Council Meeting
February 26th, 2020 - 6:00pm – CHEB C264, Carleton Campus

Call to order at 6:07 pm by Chair

1. Roll Call

Councillors Present

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Position</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Aisha Abawajy (she/her) – President</td>
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<tr>
<td>Isa Wright (she/her or they/them) - Vice President (Finance and Operations)</td>
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<td>Hasan Sinan – Vice President (Academic and External)</td>
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<td>Ruby Coles (she/her) - Vice President (Student life)</td>
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<td>Fatima Beydoun - Board of Governors Representative</td>
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<td>Robert acting as proxy for Faculty of Agriculture Representative</td>
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<td>Claudia Castillo-Prentt - Black Students Community Representative</td>
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<td>Hannah Drake – LGBTQ2s Students Community Representative</td>
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<td>Sandra Sunil (she/her) - Residence Students Community Representative</td>
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<td>Nicole Blinn – Women’s Students Community representative</td>
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<td>Sara Goswami – International Students Community Representative</td>
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<td>Naomi Bird - Indigenous Students Community Representative</td>
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<td>Shivam Mahajan - Faculty of Computer Science Representative</td>
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<td>Zoe Smith acting as proxy for Faculty of Engineering Representative</td>
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<td>Fallen Matthew - Faculty of Graduate Students Representative</td>
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<td>Herman Stubeda - Faculty of Medicine Representative</td>
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<td>Joshua Yusuf (he/him)- Faculty of Health Representative</td>
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<td>Marin – Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences Representative</td>
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<td>Bakhmala Khan - Faculty of Science Representative</td>
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Councillors Absent With Regrets

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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
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<tr>
<td>Alireza Siadat – Board of Governors Representative</td>
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<td>Ryan Callahan - Faculty of Dentistry Representative</td>
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<td>Meghan Faught - Faculty of Law Representative</td>
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<td>Ameir Yahia - Faculty of Management Representative</td>
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<td>Calista Hills (she/her) - Vice President (Internal)</td>
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Councillors Absent

Others Present

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Position</th>
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<tr>
<td>Charity Justrabo - Chair</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kranthi Kiran Jalakam - Secretary</td>
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2. Land Acknowledgment

3. Adoption of the Agenda

Motion 3.1

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the agenda be adopted as circulated.

Mover: Vice President Student Life  Seconder: BOG Representative

Motion 3.2

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the agenda is amended to include a two motions pertaining to indigenous sovereignty at the end of New Business in the agenda.

1. WHEREAS the RCMP invading Wet’suwet’en is against the law as set out in section 35 of the Constitution Act of 1982.

BE IT RESOLVED the DSU begin a campus-wide Red Dress Demonstration to raise awareness of the ongoing violence against Indigenous People from Unist’ot’en to Mi’kma’ki, specifically Missing and Murdered Indigenous Two-Spirit and Femme Folks.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED all councillors reach out to their constituents and societies informing them of the campus wide Red Dress project and encouraging them to hang Red Dresses in their offices and respective buildings. This shall be done by March 1st.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED The DSU executive and council release a statement in solidarity with Indigenous Nations across Turtle Island, particularly Wet’suwet’en Nation and Mohawk Nation.

2. WHEREAS the DSU operated on an anti-oppressive framework and on January 29th submitted a letter in solidarity with Wet’suwet’en Hereditary Chiefs and Nation.

And WHEREAS in the process of writing the letter, we discovered how much money Dalhousie University has invested in the very companies who are causing this violence against Indigenous People.

And WHEREAS a proposal for Dalhousie Senate to release a letter in solidarity was declined by the Senate, Board of Governors and Vice-Provost Equity and Inclusion.
BE IT RESOLVED the DSU support student Senators to create a motion for Senate advocating for academic amnesty for Indigenous Students.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED the DSU council contribute to an information document for students to access, explaining the current nation-wide violence against Indigenous People and the conflicts of what is being portrayed by media outlets to misinform the public.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED the DSU Council center Indigenous Student voices in the creation and sharing of this document.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED the DSU release an information document highlighting the ways in which Dalhousie University is complicit in violence against Indigenous People. Further, condemning Dalhousie University for refusing to divest and for refusing to stand in solidarity with Indigenous Students and Wet’suwet’en Hereditary Chiefs.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED the DSU endorse the walk out on Wednesday March 4.

