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DSU Council Meeting Agenda

Meeting Date and Time: Monday, July 31, 2023, - 5:00 PM

Location: Virtually (MS Teams)

Land Acknowledgement

The Dalhousie Student Union acknowledges that Dalhousie University and the Dalhousie Student Union Building are located on traditional, unceded and unsurrendered Mi'kma'ki territory. The Dalhousie Student Union seeks to honour the relational treaty process in its programming, events, and meetings.

Equity Statement

Student union solidarity is based on the principle that all members should be able to participate equally in their union, recognizing that students have diverse experiences of privilege and marginalization. As members of the students' union, mutual respect, cooperation and understanding are our goals. We should neither condone nor tolerate behaviour that undermines the dignity of any individual or creates an intimidating, hostile, or offensive environment.

It is our collective responsibility to create an inclusive space for discussion and dialogue. Any form or forms of discrimination and/or harassment will not be tolerated, nor will hate speech rooted in, but not limited to, sexist, racist, classist, ableist, homophobic or transphobic sentiments and/or remarks. We all have an obligation to ensure that an open and inclusive space, free of hate is established. If you violate this understanding, you will be asked to leave.

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 5:05 pm by the Council chair.

2. Roll Call

PRESENT
Thomais (Tammy) Maniou – Vice-President, Internal
Henry Amin – Vice-President, Finance & Operations
Omotayo Bankole -Vice-President, Academic and External

Lia Gurevich Kogan - Faculty of Management Representative

Eni Oguntona – Faculty of Law Representative

Sydney Forbes - Faculty of Medicine Representative

Kailey Simon - Indigenous Students' Community Representative

Omotayo Bankole - Black Students Community Representative

ABSENT WITH REGRETS

Mariam Knakriah – President

Ryan Dee - Board of Governors Representative 2

Victoria Slipp - Faculty of Science Representative

ABSENT WITHOUT REGRETS

Eshan Arora - Board of Governors Representative 1

Austin Haw - Faculty of Architecture Representative

Nick d'Entremont - Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences Representative

Alfonso Abraham - Residence Students' Community Representative

VACANT POSITIONS

Vice-President, Student Life

International Students' Community Representative

2SLGBTQIA+ Students Community Representative

Faculty of Graduate Studies Representative

Disabled Student's Community Representative

Faculty of Dentistry Representative

Faculty of Engineering Representative

Faculty of Agriculture Representative

Faculty of Computer Science Representative

Faculty of Health Representative
NON-VOTING MEMBERS

Quorum was met

Motion is moved to amend the current agenda to include the new motions under “New Business” for consideration at the current Council meeting.

Moved by the Vice-President Finance and Operations

Seconded by Vice-President Academic and External

*Motion **Passes***

3. Approval of the Agenda

MOTION 2023-07-31-3.1

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the agenda for the present meeting be adopted as presented.

Moved by the Vice President Internal

Seconded by the Vice President Finance and Operations

*MOTION 2023-07-31-3.1 **Passes***

4. Approval of Minutes of the Previous Meeting

MOTION 2023-07-31-4.1

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the minutes of the Council meeting on July 10, 2023, be adopted as circulated.

Moved by the Vice President Academics and External

Seconded by the Vice President Finance and Operations

*MOTION 2023-07-31-4.1 **Passes***

Document attached.

5. Communications Received

None

6. Appointments by Council

Motion is moved to omnibus MOTION 2023-07-31-6.1 to MOTION 2023-07-31-6.7.

Moved by the Vice President Internal

Seconded by the Faculty of Law Representative

Motion Passes

MOTION 2023-07-10-6.1

BE IT RESOLVED THAT **Lia Guravich Kogan** and **Ryan Dee** are appointed to a Councillor seat on the Budget and Finance Committee for the 2023-24 year; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT **Lauren Palmer** is appointed to General Member seat on the Budget and Finance Committee for the year 2023-24.

Moved by Vice President, Finance & Operations

Seconded by the Faculty of Law Representative

MOTION 2023-07-10-6.1 Passes

MOTION 2023-07-10-6.2

BE IT RESOLVED THAT **Sydney Forbes** and **Nick d'Entremont** are appointed to a Councillor seat on the Bylaw and Policy Review Committee for the 2023-24 year; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT **Antonia Chircop** is appointed to a General Member seat on the Bylaw and Policy Review Committee for the year 2023-24.

Moved by the President

Seconded by the Faculty of Law Representative

MOTION 2023-07-10-6.2 Passes

MOTION 2023-07-10-6.3

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT **Om Pandya** is appointed to a General Member seat on the Oversight Committee for the 2023-24 year.

