

1. CALL TO ORDER

Call to Order – 5:44 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^wəy̓əm (Musqueam), Sk̓wx̓wú7mesh Úxwumixw (Squamish), Sel̓ílwitulh (Tsleil-Waututh), k^wik^wəłəm (Kwkwetlem) and q̓icəy̓ (Katzie) Nations. Unceded means that these territories have never been handed over, sold, or given up by these nations, and we are currently situated on occupied territories.

3. ROLL CALL OF ATTENDANCE**3.1 Council Composition Student Union Representatives****Faculty of Applied Sciences**

Faculty of Applied Science (FAS).....	INACTIVE
Computing Science Student Society.....	Micah Baker
Engineering Science Student Society	Adam Ma
Mechatronics System Engineering	Aiden Maymandy
Software Systems Student Society.....	Fabian Siswanto
Sustainable Energy Engineering.....	Sebastian Olano

Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences

Society of Arts and Social Sciences (SASS)	Ayooluwa Adigun
Cognitive Science Student Association	Vacant
Criminology Student Association (Vice-Chair).....	Henry Do
Economics Student Society.....	Hamza Issa
English Student Union	Fatima Tu Zahara
French Student Union	Adria Diallo-Leconte
Gender, Sexuality, & Women's Studies	Jasleen Dhani
Gerontology Student Union	INACTIVE
Global Asia Studies Student Union	Vacant
History Student Union	Vacant
Humanities Student Union.....	Vacant
Indigenous Studies Student Union.....	Kil Daagwiiya
International Studies Student Association	Hyago Santana Moreira
Labour Studies Student Union.....	Mamduh Almughrabi
Latin American Studies Student Union	INACTIVE
Linguistics Student Union.....	Vacant
Philosophy Student Union	Ashley Flett
Political Science Student Union.....	Malk Hayder Ouj
Psychology Student Union.....	Andrea (Ely) Diaz Pena
Public Policy Student Union.....	Johnny Gates
Sociology and Anthropology Student Union.....	Vacant
World Languages and Literature	Amrit Kullar

Beedie School of Business

Business Administration Student Society.....	Meha Sidhu
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Faculty of Communications, Arts and Technology

Faculty of Communications, Arts & Technology.....	Vacant
Communications Student Union (CMNSU).....	Vacant
Interactive Arts and Technology.....	Caleb Wu
Semester in Dialogue Student Union.....	INACTIVE

Faculty of Education

Education Student Association (ESA).....	Tori Minty
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Faculty of Environment

Environmental Science Student Union (ESSU).....	Grayson Barke
Archeology Student Society (ASS).....	Vacant
Geography Student Union.....	Jeffery Collinson
Resource & Environmental Management.....	Ethan Fukuhara

Faculty of Health Sciences

Health Science Undergraduate Student Union.....	Shoron Alam
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Faculty of Science

Science Undergraduate Society (SUS).....	Catherine Ho
Behavioral Neuroscience Student Society.....	Aarthi Srinivasan
Biology Student Union (BSU).....	Nicolas Bonilla
Biomedical Physiology Kinesiology.....	Maryam Niaz
Chemistry Student Society.....	Landy Liu
Data Science Student Society.....	Pranay Ratan
Earth Science Student Union.....	Eden Lien
Mathematics Student Union.....	Ananga Bajgai
Molecular Biology and Biochemistry.....	Ariana Shamsuddin
Operations Research Student Union.....	Vacant
Physics Student Association.....	Vacant
Statistics and Actuarial Science.....	Sharneet Kaur

School for the Contemporary Arts

Art, Performance, and Cinema Studies.....	Vacant
Dance Student Union.....	Vacant
Film Student Union.....	Vacant
Fine and Performing Arts Student Union.....	INACTIVE
Music Student Union.....	Vacant
Theatre Student Union.....	Vacant
Visual Arts Student Union.....	Vacant

Constituency Group Representatives

Disability and Neurodiversity Alliance (DNA).....	Anthea MwanaW'Bantu
First Nations, Métis & Inuit.....	Chris Sanderson
International Student Advocates.....	INACTIVE

Out on Campus Collective (OOC).....	INACTIVE
Student Athletic Advisory Committee.....	INACTIVE
Students of Caribbean & African Ancestry	Emmanuel Anthony-Onuigbo
Women Centre Collective.....	Gurnoor Nijjar

Affiliated Student Groups

Embark Sustainability	Anne Tran
Residence Hall's Association (RHA)	Tulika Varma
Simon Fraser Public Interest Research Group.....	Rebecca Ballard
Student Athlete Advisory Committee (SAAC).....	Vacant
Teaching Support Staff Union (TSSU)	Kanksha Chawla