Mover: Vice President Student Life  Seconder: Residence Students Community Representative
(15 – 0 – 0 abstentions)
Motion Carries

Motion 3.3
BE IT RESOLVED THAT the agenda be adopted with the amendments.
(15 – 0 – 0 abstentions)
Motion Carries

4. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

Motion 4.1
BE IT RESOLVED THAT the February 5th minutes be accepted as circulated.

Mover: Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences Representative  Seconder: International Students Community Representative
(18 – 0 – 0 abstentions)
Motion Carries
5. Communications Received
   Lenka sends regrets and Robert is acting as proxy.

6. Appointments

7. Presentations

8. Committee Reports
   a. IIC Committee Report
      
      Motion 8.1
      BE IT RESOLVED THAT council move-in camera.
      
      Mover: Faculty of Health Representative  Seconder: Faculty of Computer Science
      (18 – 0 – 0)
      Motion Carries

      Motion 8.2
      BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council move-out of camera.
      
      Mover: LGBTQ2S Students Community Representative Seconder: Faculty of Arts and
      Social Sciences Representative
      (19 – 0 – 0 abstentions)
      Motion Carries

      Motion 8.2
      BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council recess for 5 minutes.
      
      Mover: LGBTQ2S Students Community Representative  Seconder: Womens Students
      Community Representative
      (19 – 0 – 0 abstentions)
      Motion Carries

      Motion 8.3
      BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council make amendments to the IIC Report by next Wednesday at
      midnight which will be taken into consideration by the IIC and IIC will re-present the report for
      presentation to Council at the March 11th council meeting.
      
      Mover: Vice President Finance and Operations  seconder: Residence Students Community
      Representative
      (18 – 0 – 0 abstentions)
      Motion Carries

      Motion 8.4
BE IT RESOLVED THAT the DSU Council, upon deeming what should be put on the report and the acceptance of the report, publicly release the report to the student body.

Mover: Faculty of Agriculture Representative Proxy  Seconder: Faculty of Engineering Representative Proxy

Ruby – Personally, I am a little bit uncomfortable with that because I feel if a lot if not all of the amendments that are theoretically going to be put forward to the IIC in the next week should be put in the report, there should be a chance at least that they can be accepted by council to be on records that there is a history of all the events. But I don’t necessarily think that without seeing a report that we can say that we approve it after its done as I think that is premature given that we haven’t seen or created the report yet.

Zoe – Why does the Exec as the Student Union, who represent the students of Dalhousie, don’t want students to know what you’re doing in your jobs. I deserve they deserve to know every single thing.

Bakhmala – What they want students to know isn’t on the report. You cant say that why don’t the exec want students to know what they are doing, when what they are doing isn’t even on the report.

Zoe – I was referring to the amended report that the exec would get to interject and say what their experience was so that students can get to see that.

Isa – The execs as whole have not said that we wont want to accept the final amended report. Since we haven’t seen the final report yet, it just feels premature to say that we will publish it because we don’t know what will be in the final report. Its really not that we have been hiding information, my email about what the execs did in our jobs for several months was a couple pages in an email to the IIC. Its not that we don’t want people to know what we are doing, we don’t think the report is currently reflecting what we did.

Shivam – If Council doesn’t think that the reports are valid and the amendments are valid, they can just remove that. With amendments, I think report should be published.

Hannah – We can motion next meeting when we have a report.

Robert – I think it puts the onus on Council to come up with something at the next meeting that can be accepted. If you are not comfortable with it being public, don’t accept it in the report and deal with it as something different. I think if you come to the conclusion that what the findings are and what is in front of you, you don’t want to make public and don’t want to accept the report then repeal my motion with whatever your threshold is. If not, you’ll be sticking by something that is important to be accountable to students for them to know what the findings are and what has happened regarding this issue. Another reason I am making this motion is because it will be public on the minutes, so it will be reflected what councils’ thoughts are in making this thing public. To the point that exec have stated that they are comfortable with the report, but I haven’t heard much about them being comfortable with it being public. I think it is important that the stress that they went through and the circumstances of that 3 month period
be reflected through them so that students can understand what was happening both at the DSU exec level and what was found by the committee.

**Motion 8.4 Vote – (6 – 9 – 3 abstentions)**
Noted Abstentions – Vice President Finance and Operations
Motion does not carry

9. **Old Business**

10. **New Business**

   a. Strategic Planning – Focus Groups

   **Motion 10.1**

   **WHEREAS** the President was provided with the necessary accommodations to fulfill her reporting duties but has yet failed to do so.

