



Minutes

Annual General Meeting of the Erindale College Students Union

Thursday, November 12, 2015 • Davis Building, Council Chambers, Room 3130 • 5pm

1. CALL TO ORDER

Meeting called to order at 6:00pm

Introduction by Kat: "I am from the people of the longhouse and I see this campus sort of like a longhouse. I wish to pull together so we have a unified community. We are going to listen to everything that everyone says with respect..."

Equity Statement read by Zara Ramsha

2. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Akshan: Is there any discussion of the Agenda?

Hashim Yusuf: I want to motion the emergency resolution on to the agenda?

Akshan: is there any objection to this? Gomes objects so it will not be making it onto the objection as it needs to be a unanimous vote. The agenda is adopted. Discussion will be added to other business. Next on the agenda is the President's Address. I will let Ebi speak on this.

MOTION

Moved:

Omari

Seconded:

Annan

3. PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS

Ebi: I'm here to let you guys know what UTMSU has been up to since the last AGM. Myself and my executives will be talking about a bunch of different things that we have been working on for the past year. I will touch upon why UTMSU exists and why we do what we do. I will also talk about campaigns we have been working on for the past year. We are here for the students for this campus to empower students. This year we wanted to ensure that leave this year knowing that there are a lot of changes we were able to make this year. I want everyone to have a copy of the annual report so they can follow as we go through it.

Russ: We incorporated a lot of brand new events this year (Space Jam, Blue Jays Game and more) to enhance students experience during the week before school starts. We want to engage our new students and help them interact with one another and enhance student experience. We are also thankful for everyone who helped out!

Nour: This year one of our goals was to expand the on-campus garden. We are planning on having a couple more farmers markets next semester. We also had an environment week at the end of October which was a week-long event. We also had events about clothing swaps to raise awareness about consumerism and as well as a scavenger hunt. We had a tree planting initiative where we planted 150 trees. We had a nature walk and as well as a bonfire to raise awareness about natural forest fires.

Ebi: International students make up about 20% of the population of the University of Toronto. Naveed will touch more upon this.

Naveed: I am an international student and I am here the VP external of UTMSU to work with international students to enhance their experience. We would like to campaign for more international students to come out to meetings such as this. For international students we have been doing separate campaigns events and services. In terms of campaigns we are during OHIP for international students. We will lobby the government for this. Yesterday we had a special event for international students called Global Village which had a great turnout. We introduced some new services like the free grocery trip service. This in collaboration with the department of residence and we hope to have this every month. We also have a biweekly newsletter as well as Cultural Awareness Day where you can portray your culture on campus by wearing whatever you want to wear

Amir: We had over 200 mature students register to book Donna Heslen and Doctor Hooley to talk about networking. It was a successful pilot project. Last year in the second semester we organized a film festival with EVSS and the ICCIT council. A lot of student artists were able to submit their films and win awards.

Ebi: We're going to move on to talking about our services. We run a number of different services and you can see this in the report as well. Francesco our VP internal will talk more on the services that we have.

Francesco: Services are a big part of what we do and why we do services is because everyone needs them. The lockers that you see offered to you are offered by your student unions. We also sold over 1000 tickets to our pub events and held nearly 200 club events in our student center. Our U-pass service has issued over 12 000 U-Passes in the last year. It is one of our biggest services. Something we recently implemented is our very first student run convenience store on campus. We would like to show you a little video about this. We do have a suggestion box outside and if you have any suggestions of what you want to see in the convenience store or on campus feel free to let us know. We are currently hiring for folks to work within the convenience store and the deadline for that is tonight at 11:59pm. Starting January, UTMSU members will be offered more fair wages of \$13 per hour. We will be offering a brand new service to every UTM student. We are partnering with skyzone so students can receive a 10% discount on weekdays by showing their T-Cards and they can receive \$10 skyzone jam nights on weekends which go regularly for \$20. We also have our very own student run pub. This year we have implemented 12 brand new items within our menu.

Ebi: Last year we had a big fees campaign and during the TA strike we held a couple of rallies. Every single year our tuition fees rise by 5%. We are continuing our fight to make sure tuition fees go down.

Nour: One of our goals this years was to raise awareness about current academic policies that currently stand. We worked with the Dean's office to ensure that student rights were put on class syllabus'. We have been breaking down policies so that it is easier for students to understand. We also implemented Academic Advocacy Week raising awareness about academic offences as well as provided a scavenger hunt and "de-stressor" bags during midterms. We are also working on fossil fuel divestments and we are hoping to hear by December to see if U of T will divest its money on this.

Naveed: I will talk about one more initiative that UTMSU will be doing this year. We get one refugee student funded who will be staying on the campus for four years. Every student plays a small levy for this program. We have a second student joining us this January that will be coming from Syria. From this, we will be asking the administration to allow for two WUSC students to enroll at UTM per year for future years. This is something every student should be proud of because they are making an impact on future generations.

