, or the provisions of any Student Union or Constituency Group Constitution or By-Laws, the terms of these By-Laws shall prevail."

### **TITLE: Recommendation to Council: Referenda Question #3**

Be it resolved that Governance committee approves and recommends to Council the following motions to be added to the Spring 2023 Referenda:

#### **Council E-Voting**

Whereas the process of voting, especially if votes are needed to be conducted via roll-call vote due to their contention, is inefficient compared to electronic voting;

Be it resolved that the Society approve the following changes to the SFSS By-Laws:

Amend By-Law 6(23) by adding a new subsection 6(23)(a) that reads: "Notwithstanding, Council and its committees may select to use electronic voting means as long as:"

Amend By-Law 6(23)(a) by adding a new sub-subsection 6(23)(a)(i) that reads "The platform used is approved by two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of Council"

Amend By-Law 6(23)(a) by adding a new sub-subsection 6(23)(a)(ii) that reads “Council may revoke its approval of an electronic voting method by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of Council”

Amend By-Law 6(23) by adding a new subsection 6(23)(b) that reads “In the event that a result of a vote taken by electronic means is inconclusive, the presiding Chair shall order a re-vote by either roll call vote, or unanimous consent.”

#### **TITLE: Recommendation to Council: Referenda Question #4**

Be it resolved that Governance committee approves and recommends to Council the following motions to be added to the Spring 2023 Referenda:

##### **Student Care Plan Changes**

Whereas the Simon Fraser Student Society (SFSS) provides services and resources to the SFSS membership;

Whereas the SFSS Health and Dental Plan was launched in 2008 with no mechanism to increase the fee to keep pace with inflation, except via referendum;

Whereas the SFSS Health and Dental Plan is one of the most utilised services by the SFSS membership, and has seen significant increase in claims year over year;

Whereas students have expressed interest in additional mental health support and the proposed fee adjustment allows for the SFSS to expand mental health service offerings;

Whereas students will retain the option to choose a lower level of coverage at a lower cost (Basic Plan), or opt out completely if they have equivalent alternative coverage;

Whereas SFSS has exhausted other avenues to manage plan costs without cutting benefits:

Knowing that you can opt-out completely with alternative coverage or reduce your coverage for a lower cost, do you consent to raise the SFSS Health & Dental Plan Fees by \$31.92 for the policy year starting September 1, 2023 and authorise SFSS Council to adjust the Plan Fee by up to 5% annually (only when needed) starting September 2024, to account for inflationary impacts on Health & Dental services?