Moved by the President

Seconded by the Faculty of Law Representative

MOTION 2023-07-10-6.3 Passes

MOTION 2023-07-10-6.4

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT **Aditya Sathish** is appointed to a General Member seat on the Society Review Committee for the 2023-24 year.

Moved by Vice President, Internal

Seconded by the Faculty of Law Representative

MOTION 2023-07-10-6.4 Passes

MOTION 2023-07-10-6.5

BE IT RESOLVED THAT **Austin Haw** is appointed to a Councillor seat on the Grants and Sponsorship Committee for the 2023-24 year; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT **Lauren Palmer** is appointed to a General Member seat on the Grants and Sponsorship Committee for the 2023-24 year.

Moved by Vice President Finance and Operations

Seconded by the Faculty of Law Representative

MOTION 2023-07-10-6.5 Passes

MOTION 2023-07-10-6.6

BE IT RESOLVED THAT **Austin Haw** is appointed to a Councillor seat on the Student Accessibility Fund Committee for the 2023-24 year.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT **Katarzyna Farrell** and **Mara Baxendale** are appointed to a General Member seat on the Student Accessibility Fund Committee for the 2023-24 year.

Moved by Vice President, Internal

Seconded by the Faculty of Law Representative

MOTION 2023-07-10-6.6 Passes

MOTION 2023-07-10-6.7

BE IT RESOLVED THAT **Harshit Chopra** is appointed to a General Member seat on the International Student Emergency Bursary Committee for 2023-24 year.

Moved by Vice President Finance and Operations

Seconded by the Faculty of Law Representative

MOTION 2023-07-10-6.7 Passes

MOTION 2023-07-31-6.8

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council ratify the following appointments to Senate Caucus for 2023-24 year:

Architecture Representative **Austin Haw**

Arts and Social Sciences Representative **Nick_d'Entremont**

Engineering Representative__

Law Representative **Eni Oguntona**

Management Representative **Lia Guravich Kogan**

Science Representative **Victoria Slipp**

Moved by the Vice President, Academic and External

Seconded by Faculty of Management Representative

MOTION 2023-07-31-6.8 Passes

Document attached.

7. Old Business

None

8. New Business

MOTION 2023-07-31-8.1

WHEREAS the well-being and academic success of all students are of paramount importance to the DSU; it is essential to identify and address any potential barriers to learning and development that may hinder a student's academic progress;

WHEREAS psych educational assessments are recognized as effective tools for evaluating cognitive and behavioral aspects of students that have an average cost of \$2,500, aiding in the identification of learning disabilities and other educational needs;

BE IT RESOLVED that the DSU recognizes the need for a comprehensive Psych Educational Assessment for students currently enrolled at Dalhousie University to address concerns related to students' mental and financial health as well as their access to education.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT Council approve the ad-hoc Psychoeducational assessment Bursary Terms of Reference as circulated.

Moved by the Vice-President Internal

Seconded by Vice President Finance and Operations

MOTION 2023-07-31-8.1 Passes

Document attached.

MOTION 2023-07-31-8.2

WHEREAS section 2.7 of the DSU Financial Policy states that "Purchase order for amounts over \$10,000 shall be approved by Council"; and

WHEREAS Orientation week kit material and t-shirts must be approved as soon as possible to ensure they can be ordered and shipped in time for Orientation Week in September;

THEREFORE: BE IT RESOLVED THAT \$39,259.85 from the Orientation Week Line of Operating Budget be approved for use by the Executive Committee to purchase Orientation Week Pack Materials from Big Tree Promotions.

Moved by the President

Seconded by the Indigenous Students' Representative

MOTION 2023-07-31-8.2 Passes

Motion to recess for 5 minutes

Moved by the Vice-President Finance and Operations

Seconded by Faculty of Law Representative

Motion Passes

MOTION 2023-07-31-8.3

WHEREAS, the Council recognizes the unique financial burdens that international students bear in their pursuit of affordable housing;

WHEREAS, As of March 31, 2023, the international fund balance from previous years exceeds \$300,000. The executive committee has decided to allocate \$60,000 from this fund, sourced specifically from the balance of previous years. Furthermore, out of this \$60,000 allocation, a designated amount of \$20,000 will be specifically earmarked for the INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS HOUSING BURSARY.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council approves the establishment of the International Students Housing Bursary;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the terms of reference for the International Students Housing Bursary outline the criteria for eligibility and application, the administration process, the distribution of funds, and the accountability measures in place.