SFSS Executive Committee

President (Chair).....	Emmanuel Adegboyega
VP Equity and Sustainability	Chloe Arneson
VP Events & Student Affairs.....	Chitransh Motwani
VP External and Community Affairs.....	Joel Gilani
VP Finance and Services	Simar Sahota
VP Internal and Organizational Development.....	Sam Killawee
VP University and Academic Affairs	Rishu Bagga

3.2 Society Staff

HR Lead.....	Chandra Trinh
Services Lead	Cat Affleck
Operations Lead.....	Patience Spinoza
Policy, Research, Community Affairs Coordinator.....	Matthew Cornfoot
Administrative Assistant.....	Mary Toma

3.3 Regrets

Behavioral Neuroscience Student Society	Aarthi Srinivasan
Labour Studies Student Union.....	Mamduh Almughrabi
Public Policy Student Union.....	Johnny Gates
Computing Science Student Society.....	Micah Baker
Interactive Arts and Technology.....	Caleb Wu
Indigenous Studies Student Union.....	Kil Daagwiiya
Economics Student Society.....	Hamza Issa
Business Administration Student Society.....	Meha Sidhu

3.4 Guests

Software Systems Student Society (Treasurer).....	Andrew La Grange
General Member	Jim Nosella

3.5 Absents

Chemistry Student Society.....	Landy Liu
Engineering Science Student Society	Adam Ma
Science Undergraduate Society (SUS)	Catherine Ho

Resource & Environmental Management.....	Ethan Fukuhara
Disability and Neurodiversity Alliance (DNA)	Anthea MwanaW'Bantu
Residence Hall's Association (RHA)	Tulika Varma

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 2025-02-19:01

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

- Council 2025-02-05
- Council 2025-01-22

4.1.2 RATIFICATION OF REGRETS - MOTION COUNCIL 2025-02-19:02

Be it resolved to receive and ratify regrets from the BNSS, Labour Studies, Public Policy, Computing Science, Interactive Arts, ISSU, Economics, and Business Councillor's for the February 19th, 2025, meeting.

5. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

5.1 MOTION COUNCIL 2025-02-19:03

President / VP Equity

Be it resolved to adopt the agenda as presented.

CARRIED AS AMENDED

- Software Systems listed to include Presentation and New Business Item titled "SSSS Systems Hack 2025 Funding Proposal."
 - Staff have not approved initial funding amount for appeal process. Postponed until next Council meeting.
- VP External listed to include New Business Item titled "Burnaby Mountain Gondola."
- Geography listed to include New Business Item titled "Executive Committee Meeting Minutes and Work Reports."
- VP Internal listed to include New Business Item titled "Referendum Endorsement."
- President listed to include In-Camera and New Business Item titled "Staff Issues."

6. REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES

6.1 President

- Referendums preparations, planning and tabling.
- Town Hall event.
- Worked on project with SFU which will be released soon.
- Bargaining renewal conversations.

VP Equity and Sustainability

- Worked on referendums.
- Pink Shirt Day.

- Outreach to athletics groups.
- Organizing support for Filipino event called Lapu-Lapu day.

VP Events and Student Affairs

VP External and Community Affairs

- Attended search committee meetings for Dean of Beedie.
- Attended meeting to advocate for BC wide open education learning resources.
- Attended naloxone training event.
- Worked on letter to Burnaby City Council about Burnaby Mountain gondola.

VP Finance and Services

- Worked on budgets and grants.
- Policy and process changes.
- Met with students during Town Hall event.

VP Internal and Organizational Development

- Worked on referendums.
- Tabling for Studentcare.
- Supported campaign work.
- Met with campus services director and attended campus services dinner.
- Worked on council policies undergoing review.

VP University and Academic Affairs

- Successful naloxone training event.
- Town Hall event.
- Assisted VP Equity with elections items and tabling.
- Campus services dinner.