Amir: One of the main issues all students face is whether to they will get the career that they want when they graduate. With a partnership with youth employment services, we will be able to get graduating students connected with employers and the industry that they work in. This is a great

initiative that the whole union wanted to do for many years now especially because we all face this big challenge of academic inflation – where your degree is not good enough to get a certain job. If you do need more information you can come see me or Walied and we can help you out and set you up with them. This partnership has just started so we are taking baby steps, but if you do want more info come see us.

Ebi: The next thing we want to talk about is our victories. A lot of people ask why should we give our money to the UTMSU, but if you look in our report you can see why we do what we do to make sure different things happen. As we move forward with the rest of the year, a lot of our work depends on you students. We want to hear what you want to say and we want you to be regularly involved in our work so that we can rise together. Thank you all for coming out and listening to this presentation and I hope we have a great meeting for the rest of our time here.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – AGM 2014

MOTION

Moved:

U. Agbeyegbe

Seconded: Guiteriez

Be it resolved that the minutes for the 2014 Annual General Meeting be approved as presented.

4. RECEIPT OF THE 2014-2015 AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS – UTMSU & BLIND DUCK – Appendix A & B

Akshan: Next up we will move onto the financial statements for the UMSU and the blind duck. The UTMSU is required by law to share its corporate information. I will turn the floor to Francesco who will walk you through the audited financial statements.

Francesco discusses the audited financial statements:

- Decrease in our overall sales of the blind duck
 - Main reason: External factors. The big one being the strike and the implementation of new food services, the food trucks and the opening of Deer Field. Folks want to go out and try new things.
 - The food costs and wages have been going up.
 - We have hired a head chef for the Blind Duck which also caused and increased the wages.
 - First time that the Blind Duck was in a deficit since 2011 of \$32 000.
- We see an overall surplus of \$271 965. If we look at schedule C
 - There were not many repairs and maintenance done to the student center this year which resulted in the surplus.
 - One of the big expenditures we had to go through this year was the boiler system and we will also need to replace our fire suppression system and this will wipe out any surplus we had from last year.

MOTION

Moved:

F. Otello-DeLuca

Seconded:

Be it resolved that the audited financial statements of the Erindale College Students Union (operating as UTMSU) and the Blind Duck for the fiscal year ending April 30th 2015 be received as presented.

ALL IN FAVOUR MOTION PASSES

6. APPOINTMENT OF AUDITORS FOR 2015-2016

MOTION

Moved: F. Otello-DeLuca Seconded: Calcutta

Be it resolved that Charles Havill Chartered Accountants be appointed as the external auditors for the Erindale College Students Union for fiscal year ending April 30, 2016.

7. APPROVAL OF U.T.M.S.U BY LAW CHANGES – Appendix C

Akshan: I will ask Ebi to walk us through the totality of the changes and if members wish to discuss any of the by-law changes they can pull them out of the package and discuss them separately.

Ebi: our by-laws have not been updated since 2009. We also added in a definition of Mississauga Academy of Medicine (MAM). We also added in a definition of undergraduate students. The reason for those changes is that as the UTMSU we represent both the full-time and part-time students on campus. Under our membership fees we adjusted the amount of 2015-2016 numbers. We are moving out the VP of part-time affairs because we felt that we had sufficient representation without board members and staff members that we didn't feel the position was necessary anymore. *reads out rest of bylaws*

MOTION

Moved: U. Agbeyegbe Seconded: N. Alideeb

Be it resolved that the membership of the Erindale College Students Union Inc (ECSU) approve of the bylaw changes as presented and recommended by the ECSU Board of Directors.

- By-Law I – Interpretation
- Bylaw II – Membership
- Bylaw V – Board of Directors
- Bylaw VIII – Responsibilities of Executive Committee Members
- Bylaw XI – Commission, Committee and Ministries

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21, November, 2011 • UTM Campus, Council Chambers, Room 3130

8. OTHER BUSINESS

Akshan: is there other business for the board? Please ask on the microphone.

Ebi: Under other business please let us know about any issues you would wish to talk about or if you have any questions feel free to go up to the mic.

Jasmina: I wanted to talk about the need for funding for a trans/gender diverse coordinator. There are lots of needs for transphobia and transsygony. I was wondering if trans students would be given a space to collude. In Peel overall, there are not enough resources. A collective like this exists at Ryerson and they are doing very well. There's a need for it to be accessible for students and other people in Peel.

Akshan: Thanks for that, the board will take that more into consideration.

Jay: I would like to add onto the Transgender accommodations. We only have transgender bathrooms in 3 locations. It would be better if we had more of a presence of them. While I registered to be here, there weren't many transgenders options for me so I had to sign under my birth name.