   **BE IT RESOLVED THAT** a charge of 5% of the President's biweekly stipend be applied for each report not submitted to the DSU website by 6pm on Feb 26th, 2020.

   **Mover: Faculty of Health Representative  Seconder: Faculty of Engineering Representative **

   Proxy

Aisha – Wanted to speak to my personal disappointment and the punitive measure that was taken. I really do think that as exec and as council and as the DSU, we talk about mental health and about supporting folks and uplifting folks and I think that this was just not that. I think that this could’ve been approached in many different ways. I did have a number of the RCC come for this committee later come to me and voluntarily sit down and type out things as I said them and support me into getting the reports in. In terms of some comments that were made, according to the minutes, it was that I have been personally told multiple times and emailed to get my reports in and that has not been the case. Also, an ongoing communications issue between the oversight committee and myself, which also I believe was not the case. Another comment, that we don’t wish to use the disciplinary action and we hope it doesn’t come to it. I disagree with that. There were so many other approaches that were taken and so many other ways to engage with me on this issue. I did ask for voice recording accommodations and that did not work for me. Too busy to even do the other things. To get these reports done, I had to skip meeting and other things. The reports are in but I skipped meetings that I should’ve been present at which does speak to the fact that there is a lack of time and support for the exec to do their work and there is a bigger issue there. The comment that I hadn’t been supportive to Black students through the African Students Heritage Month. I have been doing my best and have been engaging with students who have come to me and spoken to me and we had a successful event last night actually. I have been in the midst of prepping for events that are happening and if folks feel that way, they can reach out to me and we can chat. But I am doing my best.

I did also want to touch on anti-black racism and what that looks like. My experience in this position, I am subject to anti racism everyday. Sometimes it gets to the point where people
refuse to work with me because they think I am an angry person which is one of the bigger cases but it is in the smaller cases too. Sometimes even when you know you are dealing with these things and engaging with them, you feel extremely invalidated and go online to see what anti black racism looks like for black women. Somethings that came up was the mental health strains associated with having to live up with ideal professionalism that was created to stipple rather than support diversity. Black women feel that organisations weren’t ready for them and they couldn’t be their authentic selves in the office at risk of making other feel uncomfortable or hurting their chances of professional advancement. Black women in leadership positions are more likely to be criticized or punished when they make mistakes at their job. Anti – black racism being entrenched in the workplace and culture of both Dalhousie and the DSU and practices such as this, for example. Black women facing unfair expectations and challenges and biased assumptions of where they fit in the workplace that differ from their perception about other groups. I think my experience as a black person in this role, I wish there was more support for all these roles and for the executive. I am hoping that all the work that I’ve done is to create support for the folks are to come in after us. My experiences re my own and are real and valid. I did not complete assignments to get these reports in. I have been having anxiety attacks every single day including even know. These positions are stressful and hard for anyone and being black adds another layer to it. Be kinder to each other and everything we do moving forward, would appreciate that for us and for the exec to come.

Chair – We have confirmed that the reports are online.

(Don’t need to vote on motion 10.1 as it won’t do anything if it passes)

Claudia – I do want it being noted that as someone on the oversight committee, was acting in accordance to its policy and its purview. I just don’t know what an alternative would be i.e. the role to having any type of disciplinary measure in any role would be for the person to do what they have been asked to do. I just want my frustration noted. This particular case talking about anti-blackness which is a very serious thing when the oversight committee was working within its purview and its policy and what they are supposed to be doing.

**Motion 10.2**

**WHEREAS** NSPIRG is holding a series of events in March aimed at building networks of and supporting community care and

**WHEREAS** NSPIRG has been working in partnership with various societies, services and admin groups at both Dal and Kings to plan various events tackling issues of mental health and wellness, food security, worker’s rights, frontline activism and community care focused through an intersectional lens

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the DSU join NSPIRG in endorsing March as Community Care Month.

**Mover: President**

(16 – 0 – 0 abstentions)
Motion Carries

Joshua – When you say, join in endorsing, what do you mean by that, are we a co creator or like sponsoring it?
Aisha – It really is just endorsing and us telling that March is Community Care month.

Motion 10.3

WHEREAS the RCMP invading Wet’suwet’en is against the law as set out in section 35 of the Constitution Act of 1982.