7. NEW BUSINESS

7.1 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES AND WORK REPORTS – MOTION COUNCIL 2025-02-19:04

SUBMITTED BY: Geography

Geography / President

Whereas, meeting minutes and work reports from the Executive Committee are key documents in ensuring transparency and trust in the Society;

Whereas, Meeting Minutes have not been published since September 2024, nor submitted to Council since November 2024, and Work Reports have not been published online since the Summer of 2023;

Whereas, per Corporate Records and Information Policy CIP-11 and Council Policy R-10.5, minutes from the current and past fiscal year must be published online, and the Chair or Designate of the body is responsible for implementation of these policies;

Be it resolved that the chair of the Executive Committee or designate make possible the immediate publishing of Meeting Minutes;

Be it further resolved that the Executive Committee and Oversight Committee on Executive Officers make possible the publishing of Executive Work Reports from the 2024-2025 Council Term;

Be it finally resolved for the Oversight Committee on Executive Officers to monitor the implementation of this motion and investigate if not completed before the March 19th Council Meeting.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

- Geography sought to clarify what the process is for publishing the council minutes.
 - President responded that it is the same process as committee minutes.
- President mentioned that the recent changes to management have delayed the publication of work reports and minutes.
- President ensured that staff will be notified about this motion to make uploading work reports and minutes a priority.
 - Geography responded in agreement that there are logistical challenges to performing the process of publication but also stated that the requested documents are four months overdue.
- SASS listed to reiterate that the recent staff changes have most likely affected the release of minutes however, this time of year is also typically busy for everyone which may lead to delays as well.
- SASS also stated that OCEO has been reviewing work reports and keeping track of council reports and believes it is essential for students to have access to these records. Also stated that he does not believe any party is actively preventing the release of these records, there have just been some setbacks. However, there is a definite need for uploads to occur more frequently.
 - President responded that there is most likely a backlog on the staff end to publicize the documents but will ensure that staff are aware.
- General member listed to state that he has filed a records request under the societies act to gain access to the minutes and encouraged all voting members to support the motion brought forth.
 - President responded that he will be reaching out to staff to expedite the process and have the documents available as soon as possible.
- Operations lead thanked the students who spoke up about this topic and raised their concerns. Also mentioned that there are other elements to the publication of minutes such as uploading the YouTube recordings which are still being reviewed and edited.
- Operations lead ended by stating that staff will strive to meet the deadline for the release of these records.

7.2 BURNABY MOUNTAIN GONDOLA – MOTION COUNCIL 2025-02-19:05

SUBMITTED BY: VP External

VP External / President

Whereas the Simon Fraser Student Society (SFSS) represents over 25,000 undergraduate students

across all three SFU campuses, with the largest campus located on Burnaby Mountain;

Whereas reliable and efficient transit access to Burnaby Mountain is essential for the academic success and well-being of our students;

Whereas the proposed Burnaby Mountain Gondola project offers a solution to current transit challenges by providing a frequent, reliable, and weather-resistant connection between Production Way–University Station and SFU;

Whereas the SFSS has prepared a letter expressing strong support for the Burnaby Mountain Gondola project and urging the Burnaby City Council to approve the Supportive Policies Agreement presented by TransLink;

Be it resolved that the SFSS Council approve the letter advocating for the Burnaby Mountain Gondola project;

Be it further resolved that the SFSS Council authorize VP External to sign the letter on behalf of the SFSS and ensure its delivery to the Burnaby City Council and other relevant stakeholders;

Be it further resolved that the SFSS Council commit to continued advocacy for the Burnaby Mountain Gondola project, including collaboration with TransLink, the Burnaby City Council, and the Mayors' Council for Regional Transportation, to advance this critical initiative for the benefit of the SFU student community.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

- VP External listed to mention that the letter being proposed to Burnaby City Council is supported by SFU and was originally planned to be a presentation but due to timing conflicts, will be brought forth as a letter.
- The gondola project is believed to be financially sustainable for TransLink and provides an opportunity for students who seek to support this project to speak on the topic.
 - President stated that he has read the letter and voiced his support.

7.3 REFERENDUM ENDORSEMENT – MOTION COUNCIL 2025-02-19:06

SUBMITTED BY: VP Internal

VP Internal / President

Whereas the SFSS Council has debated and put forward three referendums to the student body;

Whereas the SFSS council sees the critical importance of the referendums for the continued operation of the SFSS services for students including the SFSS health and dental plan;

Be it resolved that the SFSS council endorse the yes vote for all three referendums.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

- President stated that he wanted to clarify some policies and ensure that endorsements for referendums are in line with current policy which is why this motion is being brought to council at this time.