Manas: I actually had a question about the process to create a UTM club. In the 2013-2014 year, I was thinking about creating a club and the process was extremely complicated. I was just wondering if there a process to streamline club creation and if there was someone in the student center to talk to about this.

Russ: In regards to creating a club we talk about this after the AGM and find ways to get your club recognized.

Duane: I only have one issue so far. I feel there needs to be better regulation on prices that concerns parking. I feel there should be better regulation on this

Amir: They are planning on raising parking fees every year by 3% from 2010 until 2020. I would recommend for everyone to email him at Paul.Donoghue@utoronto.ca.

Abdul Amari: I am a director for the UTMSU and I feel that I do not get enough complaints. It's our job to represent you. The reason I'm up here is just to say that.

Hashim Yussuf: As a board member on the UTMSU I do my best to represent UTM issues to UTSU. My motion was to postpone the UTSU general meeting until January 28. It is unfair to students to have an SGM right after this AGM due to midterms during that time.

Akshan: I require a vote.

Nour: I just wanted to say that I am in feel support of Jasmina. I have an conversations with Ryerson and in favour of transmovement.

Daniel Lyte: I have three quick points I want to address about the student union. I want to consider the parking prices because a lot of different campuses pay different prices. From all 3 campuses, UTM pays a lot more. Also the services the UTMSU provides may not be competitive with the campus. A) the pub pass for first years, b) the pub itself c) the new convenience store.

Francesco: Thank you Daniel for bringing those points forward. As far as the blind duck access cards, nobody has brought that forward to us so we will look into that. In regards to the pub prices in general, we compared with OPH and the TFC. We offer free refills compared to these other locations. Finally with the Duck Stop, OPH actually lowered their prices because of us opening our convenience store.

Noor: I want to talk about the U-PASS prices going up due to fraud. I was wondering if it's possible to get a year-round U-PASS. Secondly, I wanted to talk about a peer support health group because the current waiting times are ridiculous.

Francesco: In regards to the U-PASS, the thing about a year-round UPASS we are not in control of that. The Mississauga transit knows that students take half-terms of four months.

Walied: I just want to make sure that the expectations set today are realistic. We cannot physically extend the U-PASS all year round because there is a different population of students that studies on campus from May to August.

Cory: I'm here with the Medium. I wanted to ask about one aspect about student life that is a bit elusive is the issue of mental health on campus. I'm sure many of us are familiar or have some friends experiencing mental health issues. Personally I feel like there are not enough awareness of the resources that they could have. I was wondering if there is a vision to improve this.

Ebi: We will make sure to make a point to put this information out on campus and we will make sure this gets done.

Manas: I had two points the first one dealt with the U-PASS: I was wondering if you could provide an opt-out option so that we can use this money on parking. Secondly, the pub. I notice the burrito place that is more filling than the pub food.

Francesco: Part of the deal-breaker of the deal with MIWAY was the opt-out. They said either everyone pays for it or you do not get it at all. We held a referendum asking whether you would like to have an eight month and 4 month UPASS vs. not having one and they would rather take the higher UPASS prices.

Ebi: we have been lobbying for cheaper, healthier, diverse food options. I understand your point about the food in the pub.

Akshan: We are going to move to our motion now of changing the UTSU AGM meeting date. Moved by Hashim Yussuf. Seconded by Mohammed.

Ryan: I am from the UTSU. We had discussions about this from the UTSU executives and we do not believe in changing the date of the AGM. There is a motion on our board of directors meetings tomorrow which is at UTM. I just want to make a comment in terms of historical timings because they have always been held in November and December. I want to make it very clear that our reasoning to make our AGM at this time is because it was historically held at this time.

Fahad: with all due respect I do work with the UTSU, they do not truly care in my opinion. IF that means I'm going to stand here in a way that makes me sound rude towards the UTSU I do not care at this point.

Akshan: We will proceed to the vote. The motion carries.

Ibrahim: Whether we should make voting at UTMSU elections mandatory because student union is not representative of the students at UTM.

Ebi: UTM has highest voter turnout, and voting cannot be mandatory

One person asked about whether The Blind Duck stage would be repaired or changed.

Fran: There are plans to get a new stage this year.

Ebi: Thank you for everyone for coming out tonight. We try to listen to everyone and tackle every issue possible.

MOTION Moved: Hashim Seconded: Nashrudeen

Be it resolved that Hashim Yussuf's motion to be added to the agenda.

MOTION Moved: Hashim Seconded: Mohammed

Be it further resolved that Hashim Yussuf's motion to change the date of the UTSU SGM.

AII IN FAVOUR MOTION PASSES

9. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION Moved: Iqbal Seconded: Bastan

Be it resolved that the meeting be adjourned at 8:10pm.