Moved by the Vice President Finance and Operations

Seconded by the Indigenous Students' Representative

MOTION 2023-07-31-8.3 Passes

MOTION 2023-07-31-8.4

WHEREAS, the Council recognizes the need for international students to have secure access to adequate, healthy food;

WHEREAS, As of March 31, 2023, the international fund balance from previous years exceeds \$300,000. The executive committee has decided to allocate \$60,000 from this fund, sourced specifically from the balance of previous years. Furthermore, out of this \$60,000 allocation, a designated amount of \$20,000 will be specifically earmarked for the INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS FOOD SECURITY BURSARY.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council approves the establishment of the International Students Food Security Bursary;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the terms of reference for the International Students Food Security Bursary outline the criteria for eligibility and application, the administration process, the distribution of funds, and the accountability measures in place.

Moved by the Vice President Finance and Operations

Seconded by the Faculty of Management Representative

MOTION 2023-07-31-8.4 Passes

MOTION 2023-07-31-8.5

WHEREAS, the Council recognizes the financial burden of travel costs borne by international students;

WHEREAS, As of March 31, 2023, the international fund balance from previous years exceeds \$300,000. The executive committee has decided to allocate \$60,000 from this fund, sourced specifically from the balance of previous years. Furthermore, out of this \$60,000 allocation, a designated amount of \$20,000 will be specifically earmarked for the INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS TRAVEL BURSARY.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council approves the establishment of the International Students Travel Bursary;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the terms of reference for the International Students Travel Bursary outline the criteria for eligibility and application, the administration process, the distribution of funds, and the accountability measures in place.

Moved by the Vice President Finance and Operations

Seconded by the Faculty of Law Representative

MOTION 2023-07-31-8.5 Passes

MOTION 2023-07-31-8.6

WHEREAS the McInnes Room lighting control system, originally installed in 2010, has become outdated and unreliable, negatively impacting live events and overall functionality;

AND WHEREAS refurbishing the existing HOG Nan 4 system would be neither cost-effective nor address its outdated design, as it would not sufficiently prolong its lifespan or cater to the evolving needs of the facility;

AND WHEREAS the ETC Element 2 has been identified as the most cost-effective, user friendly, and compatible replacement, aligning with the systems used in other venues such as the Strug and Dunn theaters and enabling the potential hiring of already trained staff;

BE IT RESOLVED, the Council approves the McInnes Room Lighting Control System Replacement with the total cost of \$19,625 + tax;

AND WHEREAS the money for this project will be allocated from the Facilities Improvement Fund from the 2022-2023 budget;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Council authorizes the procurement of the required equipment by the end of April or early May to ensure delivery, installation, and commissioning by mid-summer, allowing for staff training in preparation for the fall season.

Moved by the Vice President Finance and Operations

Seconded by the Faculty of Law Representative

*MOTION 2023-07-31-8.6 **Passes***

MOTION 2023-07-31-8.7

WHEREAS, there is an ongoing need to provide financial assistance to students with Dyslexia, a condition that can pose significant educational challenges;

AND WHEREAS, A Donor wishes to establish a memorial bursary in memory of Isaac MacDonald, with the intention of supporting students with Dyslexia;

AND WHEREAS, the Isaac MacDonald Memorial Bursary for Students with Dyslexia (IMB) Committee will be established to administer and award the bursary in line with the terms laid out in the TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR THE ISAAC MACDONALD MEMORIAL BURSARY FOR STUDENTS WITH DYSLEXIA;

AND WHEREAS, the DSU is expected to contribute a matching amount of \$1500 to complement the Donor's annual contribution of \$1500 towards the IMB;

AND WHEREAS, the bursary application and allocation process will be guided by the DSU's Bursary Policy, any additional terms and agreements related to the new fund, and a commitment to confidentiality and anonymity of the Donor in all related communications;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Council approves the creation of the Isaac MacDonald Memorial Bursary for Students with Dyslexia, the establishment of the IMB Committee as per the terms of reference, and the allocation of \$1500 annually from the DSU's budget towards this bursary.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the IMB Committee conducts its operations in adherence to the DSU's Bursary Policy, the bursary's terms of reference, maintains the confidentiality and anonymity of the Donor and respects the donor's intent in all decisions related to the IMB.

Moved by the Vice President Finance and Operations

Seconded by the Vice-President Internal

MOTION 2023-07-31-8.7 Passes

9. Executive reports

9.1 Report of the President

9.2 Report of the Vice President, Internal

9.3 Report of the Vice President, Finance and Operations

9.4 Report of the Vice-President, Academic and External

10. Announcements

10.1 The Chief Returning Officer position is already open for applications from July 18, 2023, and applications close on August 3, 2023.

10.2 The next meeting of the Council will be held on Monday, August 14, 2023, at 5:00 pm virtually on MS Teams.

12. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn the meeting.

Moved by the Vice President Internal

Seconded by the Vice President Academic and External

Motion Passes

The meeting adjourned at 7:15 pm.