8. IN-CAMERA

8.1 MOTION COUNCIL 2025-02-19:07

President / VP Internal

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

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

- Report of Fall Kick-Off Investigations
- Staff Issues

9. EX-CAMERA

9.1 MOTION COUNCIL 2025-02-19:08

President / Philosophy

Be it resolved to go ex-camera.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

10. NEW BUSINESS

10.1 STAFF ISSUES – MOTION COUNCIL 2025-02-19:09

SUBMITTED BY: President

President / SASS

Whereas the Board of Directors presented staff ongoing issues with council;

Be it resolved for HRP to proceed with the directions received from council

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

11. 30 MINUTES Q&A

- President wants to ensure that executives and members are attending their committee meetings.
 - Philosophy voiced their agreement with this statement.
- Philosophy listed to mention that Councillors should make use of the JotForm link to submit motions for future Council meetings.
- VP Equity has plans to change the process for planning and scheduling committee meetings. Councillors are encouraged to reach out to her to share their ideas for how the process can be reconfigured.
- Geography listed to question whether there was a JotForm link available to submit motions for committees since he has not been seeing one, there is only one for regrets.
 - President responded that there should be a link, but he will be double-checking to ensure that it is there.
- Software Systems questioned for VP Finance to clarify the process for grant appeals over \$5000 brought to Council.
 - VP Finance responded that a grant recommendation must be offered by staff first before undergoing the appeal process and bringing forth a motion to council.

12. ANNOUNCEMENTS

12.1 SFSS Elections begin next week!

- President mentioned that there is a spreadsheet for Councillors who are available to sign-up with to visit classrooms to announce this in-person.

13. ATTACHMENTS

13.1 Burnaby Mountain Gondola City Council Letter

14. ADJOURNMENT

14.1 MOTION COUNCIL 2025-02-19:10

President / Philosophy

Be it resolved to adjourn the meeting at 7:33 PM

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY



Joel Gilani
VP External & Community Affairs
Executive Committee

vpexternal@sfss.ca

SUB 4121
Simon Fraser University
8888 University Drive
Burnaby, BC, V5A 1S6

sfss.ca

February 19, 2025

Mayor and Council
c/o Legislative Services
4949 Canada Way
Burnaby, BC V5G 1M2

Dear Mayor and Council,

I write to you on behalf of the Simon Fraser Student Society (SFSS), representing over 25,000 undergraduate students across all three SFU campuses — with our largest campus located on Burnaby Mountain — to express our unwavering support for the Burnaby Mountain Gondola project and to urge Council to pass the Supportive Policies Agreement presented by TransLink.

Our data speaks clearly: reliable and frequent transit is essential to our community. Nearly 95 percent of SFU undergraduates consider dependable TransLink service very important, and about 73 percent of our students rely on public transit to reach campus. Currently, students endure an average round-trip transit commute time of 95 minutes — almost double the national average. During peak hours, the overcrowded 145 bus route forces passengers to wait up to 30 minutes before boarding, severely disrupting our schedules and diminishing our connection to campus life.

Almost 2,000 students commute from distant communities — Langley, Abbotsford, Chilliwack, Mission, and Maple Ridge — and face steep parking costs on Burnaby Mountain, with daily rates up to \$30 and term expenses reaching \$500. This financial and time burden directly undermines our educational experience.

The proposed gondola would revolutionize our daily commute. By providing a frequent and reliable connection between Production Way–University Station and SFU, the gondola would reduce peak wait times dramatically — from a 30-minute wait down to just 2 minutes — ensuring that passengers board consistently and swiftly. Moreover, while our current bus service



Joel Gilani
VP External & Community Affairs
Executive Committee

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takes approximately 15 minutes to complete the route, the gondola would cut travel time to around 6 minutes. These improvements are critical as the regional transit network faces increased pressure from the Surrey-Langley Expo SkyTrain expansion and the Millennium Line extension to UBC, further straining the already overloaded 145 route.

In addition to transforming our commute, the gondola offers significant cost benefits. Operating roughly 30% cheaper than our current diesel bus service, it would allow TransLink to reallocate funds toward enhancing the broader transit network, meeting future demand, and ultimately supporting economic growth. This project will stimulate local commerce, create jobs, and open up new tourism opportunities — positioning Burnaby Mountain as a vibrant hub where students, residents, and visitors can converge.

This project is not just about saving time; it is about reclaiming our future. It represents a commitment to rapid transit that removes barriers to education, reconnects our community, and showcases Burnaby as a premier destination to live, work, and thrive — on a global stage. By passing the Supportive Policies Agreement, you will be empowering our student community, bolstering local economic growth, and paving the way for a sustainable, connected future for all of Burnaby.

Thank you for your time and for considering this transformative project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Joel Gilani". The signature is stylized and cursive.

Joel Gilani
VP External & Community Affairs

On behalf of the Simon Fraser Student Society