BE IT RESOLVED the DSU begin a campus-wide Red Dress Demonstration to raise awareness of the ongoing violence against Indigenous People from Unist’ot’en to Mi’kma’ki, specifically Missing and Murdered Indigenous Two-Spirit and Femme Folks.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED all councillors reach out to their constituents and societies informing them of the campus wide Red Dress project and encouraging them to hang Red Dresses in their offices and respective buildings. This shall be done by March 1st.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED The DSU executive and council release a statement in solidarity with Indigenous Nations across Turtle Island, particularly Wet'suwet'en Nation and Mohawk Nation.

Mover: Vice President Student Life  Seconder: LGBTQ2S Students Community Representative

Robert – What does Section 35 of the constitution act state?
Naomi – Aboriginal rights are hereby recognized and affirmed.
(Chair read Section 35 of the Constitution act of 1982)

Motion 10.3 Vote – (15 – 0 – 1 abstention)
Motion Carries

Motion 10.4

WHEREAS the DSU operated on an anti-oppressive framework and on January 29th submitted a letter in solidarity with Wet’suwet’en Hereditary Chiefs and Nation.

And WHEREAS in the process of writing the letter, we discovered how much money Dalhousie University has invested in the very companies who are causing this violence against Indigenous People.

And WHEREAS a proposal for Dalhousie Senate to release a letter in solidarity was declined by the Senate, Board of Governors and Vice-Provost Equity and Inclusion.
BE IT RESOLVED the DSU support student Senators to create a motion for Senate advocating for academic amnesty for Indigenous Students.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED the DSU council contribute to an information document for students to access, explaining the current nation-wide violence against Indigenous People and the conflicts of what is being portrayed by media outlets to misinform the public.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED the DSU Council center Indigenous Student voices in the creation and sharing of this document.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED the DSU release an information document highlighting the ways in which Dalhousie University is complicit in violence against Indigenous People. Further, condemning Dalhousie University for refusing to divest and for refusing to stand in solidarity with Indigenous Students and Wet’suwet’en Hereditary Chiefs.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED the DSU endorse the walk out on Wednesday March 4.

Mover: Vice President Student Life  Seconder: Indigenous Students Community Representative

Hasan – For academic amnesty, what are we thinking?
Naomi – I think we are going to workshop that a little bit but in my mind, it was providing some sort of illness or something on a transcript because of what is going on in the news. I cant do work, colonialism is sort of causing that and there is no current appropriate channel to deal with that sort of trauma while in the institution and it is not fair that students are failing for dealing with that kind of trauma.

Motion 10.5

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council move-in camera for 10 minutes.

Mover: Faculty of Health Representative  Seconder: Women Students Community Representative
(16 – 0 – 0 abstentions)
Motion Carries

(Move in camera session expired so council exited out of camera without a motion)

Motion 10.6

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Motion 10.4 be amended to include:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the DSU endorses the walkout happening next Wednesday.

Mover: President  Seconder: Women Students Community Representative
(16 – 0 – 0 abstentions)
Motion Carries
Motion 10.7
BE IT RESOLVED THAT Motion 10.4 be passed with the amendment.

(15 – 0 – 1 abstention)
Motion Carries

11. Executive Reports

a) President

Aisha – Update on vacant positions; Filled the position of Director of Operations, Policy and Governance Coordinator and Communications Coordinator as well.

b) Vice-President (Internal)

c) Vice-President (Financial and Operations)

d) Vice-President (Academic and External)

e) Vice-President(Student Life)

Robert – With respect to reporting, what is the DSU policy surrounding that?

Chair – There is a written one to be submitted every meeting. There have been accommodations given on occasions. Sometimes people want clarification, so time is given for that.

Joshua – If you are a proxy again, recordings are available that can be requested from Chair.

12. Councillor Reports

a) Residence Students Community Representative

Sandra – Have been working to get menstrual products in and just got a report that the shipment is in as of Tuesday.

13. Notices of Motion

Chair – All committees have to sit at least once a semester.

Sunil – Regarding the Red dress, was wondering where we could get them. In res, don't have an office so don't know how I would communicate with students.

Nicole – Indigenous students are there in Res, could engage with them.
14. Announcements

15. Adjournment

Motion 15.1

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the DSU Council adjourns at 8:37 pm.

Mover: Vice President Finance and Operations  Seconder: Vice President Academic and External

(16 – 0 – 0 abstentions)

Motion Carries

Meeting adjourned at: 8:37 pm
Minutes submitted by Secretary: